

Update from Headteacher



The weather is getting colder. Please make sure your child comes to school dressed appropriately for the weather.

Kind reminder that parents are not permitted to walk into the school building (and to classrooms) in the mornings whilst registration is taking place. Please liaise with the office to relate messages to staff.

Value this half-term







Big Question of the week

What is Individual Liberty?



Upcoming dates for the diary

23.01.23	Reading Workshop with Miss Seeley for Reception and Year 1 at 3.45pm (Parents Only).
26.01.23	CHANGE OF DATE KS2 "All in" Sitting Volleyball at St Andrews (for selected pupils – parents will be informed individually of this) Time: 9.30-11.30
26.01.23	NSPCC workshop with years 5 and 6
03.02.23	NSPCC – Mega Maths Fundraising
03.02.23	Years 3 and 4 assembly for parents and carers (Green/Blue)
07.02.23	Safer Internet Day
21.02.23	All Year 5 & 6 Sports Hall Athletics at Ongar Academy. Time 09.30-12.00
21.02.23	All Year 3 & 4 Sports Hall Athletics at Ongar Academy. 13.00-15.00
24.02.23	Years 1 and 2 assembly for parents and carers (Orange/Yellow)
02.03.23	World Book Day
07.03.23	Epping & Ongar District Cross Country Competition at Ongar Primary – Arrangements TBC <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Year 5&6 Boys – 9.45am Year 5&6 Girls – 10.05am Year 3&4 Boys – 10.25am Year 3&4 Girls – 10.45am <p>The school can only enter 1 team per category with a maximum of 8.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Year 3 & 4 boys & girls – 1km Year 5 & 6 boys & girls – 1.5km
10.03.23	Reception and Year 1 assembly for parents and carers (Red/Orange)
13.03.23	Bird Man to visit the school (like last year)
17.03.23	Red Nose Day
21.03.23	Year 6 TOA Transition Event at Ongar Academy. Time 09.15-12.15
24.03.23	Years 5 and 6 assembly for parents and carers (Indigo/Violet)
30.03.23	Easter service at St Nicholas Church

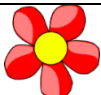
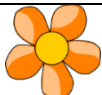









Whole School House Points

	Ants 	Badgers 	Locusts 	Lizards 
Red-Orange Class	5	37	22	24
Orange-Yellow Class	15	24	22	25
Green-Blue Class	33	31	9	22
Indigo-Violet Class	23	29	24	18
TOTAL	1263	1266	1264	1364

Attendance

	
Our school target	96%
Attendance this week	96%
Attendance this year	93%

Academic year	Period average attendance	Number of Persistent Absence pupils (below 90%)
2022/2023	93%	17
2021/2022	91%	20
2020/2021	93%	17
2019/2020	95%	3
2018/2019	96%	2

Red-Orange Class			95%	
Orange-Yellow Class			99%	
Green-Blue Class			97%	
Indigo-Violet Class			94%	

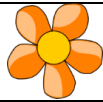
100% attendance this week: 78 pupils out of 89 pupils which is 87 %

Freya G	Evie-May	Amber	Noah	Charlotte
Jesse	Ava	Daisy	Sidney	Chloe
Edward	Mikey	Kai	Freddie R	Freya G
Jackson	Ethan	Alice Cussens	Max	Freddy G
Jett	Teddy CG	Jude G	Teddie T	Autumn
Darcie	Alice Curtis	Phoebe	Tilly	Ava G
Amelia-Rae	Maisey	Brooke	Archie	Finlay
Alice B	Sienna F	Amelia	George D	Lily
Florence	Joey	Gabriella	Freya J	Harrison M
Loki	Cassidy	John James	Talia	Harrison P
Lincoln	Ralph	Ralph B	Sienna M	Sebastian
Maddison	Eva	Barney	George A	Naomi
Scarlett	Harrison Mc	Teddy D	Jessica	Mason
Dylan F	Dotty	Lillie	Emily	Libby
Dolly	Jacob	Diggy	Kezia	
Acer	Jude	Paul	Dylan C	

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**Red-Orange
Class**

**Class Register Teacher:
Mrs Joanne Hammond**

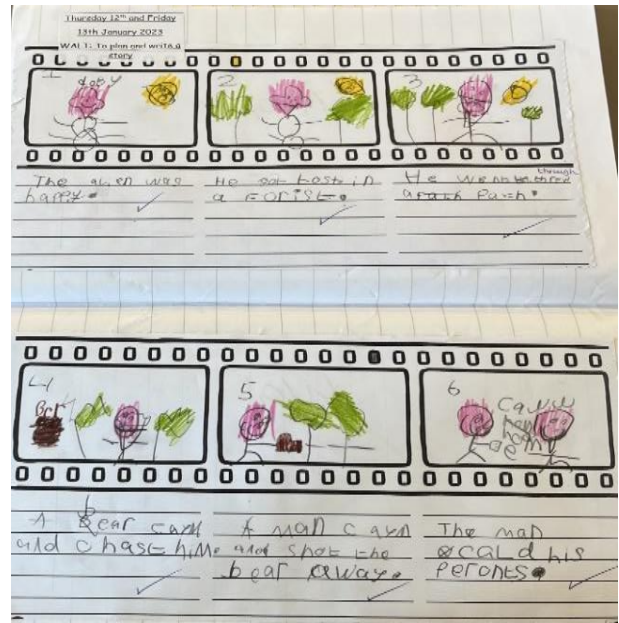
Reception

Year 1

This week in English Reception have been looking at adjectives and using them to describe a picture.

Year One have been planning and writing their own stories.

In Geography we have been learning about the countries that make up the United Kingdom and the capital of England.



We have been making models looking at how axles help the wheels to move.

Little Wandle books should have now been sent home to all children. Please ensure you read with them and write in their reading records. Please remember to put reading books in book bags! Otherwise we cannot give out a new reading book. If books are lost or damaged parents will be charged a fee to replace.

Merits and Awards

Reader of the week	Freya
Writer of the week	Jett
Mathematician of the week	Edward
Scientist of the week	Florence
Star of the week	Loki
Pen licence	N/A

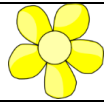
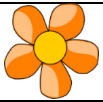
Buddies of the Week



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Orange- Yellow Class

Class Register Teacher: Miss Lauren Seeley

Year 1

Year 2

We have been very busy in Orange- Yellow class this week. On Thursday afternoon we had an NSPCC assembly, where we learnt about the importance of speaking out if we hear or see something that isn't right.

In Geography, we have been continuing with our focus topic 'Bright Lights, Big City.' This week we have been looking at physical features around the World and labelling them.

In Design and Technology we have been looking at how wheels and axels work. The children worked in small groups to create their own vehicle.



Merits and Awards

Reader of the week	Lucas
Writer of the week	Kai
Mathematician of the week	Madison
Scientist of the week	Ava
Star of the week	Alice
Pen licence	N/A

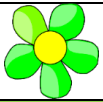
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**Green-Blue
Class**

**Class Register Teacher:
Mrs Jenny Dean**

Year 3

Year 4

In English we have been writing 'tricking a monster' stories and have been working hard to bring our writing to life, using telling, description and dialogue. We were able to use guided models to magpie ideas to develop our own writing.

5 Pillars of Islam

1. Shahadah (Faith)



2. Salah (Prayer)



3. Zakat (Charity)



4. Sawm (Fasting)



5. Hajj (Pilgrimage)



In R.E. we have been looking at Islam and the key beliefs of Muslims. We looked at the 5 pillars and discussed which would be easiest/hardest to achieve and why. We compared the 5 pillars of Islam to Christianity to identify similarities and differences between the faiths. After, we completed our own 5 pillars of commitments and priorities – what we considered to underpin our beliefs.

We had a virtual assembly 'Speak Out. Stay Safe' from the NSPCC to share with the children who they can turn to for support and help if they need it, in a fun and interactive way.



Merits and Awards

Reader of the week	Brooke
Writer of the week	Diggy
Mathematician of the week	Noah
Scientist of the week	Amelia
Star of the week	Freddie
Pen licence	n/a

Buddies of the Week



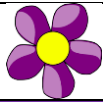
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Year 5



Year 6

**Indigo-Violet
Class**

**Class Register Teacher:
Mrs Karin Vorster**

In Geography Indigo/Violet have been learning about land use in the town and country and how this differs.

In English we have been looking at myths and legends.

We have exercised our maths' brains by manipulating fractions in their various forms and adding and subtracting them.

During the Class Assembly children discussed Individual Liberty and gave mature and considered responses to what this meant. They had clearly absorbed the school and British values and were able to discuss these.

Merits and Awards

Reader of the week	Freya G Kezia
Writer of the week	Harrison M Jessica
Mathematician of the week	Archie
Scientist of the week	Ava Freddie
Star of the week	Sebastian Libby
Pen licence	n/a

Buddies of the Week



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FREE Football

Please refer to our website, under community opportunities and flyers for all the latest football sessions. We have been given a Free Football session leaflet by Shooters along with the latest Football courses and Half Term sessions.

Parent Questionnaire feedback

We received a very low return on the Parent Questionnaire, representing only 35% of the school.

Many thanks for the feedback, comments and suggestions received.

Some of the feedback was contradicting.

Two things that are identified are:

- Sporting / club events
- Communication

Sporting / club events

The school has an agreement with West Essex School Sport Partnership (WESSP). A meeting was held in December with the manager and agreed that as a small school it is appropriate to participate in the Ongar Family School events, which we have done last term. We will be engaging with all the events available (where possible and appropriate) this term, but unfortunately they are predominantly KS2.

We are also providing specialist PE lessons twice a week from SCS with the opportunity of the two afternoon clubs.

Teaching staff are on directed hour contracts, so cannot be directed to do these, hence our permanent employed Support Staff offering additional clubs (albeit limited).

Communication

We have had mixed feedback on this. The Communications survey completed in October 2022 indicated that 74% of parents read the weekly newsletters regularly and 85% requested that we continue with it. This was the majority preference. Our weekly newsletter is the main form of information sharing.

We appreciate there are other avenues of communication, however we cannot personalise individual preferences. The school is making a conscious effort with emails, text messages, telephone calls, welfare calls, website updates and the newsletters.

Teachers are also available for discussions (other than parent consultation meetings and reports) – we only ask parents to contact the office to arrange a meeting with the relevant member of staff. As mentioned previously, it is not appropriate for parents to come into classrooms in the mornings to see teachers as the staff need to complete registration.

If there is any information to be passed on to the teaching staff, please inform the office staff. It is not appropriate to have discussions on the gate, as other parents can overhear discussions.

We would be happy to take on board suggestions of other reasonable means of communication we could consider.

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The online world is posing an ever-increasing risk to children, and it is important that schools, parents and carers work together to take an active role in teaching children about online dangers. Learning how to act safely when using the internet is an incredibly important part of safeguarding our children.

The resources include Parents & Carers courses (presented by Myleene Klass), online video resources and weekly guides covering a huge range of topics, including:

- Online Relationships
- Fake Profiles & Social Bots
- Online Bullying
- Online Grooming
- Child Sexual Exploitation
- Sexual Harassment & Violence
- Sexting
- Live Streaming
- Online Identity
- Screen Addiction
- Online Challenges
- Overspending
- Social Media Platforms
- Online Gambling
- Radicalisation, Terrorism & Extremism
- Age Inappropriate Content
- Copyright & Ownership
- Hacking
- Fake News
- Online Fraud
- Online Reputation
- Personal Data
- Pornography
- Targeted Adverts & Pop-Ups
- The Dark Web
- Games & Trends

To create your account, please follow <https://nationalonlinesafety.com/enrol/dr-walker-s-c-of-e-voluntary-controlled-primary-school> and complete your details. When you're set up, you'll be able to set 'Parent/Carer' as your user type.

You can access National Online Safety online via any device, including via their brand-new smartphone app. To download the app, please go to:
<https://apps.apple.com/gb/app/national-online-safety/id1530342372>
<https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=uk.co.nationaleducationgroup.nos>
Alternatively, search for 'National Online Safety' in the App Store/Google Play Store.

Answers to frequently asked questions and customer service can be accessed at <https://helpdesk.thenationalcollege.co.uk/helpcentre>

Online Safety

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