

Newsletter

Spring Term

Date: 18.03.22

Science week edition

An Exceptional Place to Flourish

Though your beginning was small,
your future will flourish indeed.
Job 8:7



Our school attendance target is:

96%

Actual attendance this academic year:

92.6%

Attendance this week:

Reception	94.63
Year 1	95.00
Year 2	87.50
Year 3	92.67
Year 4	94.29
Year 5	92.50
Year 6	88.33
Whole school	92.54

Winning year groups:

Gold – 1 st	Year 1
Silver – 2 nd	Reception
Bronze – 3 rd	Year 4

Headteacher's note

We had an absolutely brilliant Science week. Thank you to Mrs Dean for organising all the fun activities. It really enhanced our Science curriculum. And best of all, the pupils had FUN!



Who is Dr Lawson dressed up as? Is the Headteacher having any fun?

Attendance continues to be mandatory for all pupils of compulsory school age and schools should communicate clear and consistent expectations about attendance. We are **really concerned** about the attendance figures at school, especially compared with the previous three years for the same period: **1 September – 18 March.**

Academic year	Period average attendance	Number of persistent absence pupils (below 90% attendance)
2018/2019	95.12	5
2019/2020	95.41	4
2020/2021	93.48	24
2021/2022	92.6	21



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Big questions of the week:

Value this half-term



Reception	Year 1	What changes would you make to the school if you were in charge for a week?
Year 2		If you could design a superhero costume, what special features could you include?
Year 3		Which could be the odd one out – computer, telephone or calculator?
Year 4		Can anything be art?
Year 5		What 10 items would you put in a time capsule to be opened in 2050 showing how you live your life now?
Year 6		Would you rather be a giant or the same size as a mouse?

Achievers of the week

		Reader of the week	Writer of the week	Mathematician of the week	Scientist of the week	Star of the week
Reception		Scarlett	Rafe	William	Molly	Amelia-Rae
Year 1	Year 2	Dotty	Jude	Maci	Alice	Eva
Year 3	Year 4	Teddy D	Maxwell	Sidney	Freya	Barney
Year 5	Year 6	Freddy H	Harrison	Charlie	Freddy G	Tommy

House Points:

		Ants			Badgers			Locusts			Lizards		
Reception		48	+	7	42	+	9	47	+	7	42	+	7
Year 1	112	112	+	30	82	+	20	129	+	32	143	+	36
Year 3	168	168	+	48	136	+	46	149	+	41	146	+	48
Year 5	172	172	+	28	196	+	24	190	+	29	189	+	27
TOTAL		613			555			624			638		

Good bye

We are sadly having to say good bye to Mrs Foster who will be finishing at Dr Walkers on Monday, 28th March.

Mrs Foster has helped many pupils over the years as a Learning Support Assistant. We thank her for her willingness to always be flexible.

Mrs Foster, we will miss your smiles and positivity.

Wishing you all the best for the future.



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Achievements outside of school

Sienna (Year 1), Brooke & Alice (both Reception) all made their "Rainbow Promise" at Rainbows this week. We are very proud of you!



Congratulations to Lillie in Year 3 who was awarded her Yellow Belt at Kickboxing, a great achievement!

**GORead competition
Congratulations!**



Congratulations to all the children that took part in the Reward Card Competition! The judges had an amazingly difficult choice to make!

Henry R is one of the winners with his snowy owl! Well done Henry R!



Best Friends of the week

These pupils are the class buddies, helping other pupils in class.



Reception



Years 1 and 2



Years 3 and 4



Years 5 and 6



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Book Fair

We had a very successful Book Fair. It was lovely to see so many pupils excited to buy a book... and bringing their parents along to buy it for them!

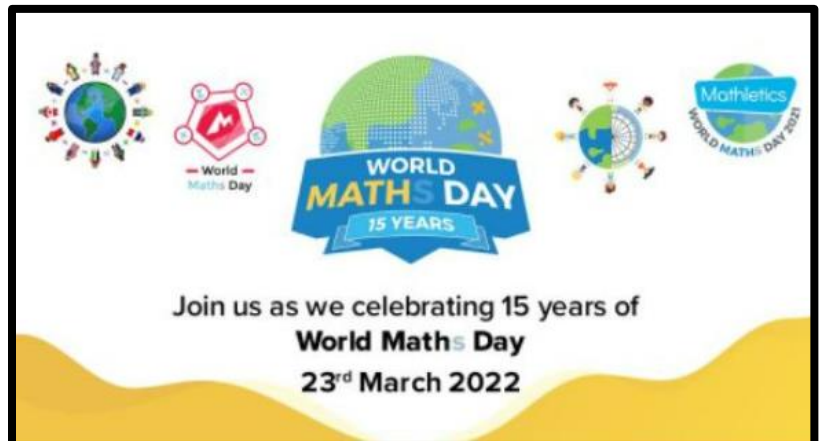
Sales total £623.73
Rewards 60%
Scholastic Profit earned £314.24

We will be looking into doing this again in September.



World Maths Day is next Wednesday, 23rd March.

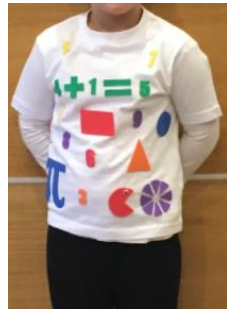
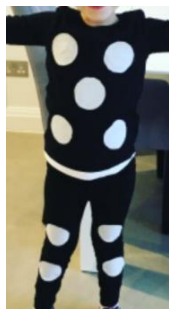
This is one of the world's largest global educational events. Its aim is to connect the global learning community and foster friendships between children of different cultures as they learn to excel in mathematics together.



Maths Day

We will start off the day with a

maths assembly and take part in various maths activities during the day. **We ask that all children dress up to show us their interpretation of maths.** The children could decorate a tshirt to wear to school, wear spotty socks etc.



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The rain finally stayed away long enough for the netball court to be repainted!



Year 5 and 6 took part in a small schools athletics competition this week and I am extremely proud of our Dr Walker's pupils.

We came **3rd overall** with the children putting in great effort all round and there were a few 1st place winners in some events.

Well done year 5 and 6!

A huge thank you to our parents for supporting us once again and safely delivering the children to Ongar Academy and back to school.

Thank you to Mrs Spanton for supporting me and ensuring the children were safe but had fun.

Sports News!

Looking forward to the next event.

I will keep you updated in future newsletters.

Mrs Eyo






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British Science week: 14-18 March

Monday – Bird Man

<p>Pupils and staff got to know the birds of prey. We had two wonderful workshops and then photos were taken!</p>			
<p>Bird type</p>	<p>Hawk</p>	<p>Eagle</p>	<p>Barn owl</p>
<p>Name</p>	<p>Sybil</p>	<p>Alaska</p>	<p>Sparky</p>
<p>Where does it live?</p>	<p>Hot countries like Mexico</p>	<p>North America</p>	<p>Canada</p>
<p>What does it eat?</p>	<p>Rabbits</p>	<p>Fish</p>	<p>Mice</p>
<p>Interesting facts</p>	<p>It weighs 1 kg and has 3 eyelids. The eyes fill $\frac{3}{4}$ of the skull. They lay 4 eggs which take 36 days to hatch and 14 weeks to grow into an adult.</p>	<p>It weighs 5kg. 80cm tall. 2m wing span</p>	<p>They have two ears – one on the side of the head and one on the chin!</p>



The birds flew all around the school hall!



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Dr Lawson



Dr Lawson



Mrs Sladden



Miss Adams



Mrs Spanton



Mrs Vorster



Mrs Nicholas



Miss Tierney



Mrs Dean

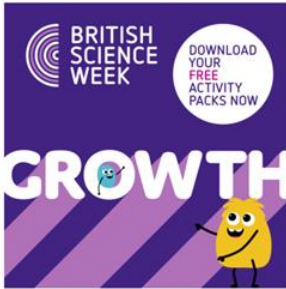


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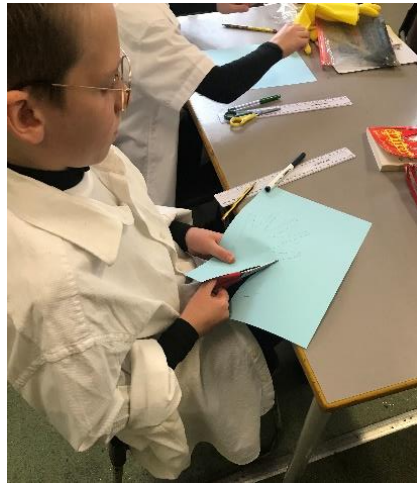
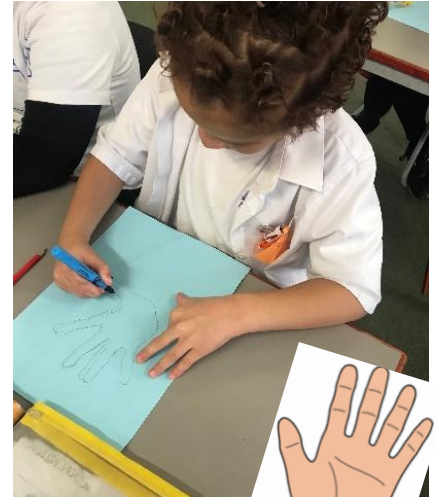
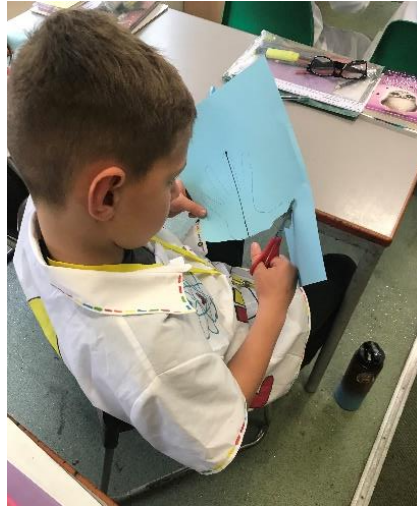
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Tuesday – Poster competition

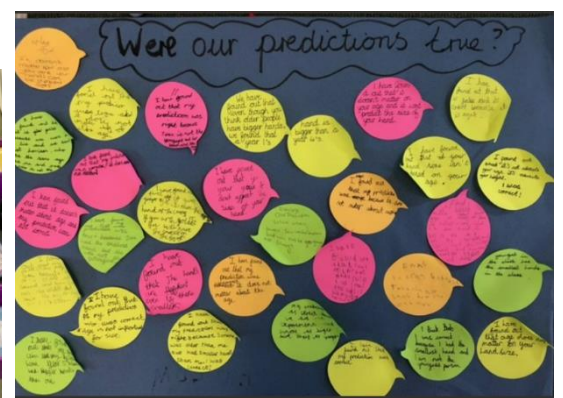
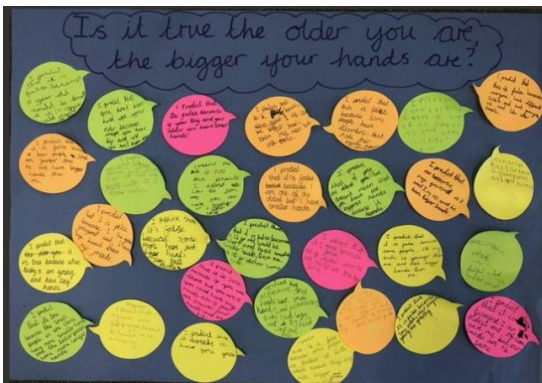


Years 3 and 4 Science investigation

For Science week, we took part in various activities. Here are some pictures of us designing our 'Growth' poster and taking part in a science enquiry. We investigated whether it is true that the older you are the bigger your hands are.



Who has the biggest hand?



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Wednesday – Dress up as a scientist

We welcomed a lot of scientists, technicians, nurses, gps, specialists, doctors and professors to assembly.
How clever are we!
Thanks to the parents who helped with dressing up!

Reception Class Scientists



Mrs Dean in her lab coat!



Years 5 and 6 as Scientists!



Scientists Assemble!



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Thursday – Design a bridge structure with paper

Was it a success or a blunder? Any prospective engineers at Dr Walker's?



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Friday – Lab coat competition



Bayer Baylab
DESIGN A LAB COAT
competition

Theme 2022
Food and Food Waste

To win a set of lab coats for your school - register now

For full details and to register
email: baylabinfo@bayer.com
Or visit:
www.bayer.co.uk/en/baylab

The competition, which usually asks students to design a lab coat around what science means to them, is mixing it up this year with a topical subject that affects them, their communities, and the planet. An issue that both impacts people's health and accounts for 8% of greenhouse gas emissions worldwide, food waste is one of the major contributing factors to climate change. So, in honour of COP-26 and the UN's Sustainability Goals, we're excited to see what Food and Food Waste means to infant, junior, and senior students in this year's Lab Coat Competition!

We are looking forward to judging these and will announce winners before the end of term.

Sponsored read throughout March

To celebrate and encourage a lifelong love of reading at home and school, we will be running a sponsored read between 1st March 2022 and 31st March 2022.

Children can use the challenge sheet, which we will provide, or read anything with words or spend time being read to.

Please support our sponsored read so that you child has more books to read, share and enjoy!

Also log your reading on GoRead to make Dr Walker's Readathon Winners!



The Big GoReadathon
Thursday 3rd March - Thursday 31st March

Your mission:
to read as much as you can for the Big GoReadathon!
Our school is in with the chance of winning up to £250 of books!

What do I need to do:
Simple: Read and log your reading on GoRead
Starting on World book day (3rd March) until Thursday 31st March read as much as you can to help our school be the winners!

Enjoy your reading
Log it on GoRead
Help your school win the Big GoReadathon



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Reception Science Week

Red Class have loved Science Week! We have found out what objects are magnetic, explored Beebots and designed/built our own rockets!



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Years 5 and 5 Art and Design

Dr Lawson and Mrs Eyo taught the year 5 and 6 pupils how to enlarge a picture. Every pupil had a part of the overall picture to enlarge – it all fitted together like a jigsaw puzzle. Art was linked to their History topic on Ancient Egypt.

The original picture:



Step 1 –Enlarged and drew a part of the picture.
Step 2: Used watercolour paint to paint.



Step 3: Went over the whole picture with a black marker.
Step 4: Oil pastels were then used to complete the masterpiece.
Thanks to the happy helpers during lunch . It was like a club!



<p>Initiative: Eat Them To Defeat Them</p>		<p>28 February – 1 June</p> <p>80% of children are not eating enough vegetables with a third eating less than one portion of vegetables a day. Perhaps most alarming is that 50% of parents say they have given up even trying.*</p> <p>We are supporting this initiative to inspire children to become veggie-loving and develop good eating habits for life.</p> <p>This week our featured vegetable has been Broccoli – pupils have been awarded lots of stickers at lunch time for giving it a try! For more information visit: www.eatthemtodefearthem.com/en *source as above</p>
<p>Lunch Menu</p>	<p>Thank you all for your continued patience while we try to rectify our oven problem! We are all very keen to get back to our normal menu as soon as possible, one member of Red Class in particular.....</p> <p>Rafe in Red Class wrote our lovely cook a letter and explained how much he loved her sprinkle cake. He was very excited to read it to her and Dr Lawson. Miss Charles promised she would bake some sprinkle cake soon when the oven is fixed! Shout out to our wonderful cook Miss Charles!</p> <p>Next week we will be able to offer filled wraps everyday and hot lunches on Mon/Weds/Fri only as follows:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monday – Cheese and Tomato Pasta / Wraps & Fresh Fruit • Tuesday – Wraps & Smoothies • Wednesday – Pasticcio (meat or veg) / Wraps & Fresh Fruit • Thursday – Wraps & Angel Delight • Friday – Nacho Chicken (Quorn option) / Wraps & Choc Krispie Cakes 	
<p>Kind requests</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Neighbours have kindly requested the school to please ask the community to remind dog owners, to please pick up their dog's foul on the pathways. • Can parents please supervise their children at pick-up time to not go on the playground adventure trail, as staff cannot take responsibility for this? Thanks for your co-operation. 	 <p>Most people . . . pick up after their dogs</p>
<p>Information</p>	<p>Please see school website for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Easter Holiday Courses Bikeability Level 1, Level 1 & 2 , Level 3 , and Learn to ride courses. In Chelmsford, Colchester, Harlow & Maldon. • Information from The Wilson Talbot Educational Charity about grant funding for eligible families. 	

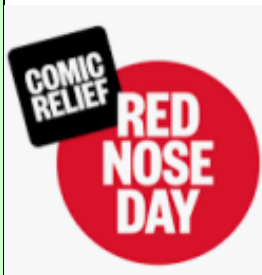


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Red Nose Day



This year it's all about 'You'. Yes you. The people at home, in schools and on the ground, doing your bit. Buying Red Noses, baking cakes, smashing challenges or simply picking up the phone and donating.

You can make a difference. You have the power to change lives.

This year's Red Noses are the wildest bunch yet! There are eight to track down, including the lesser-spotted rare Nose, colourful Cam the chameleon.

Just like last year, all the Noses are 100% plastic-free – including the packaging – making them green as well as red. They're made from a material called bagasse, which comes from sugar cane.

This product costs £1.50 with at least 75p going to Comic Relief.

For tips on how to enjoy your Nose safely,



visit www.comicrelief.com/yournose.

COVID

- **Please take care, as we have had an increase of positive COVID cases in school affecting both staff and pupils. Please contact the school office if your child has tested positive.**
- **Please follow government's guidelines.**

Important term dates

Start	Finish	Half-term
4 January 2022	1 April 2022	14-18 February 2022

Job Advert for Everbrite Cleaning company

Recruitment: School cleaner

- Term time only,
- Mondays-Fridays.
- 2 Hours per day .
- Approximately 4pm start.
- £9.50 p/h plus 28 days holiday pay (out of term time).
- Salaried pay possible.
- Immediate start.
- DBS needed but can be applied for apply on behalf. Cost £60 from 1st wage.

Please contact Mr A Perridge via aperridge@everbritecleaning.co.uk for more information.



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EXAMPLE - TIKTOK PARENT GUIDE



TIKTOK PARENT GUIDE

OpenView
Education
TRAINING THROUGH THEATRE



START A CONVERSATION

A great place to start when it comes to online safety is to talk about it. Speak with your child about the online risks mentioned above. We can talk about the importance of keeping personal information safe, support your child in learning to become digitally resilient.

Part of this also means being able to identify if someone their speaking with online is not to be trusted. For some great resources to help to talk to your young person about this, check out the Thinkuknow website.



ENABLE FAMILY PAIRING MODE

Family pairing mode allows you to link your TikTok with your child's account. By using Family Pairing Mode you can change settings on your child's account including:

Screen Time Management - How long the app can be used for.

Restricted Mode - Filtering inappropriate content.

Direct Messages - Turn off direct messages completely, or restrict certain users from sending messages.



USE PRIVACY SETTINGS

With a public account anyone can view and download your videos, even if they haven't created a TikTok account. Talk to your young person about the benefits of privacy settings.

Although there may be resistance to setting privacy settings if a user is seeking more likes and followers, emphasise the value of having greater levels of control and privacy.



LEARN HOW TO BLOCK AND REPORT

Make sure that your young person knows how to use all of the block and report features. It's possible to restrict comments, restrict Duets, report a comment and block a user.

These features can help users to have a greater level of control on the platform, but they are only helpful if your young person knows how to use them.

Talk through how to make use of these settings with your young person.



USE RESTRICTED MODE

By going to the Digital Wellbeing section on TikTok you can enable Restricted Mode. This has been created to filter out mature or inappropriate content.

While this may not be perfect, it should offer some level of filtering. To set restricted mode you will need to create a pin code.



BE MINDFUL OF SCREEN TIME

Excessive screen time on social media can have negative impacts on student wellbeing. If your young person is old enough to use TikTok, have a conversation with them to agree appropriate levels of screen time. You could start the conversation by asking them how much screen time per day they think would be good for them.

There is also the option of setting screen time limits under the screen time management option. This allows you to limit the amount of time a user can spend on the app per day. This option can then be locked with a PIN code.



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BRIGHTEN SOMEONE'S DAY ONLINE

Tiny actions can have a huge impact. Here are our suggestions for making someone smile online!



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