

# Newsletter



Spring 1, 2025

## Attendance Update

**Attendance** for the whole school, for this half term until Thursday 13th February was 94.86%, which is an improvement on last term.

**Congratulations** to Reception for the highest attendance figure, again, of 96.09%, and 1 Blue have claimed first place (95.96%) having the school's best attendees.

Since the start of this term we have seen a decrease in the number of children arriving late in the mornings. **Thank you** for your efforts to get your children to school on time. It makes a huge difference!

Welcome to our Spring 1 Unicorn newsletter.

I would like to take this opportunity to **thank** all the parents and grandparents who have volunteered with the school so far this year. We recognise that with work and other commitments, finding the time is not easy. Please know we really appreciate your help with forest school, reading, walking to gymnastics, accompanying classes on trips and activities like Y4 swimming. Logistically some of these could not take place without the help of volunteers.

Have a good half term everyone!

Miss V Elvines

## Dates for your Diary

All dates are subject to change

w/c 24 February	4Y swimming
w/c 3 March	4B swimming
Thursday 6 March	6Y World War 2 Trip
Thursday 6 March	World Book Day
Friday 7 March	Y1 Trip to Leeds Castle
Monday 10 March	Parents' Eve (early)
Thursday 13 March	Parents' Eve (late)
Saturday 15 March	Y3&4 Cross Country @ Crystal Palace
Tuesday 25 March	Y3 Trip
26th—28 March	Y5 Residential to Dorset
Friday 28 March	1Y assembly
Friday 4 April	2Y assembly
Friday 2 May	1B assembly
Thursday 8 May	Class Photos
Saturday 10 May	FUN Spring Fair
w/c 12 May	Y6 SATS
Thursday 15 May	R Trip to Godstone Farm
Monday 19 May	Y2 Trip
21 & 22 May	R & Y6 Height and Weight Screening
16–17 June	Y4 Camp
Friday 27 June	FUN Happy Circus Event
4th—7 July	Y6 Residential

## Term Dates

### Spring 2025

Half term 17th—21st February

**Monday 24th** February—Friday 4th April

### Summer 2025

Tuesday 22nd April—Friday 23rd May

Half term 26th May—2nd June

Tuesday 3rd June—Wednesday 23rd July

### Autumn 2025

Monday 1st September—Friday 17th October

Half term 20th—31st October

Monday 3rd November—Friday 19th December

*Please take any holidays during the school holidays and not during term time.*

*Staff inset days fall outside of these dates.*

## Working together for safer, happier and healthier journeys to and from school

Concerns are continuously raised regarding the parking and driving of parents in the car park and the local area. Please help keep our children safe and healthy and our neighbours happy by being aware of the following:

- ◆ Do not park in the drop off zone—this is an area to ‘drop off’ pupils and leave
- ◆ Do not block in other cars—so parents can leave when they need to
- ◆ If Reception parents, exit the car park quickly, to make space for others
- ◆ Do not park on corners/roundabouts/drop down curbs
- ◆ While parked, turn off your engine for the environment and everyone’s health
- ◆ Reminder: Creswell Drive, past the school, is a private road. **We have been notified that the enforcement cameras will be going ‘live’ soon and the fines are steep.**
- ◆ If you can, walk to and from school.
- ◆ Be positive role models to our children in the way you drive and how you interact with other parents and members of the community

Thank you for your support with this.

**Trips** are an important part of our academic year and a time for children to further develop their social skills. Teachers spend a lot of time researching destinations to match the trip to the curriculum, as well as ensuring it is a fun day out, and keeping costs to a minimum. As you will be aware, school budgets are really limited, so it is necessary for us to ask parents for voluntary contributions. We are not able to absorb the cost of any shortfall and, without the cost of school trips or visits being covered by parents, it may affect the viability of any future educational visits for the year group. However, if you are struggling with any payment, please do talk to your teacher or the office, in confidence, as we would not want any child to miss out on any opportunity. Reminders will be sent, as often we realise it is simply an oversight when payments are not made in a timely fashion.

### Lost Property

Lost property can be found just inside the first door from the playground. You are welcome to check for any missing items after school, any day.

To help you name items and raise money for FUN you can use the following codes to purchase name tags: MyNameTags - use our school ID number, 59597—MyNameTags.com , Stikins - use school code 35761—stikins.co.uk

### World Book Day

Children will be coming home with a voucher to purchase books over half term. We’re excited to be celebrating **World Book Day on Thursday 6th March 2025**. Children are invited to dress up as their favourite book character. If they prefer not to, they should wear their usual school uniform or PE kit if it is their PE day .

### Staff news

Miss Lomas will be having a fabulous break as she is going to South Africa to get married!

We wish her all the best on her big day and a lifetime of love and happiness.

## Art with Mrs Clarke and Mrs Hillen



**Year 1** have been looking at shape, texture and the use of outline and how they can create a sense of texture in their work. They have drawn fabulous Arlo dogs with amazing glasses as an additional collage element.

**Year 2** have had fun researching Rene Magritte and Salvador Dali, focussing on line, shape and space within Surrealism.



**Year 3** have found out all about Horace Pippin, a Harlem Renaissance painter. They have begun to look at perspective and how small things look big nearer to the viewer and big things look small far away. They have created an amazing sense of texture too by creating a wood effect - as Horace painted onto wood.



**Year 4** have been busy creating printing blocks using string and designing wrapping paper. They are all so delightful, anyone would love a present wrapped in them!



**Year 5** are in the middle of a major printing project looking at the incredible architect Friedrich Hundertwasser and his crazy buildings. We are investigating mono printing using press print. We are looking forward to printing their building designs - so far we have made some test prints to see what is and is not possible with this medium.



**Year 6** are getting technical with perspective drawing. It's a difficult skill but they are all rising to the challenge wonderfully, here are two of our initial ideas - Mrs Clarke is looking forward to watching their research and perspective drawings develop over next term.



### Year 2 Art with Mrs Hillen

We were learning about Dale Chihuly in Art. We visited his exhibition in London and it was really cool. There was a room where you can draw your own pictures and we drew a Dale Chihuly bowl.

By Axl . 2Y



Axl, Lorcan and Ariella showing off their work in Show and Tell, 2Y



## Pupil Parliament

This half term in Pupil Parliament, we have been talking to our classes about what they like about the lunchtime hall and what things they think we can improve because we believe everyone has a say in it. We have also been having discussions on what charities we want to donate to and how to raise money for them.

By Precious and Betsy, Year 6

## Music Results — Well Done!!

Darby Y6, has passed his Initial Grade with a Merit award for drums.

Eben Y4, passed his piano Grade 1 with Merit.



In **Reception**, we have been designing and making boats, bridges and rafts to help the Gingerbread Man cross the river safely. After testing our models, we then made improvements to our work.



We also enjoyed baking our own gingerbread biscuits in **Reception**.

