



“Mighty oaks from little acorns grow”

Through having high expectations for all, we constantly strive to promote the overall development of all members of our school community to enable them to reach their full potential. We are a welcoming, and motivational school that nurtures and supports pupils to learn transferable skills for life-long learning.

Message from Simon Roberts

We are currently revisiting and redefining our school values. In order to fully reflect and include the shared views of the school, I am consulting and seeking ideas from as many different members of the school community as I can. If you haven't already, and would be interested in sharing your ideas, please follow instructions in the school improvement box below.

As part of this work, I have been looking out for special moments which perfectly capture, in action, some of the ideas being shared. I have included one moment below, in the **Fortnight in photos** section, which has resonated with me – a group of some of our year six children who voluntarily offered their time this week to support our key stage one children with their reading. I have been left inspired by their kindness.

World Book Day

We are very excited to be celebrating our love of reading by taking part in World Book Day 2023; a letter was sent home at the end of last half-term with more information. This year, we will be celebrating World Book Day on Wednesday 8th March. This is a rearranged date, chosen to allow all children to take part in the celebrations. For anyone interested in taking part in the potato competition, full details are outlined on the final page of this newsletter!

Parental Engagement

We look forward to welcoming many of you into school over the next fortnight:

- Face-to-face parent consultations will take place next week for most classes. If you haven't already, please sign up to meet your child's teacher.
- Our next parent event, linked to British Science Week, will take place during the afternoon of Friday 17th March.

School Improvement


As part of ongoing school improvement work, I am now looking to engage further with the school community. I believe that it is essential that, as part of any review work, I gather your thoughts and opinions. This will help support me in reviewing existing systems, procedures and practices and when considering where and when changes could be made

If you would be interesting in sharing your ideas and thoughts, please complete the questionnaire via the link below. Thank you in anticipation of your support!

<https://forms.office.com/e/0E0Sq4y725>

Thank you to everyone who has contributed so far! The survey will close on Friday 31st March.

Celebrations

Mathematicians of the Week		
		
Our mathematicians for the last fortnight were:		
	24.02.23	03.03.23
Acorn	Kimmy	Helena
Andrews	Maisie	James Han
Scott	Sophie	Arlo
Daley	Charlie M	Anabelle
Acland	Rory	Archie
Reynolds	Archie	Izzy
King	Ethan	Megan



Stars of the Week		
		
Our stars for the last fortnight were:		
	24.02.23	03.03.23
Acorn	Ethan	Svitlana
Andrews	Alfie	Theo W
Scott	Lily R	Solomon
Daley	James	Rose
Acland	Marni	Daisy
Reynolds	Olivia	Gracie
King	Lewis	Ben

Questions of the Week		
		
Our impressive questioners for the last fortnight were:		
	24.02.23	03.03.23
Andrews	Thomas	Maisie
Scott	Noah	Harper W
Daley	Jackson	Deacon
Acland	Tyler	Lottie
Reynolds	Mia	Lily
King	Fenn	Oscar L







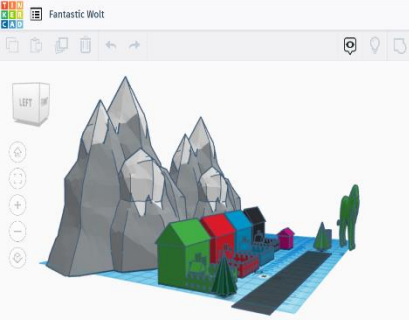


In assembly time, we have also celebrated these fantastic recent achievements!

Scott	Alfred	For becoming a Mini Forest Ranger during his half term break.
Acland	Flo	For obtaining Snowlife Level 5 Award in skiing on her recent holiday to France.
King	Orson	For obtaining Snowlife Level 6 Award in skiing on his recent holiday to France.

Sports Update

<p>On Tuesday 21st February, the Year 3/4 football team hosted Willowbank Primary School in a league fixture. The closely contested match finished 2-2. Congratulations to all who represented the school and thank you to the parents who came along to support the team.</p>	
<p>On Wednesday 22nd February, 9 children from years 5 and 6 competed in a cage football tournament where they played incredibly well working together in 3 exciting matches. After winning each of these matches, they qualified for the finals on Tuesday 28th February. There, they competed against 7 other schools, making it through to the final, before winning the overall tournament. Congratulations to the children who represented the school.</p>	

Our fortnight in photos

<p>Acorn class</p> 	<p>Andrews class</p> 	<p>Scott class</p> 
<p>In our PSED lessons, children have been making snowflakes and talking about how we are all unique.</p>	<p>In maths, children have been estimating where numbers go on a number line.</p>	<p>In computing, we have been collecting data and recording it in pictograms.</p>
<p></p>	<p></p>	<p></p>
<p>Daley class</p> 	<p>Acland class</p> 	<p>Reynolds class</p> 
<p>In science, we have been learning about forces and friction. We investigated which surfaces caused the most friction.</p>	<p>In science, we have been learning about electricity and how a circuit needs to be complete for the electricity to flow around.</p>	<p>In our mental maths sessions, we have been challenging Year 6, using TT Rock Stars, to find out how well each class knows their multiplication tables.</p>
<p></p>	<p></p>	<p></p>
<p>King class</p> 	<p>Inspiring year six children</p> 	<p>New equipment</p> 
<p>In our computing lessons, we have started to use Tinkercad to create virtual 3D models.</p>	<p>A selection of our year six children supporting younger peers with their reading.</p>	<p>We have recently replaced the old metal goals on the field with four new models.</p>

Diary Dates

Term	Commences	Finishes
Spring	3 rd January 2023	31 st March 2023
Summer	18 th April 2023	21 st July 2023

Date	Item
8 th March	World Book Day (re-arranged)
8 th March	Parents' Evening (All classes except Daley class)
9 th March	Parents' Evening (All classes except Acorn and Daley class)
15 th March	Parents' Evening (Acorn class only)
13 th – 17 th March	British Science Week
17 th March	Parent event linked to British Science Week (14:45 to 15:25)
17 th March	Red Nose Day
31 st March	The Duchy Mile
31 st March	Last Day of Term

The Duchy School Uniform

The school places great importance on the wearing of school uniform. It is a valuable sign that children have pride in their membership of the school and in the team spirit it creates.

- We ask that all items of clothing and personal items are marked with your child's name.
- Sweatshirts, cardigans and purple tee shirts are available from the school.
- Black PE hoodies are optional and can be ordered from the school office. No nail polish, added hair colours or make-up.

Please do check for availability with the office before paying for any items on Parent Pay first.

UNIFORM
Purple sweatshirt/cardigan available from the school
White polo shirt or blouse
Grey trousers/shorts/knee-length skirt/knee-length pinafore
Grey or white socks/tights
Black shoes (not boots) - trainers are not permitted
Purple and white summer dress/ blue, white or black summer sandals with socks
Purple PE tee shirt/black PE shorts/ white PE socks/white or black trainers/optional black PE hoodie

World Book Day 2023

Wednesday 8th March

The Potato Challenge!

This year, to celebrate **World Book Day**, we will be holding a **Design a Potato Book Character** competition. Entry is optional.

Take **one raw potato** and use any craft materials you might have to make it look like a character from a book. Your potato should stay whole, but paint, pen, glitter, tissue, cardboard, paper, and other materials, can be added to the outside.

If we can help with any materials, we will; please ask your class teacher.



A winning entry will be chosen from each class and a prize awarded.

Please bring your potato character into school on Wednesday 8th March, clearly labelled with your name, class, and the name of your character.