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ewsletter

April 2026

Eager to Learn, Proud to Achieve

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A Message from the Head Teacher

It has been lovely to welcome the children back after the Easter holidays, and it has certainly been a busy and exciting three weeks across the school. There has been lots of learning taking place in all year groups, and since our return the children have continued to show great enthusiasm, particularly in their writing and Maths work. It has been wonderful to see their confidence grow as they take on new challenges and eagerly share their ideas.

Alongside this learning, the children have enjoyed many memorable experiences. Our Year 1 children had a wonderful trip to Edgmond Hall, where they worked together to find the lost teddy bears, built dens and explored the outdoor environment. Year 4 also had a fantastic visit to Cadbury World, learning all about how chocolate is made.

Back in school, the children have immersed themselves in learning about neurodiversity and celebrating Autism Awareness Month, as well as enjoying our French theme day, which was full of enthusiasm and curiosity.

Looking ahead, there are lots of exciting events planned for the summer term and we look forward to sharing these with you in the coming weeks. In the meantime, as the seasons change, please ensure children come to school each day with appropriate clothing so they can fully enjoy learning both indoors and outside. This should include a sun hat for warmer days and a coat, just in case the rain makes an appearance. Thank you, as always, for your continued support.

Celebrating achievements outside of school

We love to celebrate our pupils' achievements both in and out of school. If your child has received an award such as a trophy, certificate or medal from an activity outside of school, they are very welcome to bring it in to share with us. These achievements will be celebrated during our Friday celebration assemblies, giving children the opportunity to feel proud and for us to recognise their hard work and successes beyond the classroom.



Whole School French Day



We had a wonderful French Day at school, filled with excitement and many learning opportunities across all year groups. In EYFS, the children enthusiastically created French flags, enjoyed taste testing and engaged in imaginative role play. KS1 pupils explored a variety of grapes, breads, and French delicacies while also learning and practising new French phrases. Meanwhile, KS2 embraced the spirit of the Tour de France with their own carousel of sporty activities, took part in a lively Kahoot quiz, and sampled a delicious range of French foods. It was a fantastic day that brought language and culture to life for all our pupils.

Autism Acceptance Day – Wear Neon

Children from Years 4 and 5 enjoyed an exciting three-day residential at the Frank Chapman Centre in Bewdley, where they embraced a range of outdoor adventures and new challenges. During their stay, they took part in activities such as geocaching, high ropes and blindfolded trust walks, all of which encouraged teamwork, resilience and confidence. Alongside the fun, the children also learned valuable life-skills—making their own beds, keeping their rooms tidy and helping to clear up after meals—returning home with wonderful memories and a real sense of independence.



Nursery – Spring Walk

Nursery had a wonderful time enjoying a spring walk around the school grounds this week. The children explored the signs of the season, spotting blooming flowers, fresh green leaves and listening to birdsong along the way. They showed great curiosity and enthusiasm as they talked about what they could see and hear. To finish their lovely outing, everyone cooled down with a well-earned ice lolly, making it a perfect end to a sunny spring adventure.



Reception – Exciting activities

Reception have started a new topic this term called Air, Ground, Water. We began by talking about which types of transport we could name and then sorted the vehicles into groups where we could use them in the air, on the ground or in water.

We have been working very hard this term in Maths. We thoroughly enjoyed our Maths Workshop with Mrs Purcell and our parents. In Maths, we are looking at subitising and different ways that we can make up the number 5. We use different manipulatives like our fingers, cubes, sorting bears and pasta. In English, we are looking at our letter formation, writing CVC words and sentences. We know that we have to use a capital letter, finger spaces between words and a full stop at the end of the sentence. Fred talk helps us to spell and read what we have written. Mrs Jones wows us with her super pictures during Drawing Club and she makes us say some amazing words with actions that go along with the story.

In our Basic Skills lessons, we have been talking about how we can solve a problem. Mrs Whitten's car had broken down so we offered her a variety of solutions which includedfix it, get some tools, ask someone for help and get an ice cream. I wonder if you can guess the option Mrs Whitten would have liked to opt for?!

Year 2 – Releasing Butterflies

Year 2 children have been thoroughly enjoying their science learning this month. As part of our **Growing Up** topic, they had the exciting opportunity to observe caterpillars closely as they changed into butterflies. The children watched each stage of the life cycle with great enthusiasm and curiosity. To finish the experience, they released the butterflies, which was a memorable and rewarding moment for everyone.



Year 3 – Baking Egyptian Bread

In Design and Technology, Year 3 have been exploring breads from around the world, tasting and comparing different types before creating their own. As part of their learning about Ancient Egypt, the children then made **Aish Baladi**, a traditional Egyptian flatbread. They loved learning about its historical importance and enjoyed the hands-on experience of preparing, shaping, and baking the bread, bringing their history learning to life in a practical and memorable way.



Year 4 – Cadbury World

Year 4 had an exciting and educational day out at Cadbury World! The children learnt all about where chocolate comes from and discovered the important link between cocoa farming and the rainforest. They explored how rainforests support wildlife and people around the world, and why it is important to protect them. The children were enthusiastic, asked thoughtful questions, and represented the school brilliantly throughout the trip. It was a fun-filled day packed with learning that everyone thoroughly enjoyed!



Dates for the diary - May

Date	Event
Monday 4 th May	Monday 4 th May School closed for bank holiday
Mon 11 th May – Thurs 14 th May	Year 6 SATs
Tuesday 19 th May	EYFS Sports Day
Wednesday 20 th May	Years 1-6 Sports Day
Thursday 21 st May	Y6 Alton Towers trip
Friday 22 nd May	Friday 22 nd May Teacher Training Day – school closed to pupils
Monday 25 th May – Friday 29 th May	Half term
Monday 1 st June	School reopens to children at 8:40am

Skills Builder



Over recent weeks, the children have been focusing on the Skills Builder skill of **planning**. They have been learning how to think ahead, break tasks into clear steps, gather what they need, and manage their time effectively. Through a range of classroom activities, pupils have practised setting goals and reflecting on how well their plans worked, helping them build confidence and independence in their learning.



National Online Safety

At National Online Safety, we believe in empowering parents, carers and trusted adults with the information to hold an informed conversation about online safety with their children, should they feel it is needed. This guide focuses on one of many issues which we believe trusted adults should be aware of. Please visit www.nationalonlinesafety.com for further guides, hints and tips for adults.

What Parents & Carers Need to Know about

HOW TO COMBAT ONLINE BULLYING



Defined as "ongoing hurtful behaviour towards someone online", cyber-bullying makes its victims feel upset, uncomfortable and unsafe. In the digital world, it has numerous forms – such as hurtful comments on a person's posts or profile; deliberately leaving them out of group chats; sharing embarrassing images or videos of someone; or spreading gossip about them. Cyber-bullying can severely impact a young person's mental health ... so, in support of Anti-Bullying Week, we've provided a list of tips to help trusted adults know what to look for and how to respond to it.

1. GET CONNECTED

Playing online games together with your child or connecting with them on social media (providing they're old enough) is not only fun but also an excellent way of establishing some common ground to discuss things you've both seen or done online – as well as keeping an eye on who your child is communicating with in the digital world.

2. KEEP TALKING

Regular chats with young people about their online lives are good practice in general, but they can also be an excellent refresher to help prevent cyber-bullying situations. Topics you might want to revisit include why it's important to only connect online with people we know and trust, and why passwords should always remain secret (even from our best friends).

3. STAY VIGILANT

Observe your child while they're using technology and just after they've used it. Are they acting normally, or out of character? Possible signs of a problem may include seeming quiet or withdrawn, jumpy or anxious, angry or repeatedly checking their phone. When you feel it's the right time, you may want to check in with them to see if everything is OK.

4. MAKE YOURSELF AVAILABLE

If an online bullying incident does occur, it may take a while before your child is ready to open up about what happened. Just gently remind them that they can always come to you with any problems – and that they won't be in trouble. You might also suggest a trusted family member they could turn to, in case they feel too embarrassed to tell you directly.

5. BE PREPARED TO LISTEN

When conversations about online bullying do take place, they're likely to be difficult, emotional and upsetting for both you and your child. Actively listen to your child while they're bringing you up to speed, and try not to show any judgement or criticism – even if they haven't dealt with the situation in exactly the way you would have hoped.

FURTHER SUPPORT AND ADVICE

If you or your child need additional help with an online bullying issue, here are some specialist organisations that you could reach out to.

Childline: talk to a trained counsellor on 0800 1111 or online at www.childline.org.uk/get-support/

National Bullying Helpline: counsellors are available on 0845 225 5767 or by visiting www.nationalbullyinghelpline.co.uk/cyberbullying.html

The NSPCC: the children's charity has a guide to the signs of bullying at www.nspcc.org.uk/what-is-child-abuse/types-of-abuse/bullying-and-cyberbullying/ and can be reached on 0800 800 5000

6. EMPOWER YOUR CHILD

Depending on their age, your child might not want a parent 'fighting their battles for them'. In that case, talk through their options with them (blocking the perpetrator, deleting the app and so on). By allowing your child to choose the path they take, you're putting them in control but are also demonstrating that you're there to support them along the way.

7. REPORT BULLIES ONLINE

Cyber-bullying often takes place through a particular app, social media platform or online game. If this is happening to your child, encourage them to report the offender to the app or game in question – ideally with screenshots to support their complaint. Most games and apps have reporting tools specifically to stamp out abusive behaviour and protect users.

8. ENCOURAGE EMPATHY

Protecting themselves online is the priority, of course, but young people should also feel empowered to help if they witness other people falling victim to cyberbullying. Even if they don't feel confident enough to call someone out on their abusive behaviour online, they can still confidentially report that person to the app or game where the bullying occurred.

9. SEEK EXPERT ADVICE

Victims of online bullying frequently experience feelings of isolation and anxiety, a loss of self-esteem and potentially even thoughts of self-harm or suicide. If you think that an incident of cyber-bullying has affected your child's mental wellbeing, then seek psychological support for them. There are some useful contact details in the central panel below.

10. INVOLVE THE AUTHORITIES

If the nature of any online bullying makes you suspect that your child is genuinely in imminent physical danger – or if there are any signs whatsoever of explicit images being shared as part of the bullying – then you should gather any relevant screenshots as evidence and report the incidents to your local police force.

Meet Our Expert

Dr Claire Sutherland is an online safety consultant, educator and researcher who has developed and implemented anti-bullying and cyber safety policies for schools. She has written various academic papers and carried out research for the Australian government comparing internet use and sexting behaviour of young people in the UK, USA and Australia.



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Attendance matters!

Attendance during the spring 2 term was really good, we hit our target of 95% for the half term. Well done to Panthers for the best attendance, they got to celebrate with a cinema afternoon at school. The aim for the Summer term, is to smash our target and achieve 95.5% or more for the term.

This is our final term of the academic year, and with the sunny weather, it is easy to forget the importance of coming to school every day and on time, but we need to ensure every pupil is in school, every day that they are well enough to attend. If your child is unwell, please see the link below from the NHS, it details isolation periods and treatment advice for common illnesses for children. Is my child too ill for school? – NHS

This term, we also have our attendance event from 11th May until 21st May. On 21st May there will be themed dress up day, this time the theme is "countries of the world", so all pupils are welcome to wear an outfit that symbolises any country of the world, this could be the colours of a flag of a country, dress up in a traditional clothing associated with a country/tradition, dress up as a food item from a specific country, the list is truly endless and there will be 3 prize winners for most creative and/or original.

Class	Attendance
Ladybirds AM	93.80%
Ladybirds PM	91.30%
Bumblebees	90.90%
Honeybees	96.60%
1 Tadpoles	94%
1 Dragonflies	93.60%
2 Penguins	96.90%
2 Puffins	95.10%
3 Flamingo	96.30%
3 Parrots	96.10%
4 Toucans	94.10%
4 Hummingbirds	93.70%
5 Panthers	97.20%
5 Jaguars	94.70%
6 Lions	95.70%
6 Tigers	94.50%
Totals	95%