

Update from Headteacher



I hope everyone had a well-deserved half-term break.

As we are approaching winter, please make sure pupils are appropriately dressed for the weather and wearing the correct school uniform.

Value this half-term



Big Question of the week

What is Creativity?

Something special happened in school this week...

We are starting with fundraising events in school. **FINALLY!!!!!!**

Each year group has a parent representative that will liaise with the school.





Our **first SCHOOL fundraiser event** will be on Monday, 21.11.22 to kick off the World Cup.




Important dates this term












Wednesday, 09.11.22	Years 1 and 2 Pupils Multi-Skills Sports Event at Ongar Academy.
Thursday, 10.11.22	Years 3 and 4 Cross Country Event at Ongar Sports Grounds.
Friday, 11.11.22	Class assembly of Years 5 and 6 class – parents invited Remembrance day
Friday, 18.11.22	Children in Need – FUNDRAISER Class assembly of Year 3 and 4 class – parents invited
Monday, 21.11.22	Breakfast with Southgate – FUNDRAISER (school volunteers to arrange)
Tuesday, 22.11.22	Individual and siblings photographs.
Thursday, 24.11.22	Flu immunisation for all pupils (Reception to Year 6)
Wednesday, 30.11.22	St Andrew's day
Monday, 28.11.22	Inspiring assembly celebrating diversity with Britain's Tallest Man – Paul Sturgess.
Friday, 25.11.22	INSET day – non-pupil day
Thursday, 08.12.22	Christmas Jumper Day – FUNDRAISER Christmas dinner
Friday, 09.12.22	Class assembly of Years 1 and 2 class – parents invited
Wednesday, 14.12.12	Livestream Panto for Years 3/4
Thursday, 15.12.22	Christmas service as St Nicholas Church
Friday, 16.12.22	Class assembly of Reception and Year 1 class – parents invited

Whole School House Points

	Ants 	Badgers 	Locusts 	Lizards 
Red-Orange Class	12	17	24	22
Orange-Yellow Class	33	37	47	38
Green-Blue Class	11	10	4	2
Indigo-Violet Class	22	38	2	21
TOTAL	640	661	655	707

Attendance

		Academic year	Period average attendance	Number of Persistent Absence pupils (below 90%)
Our school target	96%	2022/2023	92%	22
Attendance this week	89.19%	2021/2022	92%	15
Attendance this year	92.85%	2020/2021	97%	3
		2019/2020	95%	5
		2018/2019	97%	3

Red-Orange Class			90%	
Orange-Yellow Class			94%	
Green-Blue Class			93%	
Indigo-Violet Class			92%	

100% attendance this week: 53 pupils out of 87 pupils

Nellie	Acer	Jude M	Maxwell	Freya G
Jackson	Evie-May	Amber	Teddie	Lara
Jett	Ava	Kai	George D	Freddy G
Darcie	Ethan	Phoebe	Freya J	Autumn
Amelia-Rae	River	Brooke	Sienna M	Ava G
Alice B	William	Amelia	Jessica	Finlay
Loki	Alice	John James	Emily	Harrison M
Lucas	Joey	Barney	Dylan	Sebastian
Madison	Eva	Lillie	Charlotte	Naomi
Scarlett	Dotty	Sidney	Chloe	Mason
Dolly	Jacob	Freddie R		

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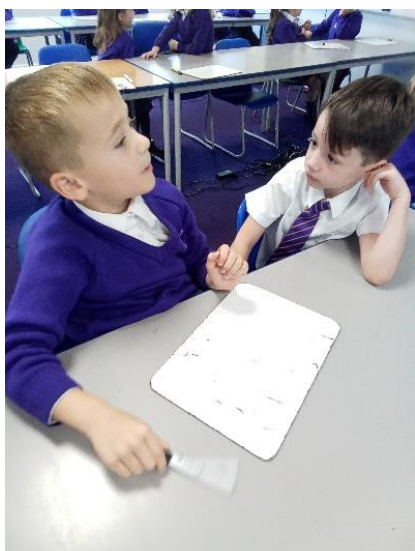
Reception



Year 1

Red-Orange Class

**Class Register Teacher:
Miss Isabella Curtis**



I hope you all had a lovely half term. It was lovely to hear all the nice things the children had been doing over the half term.

In English Year 1's have been learning to tell a story clearly. They need to remember to use a clear voice, tell it in the right order and look at the person whilst speaking.

Reception went on a CVC word hunt, which links to the phonics sessions we have been doing!

In Maths, year 1's have been learning about 3D and 2D shapes. They have been making towers and trying to identify the different shapes they have used.

Reception have been learning about circles and triangles!

We now have the hard copies of the phonics reading book and your child should have



Merits and Awards

Reader of the week	Nellie
Writer of the week	Knightley
Mathematician of the week	Lincoln
Scientist of the week	Scarlett
Star of the week	Darcie
Pen licence	N/A

Buddies of the Week

We are all buddies this week!



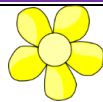
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Year 1



Year 2

**Orange-
Yellow Class**

**Class Register Teacher:
Miss Lauren Seeley**

We have had a great first week back. I almost completely lost my voice this week but the children have all been amazing with listening very carefully to what I've had to say, they've been very considerate and I would like to say a big thank you! For this reason, I have chosen the whole class as buddies of the week.

We now have the hard copies of the phonics reading book and your child should have brought one home today. Please remember these books will be changed every Friday. Please listen to your child read at home every day to develop fluency and comprehension.

We have been introducing our new topics this week. The class favourite this week was art; our topic is 'Mix it'. We started this topic by looking at primary and secondary colours and investigating what happens when we mix colours together.



Merits and Awards

Reader of the week	Eva
Writer of the week	Lucas
Mathematician of the week	Amber
Scientist of the week	Cassidy
Star of the week	Joey
Pen licence	N/A

Buddies of the Week

We are all buddies this week!



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Year 3



Year 4

Green-Blue Class

Class Register Teacher:
Mrs Jenny Dean

I hope that you all enjoyed receiving your child's Haiku poem postcard during half term!

This week, we have been learning about voyage and return stories – where the protagonist is suddenly thrust into another world and must find their way back to normal life once more. The plot often helps the reader to conquer fears, such as being afraid of the dark, storms, going to new places and so on.

In Geography, we have been exploring how to use atlases to locate countries and we know that there are only 7 continents. We used the index page to help us.



In French, we have been learning how to correctly pronounce 5 instruments in French using their correct article.

la flûte à bec

la batterie

la guitare

la clarinette

la trompette



Merits and Awards

Reader of the week	Brooke
Writer of the week	Freddie R
Mathematician of the week	Cash
Scientist of the week	Barney
Star of the week	Amelia V
Pen Licence	Noah

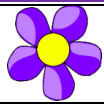
Buddies of the Week



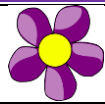
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Year 5



Year 6

Indigo-Violet Class

Class Register Teacher:
Mrs Karin Vorster

In Religious Education we are explaining different philosophical answers to questions about the world around us, including questions relating to meaning and existence. We want to explain some of the different ways in which philosophers understand abstract concepts. The question we are looking at is: **ARE ANGELS REAL?**

We had a great session discussion questions such as:

- Do they have powers?
- What are they?
- What do they do?
- What evidence is there?
- Can I talk to them?
- Where do they come from?



Merits and Awards

Reader of the week	Sebastian
Writer of the week	Neney
Mathematician of the week	George D
Scientist of the week	Charlotte
Star of the week	Lara
Pen licence	George D

Buddies of the Week



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Any other updates and news

Class Ambassadors

We are pleased to introduce our Class Ambassadors for the year:

Class Ambassadors	Orange-Yellow Class		
		Harrison	Ava
	Green-Blue Class		
		Tilly	Ralph
	Indigo-Violet Class		
		Freya	Finlay

Congratulations to our elected class ambassadors. We look forward to hearing their ideas and views in the coming months.

So far we have heard:

- *It is a good school. I like the equipment and I like that everyone shares and is kind.*
- *I like that everyone is kind. The teachers are nice, and we do fun things.*

Clubs



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Clubs have started. The games club had a lot of fun on Wednesday!

- Monday - Arts & Craft (Mrs Snow) / Dance (Mrs Freeman)
- Tuesday – Computers (Mr Alexander) / Sports (Mr O’Sullivan)
- Wednesday – Games (Mrs Spanton) / Sports (Mr O’Sullivan)

The Football/Sports club will be run by Mr O’Sullivan, due to a change of staffing from SCS.

Clubs run from 15.30 – 16.15. Please collect pupils punctually.

Year 5 and 6 Tag Rugby



The year 5 and 6 pupils participated this Tuesday in the Ongar Family Schools’ Tag Rugby competition.

The pupils had a good time, even with the wet weather.

Many thanks to Mrs Vorster and Mrs Spanton who accompanied them.

“Christmas is coming, and, right now, I think, children need us to be more present for them. Now is the biggest need.” – Dima Nachyna

Your shoebox will be given to a vulnerable child, or family, through schools, nurseries, hospitals and orphanages. Our aim is that each box is given in relationship with the local community as part of a long-term commitment to these children.

Please be a part of this ongoing story that is continuing to impact and change lives by donating a shoebox to this year’s appeal!

A hard copy leaflet will be placed in your child’s book bag.



Christmas Shoebox Appeal

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As you know we have introduced a new phonics scheme in September called 'Little Wandle Letters and Sounds Revised.'

As with introducing anything new there are usually teething problems and the e-books proved the point. We have listened to parents' feedback and have made a commitment to purchase more hard copies of books to be sent home.

For more information about the scheme:

www.littlewandlelettersandsounds.org.uk/resources/for-parents/

Parents can view the term's sounds per year group online (example right).

As the children learn new graphemes they will learn a catchphrase to match the sounds. These become even more important when we start learning alternative spellings for the same grapheme. E.g. ur curl the fur or er a bigger digger.

As they learn different spellings, they 'grow the code' and learn to use grapheme charts to help them choose the right spelling. These will be used later in the year.

The biggest change for our teaching is the way we teach tricky words. The new scheme teaches the children to apply their phonics knowledge to tricky words and explains why the word is tricky. e.g. is - The i is phonetic but the 's' makes a 'z' sound.

This is what makes it tricky. e.g. of - The 'o' is phonetic but the 'f' makes a 'v' sound. This is what makes it tricky.

The children are taught which bits of the words are phonetic and which bits are tricky. The biggest and most exciting change is the reading practice sessions. This will start in January. We will no longer listen to individual reading in class. The children will have 3 reading sessions a week with a teacher or TA. Each reading session will focus on different things.

- 1) **Decoding** - The children will look through the tricky words and any new vocabulary and have an opportunity to read the book to decode the words.
- 2) **Prosody** - In this session, they read the book again but the focus is on building expression and intonation.
- 3) **Comprehension** - In this final session, the children will learn to answer questions about the text. They will be asked to prove it and explain it and use examples from the text to help back up their answers.

In each session, the children will all read the book aloud and the adult will circulate and listen to all of them. This means they get many opportunities to practise and build fluency.

The way we cover the books in class and match the groups to assessments, means that by the time the book gets home to you it should be extremely easy for your child to read and you get to give them a chance to show off! This will give you more time to enjoy the picture books the children are bringing home regularly (they are allowed to swap these several times a week) or library books. Sharing high quality picture books, building your child's knowledge of stories and developing their vocabulary is so valuable.

Phase 2 grapheme information sheet

Autumn 2

Grapheme and mnemonic	Picture card	Pronunciation phrase	Formation phrase
J j	jellyfish	Pucker your lips and show your teeth and your tongue as you say JJJ	All the way down the jellyfish. Dot on its head.
V v	volcano	Put your teeth against your bottom lip and make a buzzing vvvvv vvvvv	Down to the bottom of the volcano and back up to the top.
W w	wave	Pucker your lips and keep them small as you say w w w	From the top of the wave to the bottom, up the wave, down the wave, then up again.
X x	box	Mouth open, then push the exle sound through as you close your mouth as ex ex (x x x)	Start at the top, then across to the bottom of the box. Start at the top, then across to the bottom of the box.
Y y	yo-yo	Smile, tongue to the top of your mouth, say y without opening your mouth yyy	Down and round the yo-yo, then follow the string round.
Z z	zebra	Show me your teeth and buzz the z sound zzzzz zzzzz	Zip across, zig down and across the zebra.

Update on Phonic Scheme - Little Wandle

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The scheme also has built in 'keep up sessions' to help children that have found something difficult. We no longer need to listen to children read individually, therefore will dedicate TA time to supporting children to keep up. If your child comes home with a sticker on their arm with a sound or a tricky word then please ask them about it a few times that evening to reinforce their learning from that day.

We are very excited about the new scheme and the beautiful new books and resources.

Thank you for being so patient, whilst we are implementing the new scheme.

Friday, 18.11.22
Children in
Need Day
Fundraiser

Pupils to bring in a voluntary contribution of £1 towards the Children in Need charity.

Non-uniform day - Pupils to dress up as Pudsey Bear or something spotty.



Thursday,
08.12.22

Christmas
Jumper Day
Fundraising
event for



Pupils to bring in a voluntary contribution of £1 towards the Save the Children charity.

Pupils to wear a Christmas jumper to school (not football kits!).

Monday,
21.11.22

Fundraising
event for the
school



This event is a school fundraising event, which is organised by the school's year group representatives / volunteers.

All voluntary contributions will go towards the school's fundraising funds.

Arrangements to be finalised. At the moment the proposals are:

- Breakfast between 8.00 and 8.30 in school hall.
- Breakfast snacks and juice
- Design your football top
- Name the winning team
- Come up with an England football chant - best one wins a prize.
- Pupils come to school dressed up in football kit (or anything to represent England - red or white)

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BREAKFAST WITH SOUTHGATE

ORANGE JUICE, SAUSAGE ROLL,
COME ON ENGLAND SCORE A GOAL!

MONDAY 21ST NOVEMBER 8:00AM

BREAKFAST & DRINKS SUPPLIED

FOOTBALL KIT & ENGLAND THEMED OUTFITS

COMPETITIONS

BEST FOOTBALL CHANT
NAME THE ENGLAND TEAM

SWEEP STAKE
KEEPY UPPY CHALLENGE

£5 PER CHILD TO ATTEND BREAKFAST
£1 FOR NON UNIFORM (IF NOT ATTENDING BREAKFAST)
SIBLING DISCOUNT OR HARDSHIP DISCOUNT AVAILABLE PLEASE ENQUIRE

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**Year Group
Parent
Representatives
/ Volunteers**

Reception - TBC
Year 1 – Ms Kelsey Gumble (Acer’s mum)
Year 2 – Mrs Emma Laurence (Eva’s mum)
Year 3 - Mrs Cherie Turpin (Teddie’s mum)
Year 4 - Mrs Cherie Turpin (Teddie’s mum)
Year 5 - TBC
Year 6 – Mrs Nicola Curtis (Dylan & Alice’s mum)



Facebook

A **POSITIVE** Facebook group called *Dr Walker's Events* has been set up, to keep parents/carers up to date on any events or fundraising activities the school will be hosting and/or arranging



The page will be jointly administered and regularly monitored.

As the school is a registered body, using the school’s name on social media means that comments should reflect positively on the school. Any derogative comments will be acted upon and legal advice sought as we are advised to refer such matters to the appropriate bodies/services.

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/6402013973147190/?ref=share>

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