

Newsletter Spring Term – 09.02.2024

What happened this week in school?

KS2 pupils all attended an additional Athletics session at Ongar Academy.

Well done to Mikey who attended West Ham Football Clubs Trials.

Safer Internet day was this week. Classes participated in this with an Assembly to raise their awareness of safer internet usage.

Years 1 and 2 visited a Synagogue (Chabad of Epping) as part of our extension of the broad and balanced curriculum. Pupils enjoyed this education visit.

Well-being: Mrs Burke has teamed up with Sue Grace and Temple Spa. A letter will be send to parents who would like to take up the offer of a full facial treatment. Bookings to be made directly with Sue. The date to put in the diary is **Wednesday, 28th February 13.30-15.00.**

Parent consultation and mini-reports will be postponed to the end of Spring term once pupils have completed their termly assessment.

5 Things to Give Yourself Today and Every Day

- Give yourself a break when you need one.
- Give yourself grace if you make a mistake.
- Give yourself credit for your accomplishments.
- Give yourself permission to ask for help when you need it.
- Give yourself the same compassion you would give to others.

Picture News – This week's Big Question...



What makes someone inspirational?

Roots and Fruits







This term's focus will be on the people who Jesus met.

British Value of the term





Individual Liberty










Attendance target: 96%

	Reception class 90%
	Yeas 1 and 2 86%
	Years 3 and 4 88%
	Years 5 and 6 96%
Whole school	90%

House Points

Ants		1147
Badgers		1012
Locusts		1138
Lizards		1020

Value Awards

	Reception	Talula	Perseverance: For trying exceptionally hard with her phonics
	Courage		
	Years 1 and 2	Alice	For challenging her learning and trying to do better.
	Years 3 and 4	Maci	Willing to try in all her work.
	Years 5 and 6	Maxwell	For being brave when needed.
	Creativity		
	Years 1 and 2	Florence	For her analytical approach and asking a lot of questions.
	Years 3 and 4	Maisey	Great ideas on poster work
	Years 5 and 6	Paul	For thinking outside the box.
	Respect		
	Years 1 and 2	Evie-May	For always following the instructions and rules.
	Years 3 and 4	Jude	Always respectful in class.
	Years 5 and 6	Gabriella	For being respectful towards all.
	Compassion		
	Years 1 and 2	Luna	For helping others and always being polite.
	Years 3 and 4	Hugo	Always looking after others.
	Years 5 and 6	John James	For being a great friend.
	Perseverance		
	Years 1 and 2	Lincoln	For trying hard to improve his presentation.
	Years 3 and 4	Eva	Always tries her best.
	Years 5 and 6	Teddy	For outstanding effort in his lessons.
	Responsibility		
	Years 1 and 2	Jett	For trying to complete his work independently.
	Years 3 and 4	Phoebe	Always willing to do class jobs.
	Years 5 and 6	Lillie	For helping others when possible.
	Hope		
	Years 1 and 2	Loki	For being a good friend.
	Years 3 and 4	Kai	Always tries to do his best.
	Years 5 and 6	Freya	For outstanding effort in her work.

Classroom News



Reception Red Class

This week we made our very own vegetable soup!

We discussed vegetables that we liked, designed our own soups and learnt how to use knives safely.

The activity enabled the children to develop their understanding of healthy eating and hygiene, their communication, language and literacy skills as they talked about what they were doing and worked collaboratively with each other, as well as their fine motor skills.



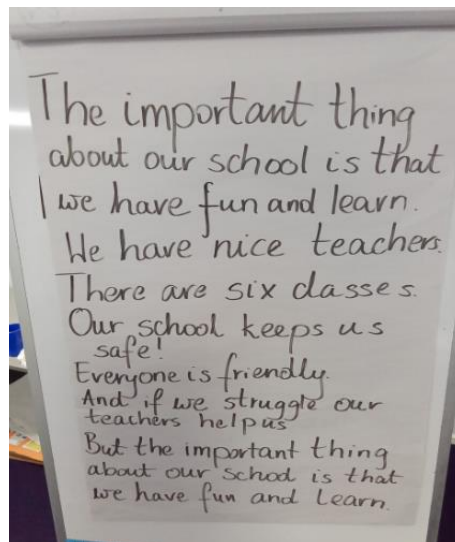
We hope you enjoy the end product that they brought home with them!
Check out more photos in the Gallery section on our [website](#)



Years 1 and 2 Orange-Yellow Class

It has been a poetry week for us. We have been learning all about shape poems and preparing to write our own.

In preparation we wrote a poem about our school based on 'The Important Book'.



Years 3 and 4 Green-Blue Class

Ongar Sport Centre

We had a great time at the Ongar Sport Centre. Everyone did their best and enjoyed participating.

Science and Fossils!

In science, we have been exploring how fossils are made. We found out that the remains of animals and plants, from long ago, can be covered with silt or mud. Sometimes they make a body impression. In class, we made our own fossils

- We used clay to make a muddy base.
- We then pushed objects into the moist clay.
- Impressions were made of the different shapes.
- We then placed a paper collar around the clay, to make a mould.
- We poured plaster into the mould and let it dry.

In the next few days we will remove the clay and examine our new fossils. We will add them to our collections.



Years 5 and 6 Indigo-Violet Class

We had a very busy week this week. On Tuesday we went to Ongar Sport Centre where we took part in the Sports Hall Athletics competition. We came 4th and enjoyed the morning staying active and representing our school.

We also had a live lesson where we learned about online safety and how we can protect ourselves online.



Healthy School's Commitment Pledge



Commitment Pledge

Our school pledges a commitment to tackling health inequalities and improving the health and wellbeing of the children and young people and families in our community.

Working with the ECFWS Healthy Schools Team, we will strive to exceed Healthy Schools standard expectations by expanding our offer, embedding best practice and facilitating exemplar outcomes for our children and young people.



We are committed to celebrating excellence.
To be reviewed January 2025

Head Teacher

Student Representative

Healthy Schools Lead

Governor

We are delighted to have been awarded the Healthy School's Commitment Pledge. The school was assessed for this a few weeks ago.

Rabbi's Visit



Rabbi Posen visited the school last week and shared some religious objects with the pupils to explain Judaism.



Ofsted Parent View survey results



Thanks you to all the parents who contributed to the Ofsted Parent View survey. 23 responses were received and predominantly very positive.

's	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly disagree	Don't know
1. My child is happy at this school.	88%	8%		4%	
2. My child feels safe at this school.	88%	8%		4%	
3. The school makes sure its pupils are well behaved.	83%	13%			4%
4. My child has been bullied and the school dealt with the bullying quickly and effectively.	8%				4%
My child has not been bullied. 88%					
5. The school makes me aware of what my child will learn during the year.	75%	21%		4%	
6. When I have raised concerns with the school they have been dealt with properly.	50%	4%		4%	
I have not raised any concerns. 42%					
7. My child has SEND, and the school gives them the support they need to succeed.	83%	17%			
8. The school has high expectations for my child.	71%	21%		4%	4%
9. My child does well at this school.	79%	13%		4%	4%
10. The school lets me know how my child is doing.	79%	17%		4%	
11. There is a good range of subjects available to my child at this school.	67%	33%			
12. My child can take part in clubs and activities at this school.	63%	38%			
13. The school supports my child's wider personal development.	67%	21%		4%	8%
14. I would recommend this school to another parent.	YES – 92% NO – 8%				

Safer Internet day



SAVE the DATE

Safer Internet Day

2024 | Tuesday
6 February

www.saferinternetday.org



This week we celebrated Safer Internet Day. Our computer leads, George and Sienna, presented an assembly to the whole school. They spoke to the school about the SMART rules that we should all be following to ensure a safe and appropriate use of our online devices.



Synagogue Visit

On Thursday Year 1 and 2 visited the Epping Synagogue. We were greeted by Rabbi Posen who kindly shared with us his knowledge and showed a number of artefacts used during the Jewish services. The children asked a lot of questions and shared what they knew about Judaism. They were also allowed to blow the prayer horn. We are very grateful to the rabbi for his time and hospitality.



Well Done Mikey!



Our very own Mikey McKillop has attended West Ham Football Club's Trials!!! Well Done Mikey!! We have also uploaded some pictures of Mikey to our Facebook page.



Sports Hall Athletics

On Tuesday, KS2 took part in the Sports Hall Athletics competition. We took part in a variety of track events including obstacle relay, 1 + 1 lap relay, 2 + 2 lap relay and 6 lap parlauf. Our field events showed off our skills that we have been working on during PE sessions. These events included standing long jump, vertical jump and speed bounce.

Well done to everyone that took part. We are extremely proud of you!



Spring term events

Dr Lawson met with volunteer parents to agree Spring term events.

- 13th February – Pancake Breakfast – see poster.
- 14th February – Valentine's day – Pupils to dress up in Red and White on the Friday, 16th February as the 14th is PE day.

- 10th March is Mothering Sunday. Our cook, Miss Charles, will be baking biscuits for pupils to purchase on Friday, 8th March. Pupils to buy a ticket from the prefects throughout the week and then exchange it for the “biscuit gift” on Friday, 8th March.
- 22nd March – “British Bake-off” competition – The student council will be arranging this. More information to follow.

15th March – there has been a request for a “Headteacher of the Day.” The idea is that we will do a raffle. Pupils will buy tickets and one name will be drawn. More information to follow.

Children’s Mental Health Week

Our Very own SENDco Mrs How has written a blog which parents may find insightful <https://positiveyoungmind.com/building-a-stable-relationship-with-your-child/>

The worship Council met with Miss Radomska to discuss how to make the last week of this half term fun. The Council agreed to send a Good Morning Joke to the classes for a laugh and giggle for a better beginning of the day. These are some of the jokes the children came up with:

What do you call a deer with no eyes?
No idea!



What happens when it rains cats and dogs?
Be careful! You can step into a poodle!



What do you call a man with no nose and no body?
Nobody knows.

You are Invited to our pancake breakfast

Pancake flipping skills at the ready!
Dr Walker's invites you to a
Pancake Breakfast

Suggested voluntary contribution of £2 per child (payable on the day) but please only pay what you can afford
All allergies catered for

Tuesday, 13th February
8–8.30am

Please book your space for our fantastic Pancake Breakfast! Lots of fun will be had.....

Information



13.02.24	Pancake Breakfast
16.02.24	Valentine's Day – Dress in Red or White on Friday 16th February.
14.02.24	Ash Wednesday – Lent Begins
16.02.24	Mothering Sunday Biscuits can be purchased please see information above.
16.02.24	Dress in red or white for Valentine's day
16.02.24	Half Term Begins
26.02.24	Back to School
05.03.24	Epping & Ongar District Cross Country : Ongar Primary
08.03.24	Reception & Year 5 Road Safety 12.45 to 3pm
22.03.24	Bake Off Competition (TBC)

Keep Scrolling Down For Term & Holiday Dates!



Dr Walker's Church of England Primary School

Term and Holiday Dates - Academic Year 2023-2024

September 2023							October 2023							November 2023							
M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	
				1	2	3							1			1	2	3	4	5	6
4	5	6	7	8	9	10	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	
18	19	20	21	22	23	24	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	20	21	22	23	24	25	26	
25	26	27	28	29	30		23	24	25	26	27	28	29	27	28	29	30				
							30	31													

December 2023							January 2024							February 2024						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S
				1	2	3	1	2	3	4	5	6	7				1	2	3	4
4	5	6	7	8	9	10	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
18	19	20	21	22	23	24	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
25	26	27	28	29	30	31	29	30	31					26	27	28	29			

March 2024							April 2024							May 2024						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S
				1	2	3	1	2	3	4	5	6	7			1	2	3	4	5
4	5	6	7	8	9	10	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
18	19	20	21	22	23	24	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	20	21	22	23	24	25	26
25	26	27	28	29	30	31	29	30					27	28	29	30	31			

June 2024							July 2024							August 2024						
M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S	M	T	W	T	F	S	S
					1	2	1	2	3	4	5	6	7				1	2	3	4
3	4	5	6	7	8	9	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	5	6	7	8	9	10	11
10	11	12	13	14	15	16	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
17	18	19	20	21	22	23	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	19	20	21	22	23	24	25
24	25	26	27	28	29	30	29	30	31					26	27	28	29	30	31	

	School closed: Holidays		School closed: Bank Holiday		School closed: Staff training (INSET)		School days		Weekend
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In addition, schools allocate five non-pupil days out of the school days indicated, or the equivalent in disaggregated twilight sessions.

Autumn Term	Monday, 4 September 2023 – Wednesday, 20 December 2023 <i>Half Term 23 October – 27 October</i>	73 days
Spring Term	Thursday, 4 January 2024 – Thursday, 28 March 2024 <i>Half Term 19 February – 23 February</i>	56 days
Summer Term	Monday, 15 April 2024 – Tuesday, 23 July 2024 <i>Half Term 27 May – 31 May, and May Bank Holiday – 6 May</i>	66 days
		195 days

You are strongly advised to check with the school before making any holiday or other commitments.