

Newsletter (9) Autumn Term – 10.11.2023

What happened this week in school?

Well done to all our pupils who participated in the sporting events this week. The year 3 /4 boys came 4th and the girls 3rd in the Cross Country event. In year 5 /6, the girls came 4th and boys 1st.

Staff had a lovely well-being pamper afternoon with aromatherapy, a hand massage and complimentary facial.



Well done to our Prefects, for arranging and presenting an assembly on Remembrance day today.



It was lovely to see so many parents visiting the school this afternoon during the Science experiment session. We hope everyone had fun!

Please be reminded to bring in coins (or notes) for our "Coke Bottle" fundraiser.

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



Roots and Fruits

This week's value is **HOPE**







British Value of the term





Rule of Law










Attendance target: 96%

	Reception class 100%
	Yeas 1 and 2 92%
	Years 3 and 4 90%
	Years 5 and 6 92%
Whole school	92%

House Points

Ants		374
Badgers		383
Locusts		451
Lizards		355

Value Awards

	Reception	Talula	Respect: Always being polite
	Courage		
	Years 1 and 2	Dolly	For showing bravery and independence when approaching her learning.
	Years 3 and 4	Amelia	For trying hard in Maths and having a go at column methods.
	Years 5 and 6	Barney	For always pushing himself to succeed!
	Creativity		
	Years 1 and 2	Loki	For thinking through and not calling out when giving the answer.
	Years 3 and 4	Harrison	For playing the guitar really well.
	Years 5 and 6	John James	For a great performance during English.
	Respect		
	Years 1 and 2	Alice	For being kind and helpful towards her friends
	Years 3 and 4	Eva	For always being polite and kind to everyone.
	Years 5 and 6	Teddy Dou	For being respectful to his peers and adults.
	Compassion		
	Years 1 and 2	Amelia	For being kind and polite towards her friends.
	Years 3 and 4	Hugo	For being kind and helpful.
	Years 5 and 6	Maxwell	For helping his friends when they need it!
	Perseverance		
	Years 1 and 2	Mikey	For not giving up while learning.
	Years 3 and 4	Dotty	For trying hard and speeding up with work.
	Years 5 and 6	Freya	For not giving up when completing maths tasks.
	Responsibility		
	Years 1 and 2	Jett	For trying hard with his learning
	Years 3 and 4	Kai	For taking responsibility for his work and slowing down.
	Years 5 and 6	Gabriella	For taking care when completing tasks in school.
	Hope		
	Years 1 and 2	Ava	For being always kind and smiley.
	Years 3 and 4	Daisy	For being a good role-model.
	Years 5 and 6	Sienna	For always pushing herself to complete extended tasks.

Classroom News



Reception Red Class



This week Reception made their own Nativity scene. We talked about why Christians performed Nativity plays at Christmas.

We shared in the Prefects' Remembrance Day assembly and used tissue paper to make poppy for Remembrance Day.



Years 1 and 2 Orange-Yellow Class

It has been a busy week for the Orange-Yellow class.

In English, we started our work on a diary story. We are using the traditional tale of Little Red Riding Hood to support children with the familiar events and characters. Next week, we will try to write our own diary story as a character from the tale. Can you guess who we might choose?

In Maths we have been working on addition in many aspects. We have been practising number bonds to 10 and 100, adding one digit to two digit numbers and two digit to two digit numbers.



The most exciting part of the week was the sports event when we visited Ongar Academy and took part in athletics activities like throwing the javelin, hurdles, running through the tunnel and many more. All to move our bodies.

In Geography, the children created maps of our classroom using whatever was there on hand, but prior to that we agreed on the key.



Years 3 and 4 Green-Blue Class

Year 3/4 cross country event



This Thursday, we went to Ongar Primary School to take part in the Cross country event. All the children did really well and completed their races! The boys in our class came 4th and our girls 3rd in the overall event.

This week in English, the children finished writing their 'Buddy' stories. They used word mats to up-level their work and it is lovely to see a big improvement in their writing since the start of the year. Well done!



Years 5 and 6 Indigo-Violet Class

Year 5/6 cross country event



On Thursday 9th November, we went to Ongar Primary to take part in the Ongar family cross country event.

Firstly, I would like to congratulate every one of the children as they all completed their race! The boys in our class managed to come FIRST! The year 5 / 6 girls reached 4th in the overall event. I am so proud of you! Well done!

Well done to Teddie who came 2nd in the year 5 / 6 boys' category.

Information

Reminders

Reception open days:

- Monday, 4 December 2023 at 09.45-10.15
- Thursday, 11 January 2024 at 09.45-10.15

Parent Governor vacancy:

There is still one vacancy for a Parent Governor. Please contact the school office to indicate any interest.

PR drive for the school

We are open for suggestions to promote the school and to establish us as the preferred choice of school. Word of mouth is a very effective and valuable tool. Thank you to our wonderful community, who is supporting the school and spreading all the positives about the school.

Two boxes

Two boxes have been purchased – one as a suggestions box and one for donations (any donation will be much appreciated). These are by the office. Please feel free to leave positive comments/contributions and/or suggestions (this can be anonymous). We really want to celebrate positives and work with our community.



Fundraising

As part of fundraising, we want to see how quickly we can fill our “Giant Coke” bottle with silver coins (or notes). Pupils can bring in donations from Monday. There will be a raffle to guess how much is in the bottle” Dr Lawson has put the first £1 in!

Concerns

A kind reminder that parents should discuss any issues with the class teacher in the first instance to resolve them. We are aware that a very small number of individuals are using social media to air their concerns. This is not the appropriate avenue and we urge parents to partner with the school to address any issues collectively.

Anti-bullying week - Odd Socks Day!

ANTI-BULLYING WEEK 2023

13th -17th November



Pupils to wear odd socks to school on Monday, 13th November. It's a great way to celebrate what makes us all unique in Anti-Bullying Week!

Anti-Bullying Week is an annual UK event which aims to raise awareness of bullying and to highlight ways of preventing and responding to it.

We ask pupils to make a minimum of £1 contribution as part of fundraising.

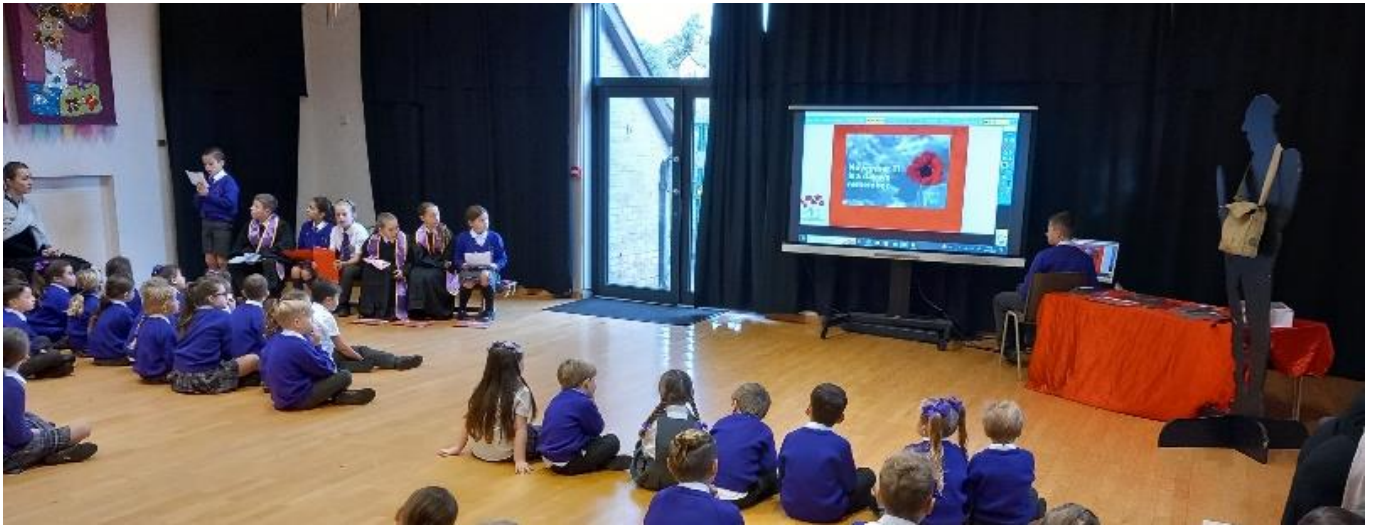
Staff well-being – Pamper afternoon

Staff had a lovely relaxing pamper session after school, with products from Templespa. Staff were spoiled with a wellness relaxation session, aromatherapy essential oils, a hand scrub and complimentary facial cleanse. This was part of our commitment to staff-well-being. Congratulations to Mrs Spanton who won the goody bag!



Remembrance assembly – 10.11.23

Our Student Council led the Remembrance assembly as part of leadership and pupil voice. They did an amazing job.



The whole school participated in a one minute silence. A minute's silence is a symbol of commemoration for those who died in wars, conflicts and peace operations. It is observed at 11am on the 11th day of the 11th month, which marks the end of the First World War in 1918. This day is also known as Remembrance Day or Armistice Day. The minute's silence is a way of honouring the sacrifice and service of those who fought to protect the nation.



Dr Lawson demonstrated wearing an actual gas mask.



Our Prefects presented a Remembrance day assembly to the whole school.



Mrs Spanton helped with reading some memorable information shared by Mrs Wallis.





In Flanders Fields

*In Flanders fields the poppies blow
Between the crosses, row on row,
That mark our place; and in the sky
The larks, still bravely singing, fly
Scarce heard amid the guns below.*

*We are the Dead. Short days ago
We lived, felt dawn, saw sunset glow,
Loved and were loved, and now we lie,
In Flanders fields.*

*Take up our quarrel with the foe:
To you from failing hands we throw
The torch; be yours to hold it high.
If ye break faith with us who die
We shall not sleep, though poppies grow
In Flanders fields.*



Some pupils were wearing poppies in support of the Poppy Appeal.

Many thanks to Mrs Jessop (Freya's mum) and Miss Blake (Archie's mum) who helped with organising the Student Council assembly, by asking members of the community if they had any memories they could share with the school.

Mrs Wallis shared some family memories of World War 1 and World War 2. We showed the original documents to the pupils in assembly.

Frederick William Flowers – 19/02/1899-22/12/1987

Frederick William Flowers was born in the lean to cottage by the bridge in Queen Street.

He had 2 brothers George and Charlie and a sister Florrie. They all lived their lives in Cannons Lane and worked locally.

He was a neighbor and family friend of Mrs Wallis's family when she was a girl. Freddie was a lovely man and told many stories to Mrs Wallis and her brothers, when they were growing up.

He was a baker at the village bakery at Yew Tree House opposite Fyfield Store. He worked at Witney Green Farm.

He went to active service at the end of the Great War - World War 1 and showed them the letters he wrote home to his mother.

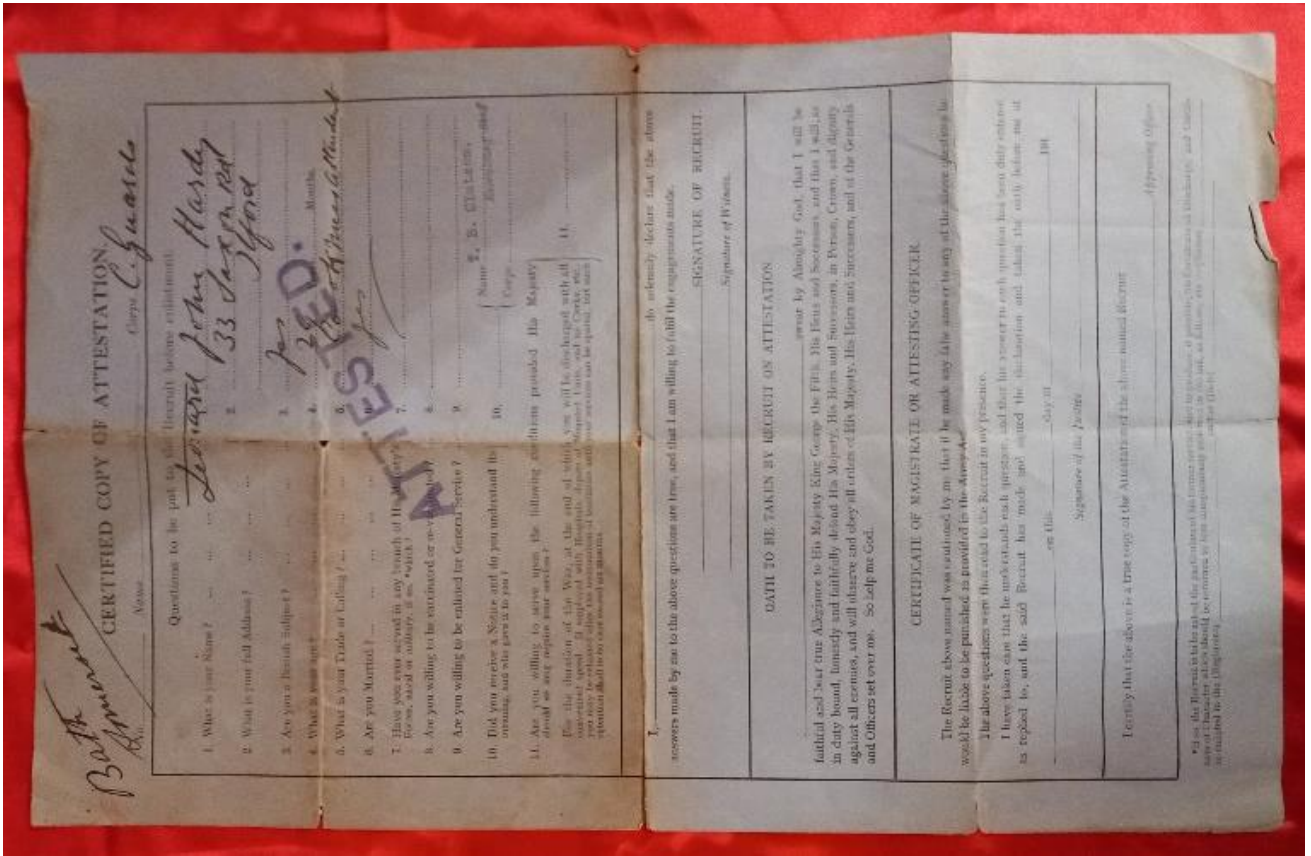
In the Second World War he told many stories of the American Airmen who were based at the Willingale/ Fyfield Aerodrome at the top of Cannons Lane. They gave sweets and chocolate to the local children.

When the American airmen went home at the end of the 2nd World War they left all their bicycles behind, all the Flowers brothers ended up with new bikes to get them to work each day.

The gas mask belonged to Freddie Flowers, everyone was issued with a gas mask even babies.

The photograph is Freddie & Violet Flowers in 1985.



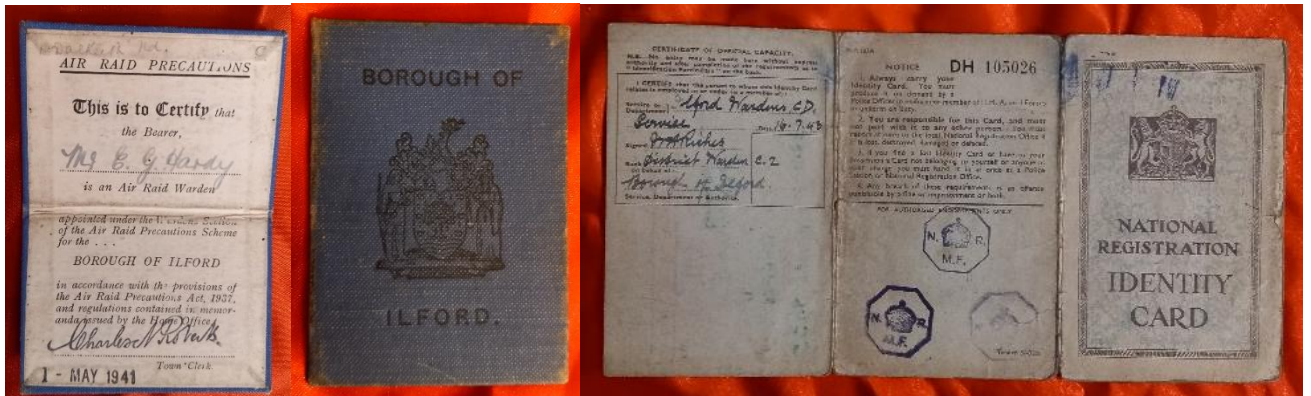


Enlistment papers from the 1st World War, belonging to Mrs Wallis' Great Grandfather, Leonard John Hardy (dated 12th July 1915).



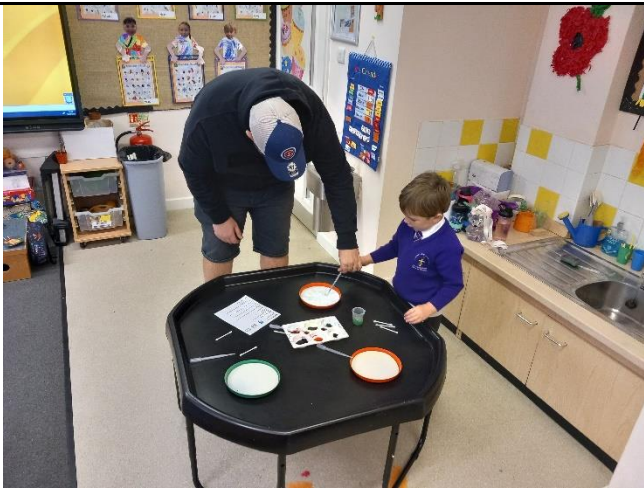
World War 1 bronze plaque for Charles Strohman, belonging to Mrs Wallis' great uncle. He was killed in World War 1.

Mrs Wallis' grandfather, Edward George Hardy, was an Air Raid Warden in Ilford during World War 2. These are his documents.



Science experiments – parents visited classes as part of celebrating World Science day







Play Leaders

Our play leaders are:

- Alice (year 4)
- Amelia (year 4)
- Harley (year 5)
- John James (year 5)
- Lillie (year 5)
- Maci (year 4)
- Paul (year 5)
- Phoebe (year 4)
- Ralph (year 5)
- Teddie (year 5)
- Teddy (year 5)



CALENDAR

13-17.11.23	Anti-bullying week Maths week
13.11.23	Wear Odd Socks to school for Anti Bullying week
14.11.23	Open meeting for Parents, Staff and Governors at 15.30 till 16.00
17.11.23	BBC Children in need children to dress up as Pudsey or a Rainbow
24.11.23	Green Blue Class Assembly
27.11 – 1.12	School PE coaching sessions
01.12.23	Orange Yellow Class Assembly
04.12.23	Reception Open day 09.45am to 10.15am
08.12.23	Reception Assembly
08.12.23	Christmas Jumper Day
08.12.23	Christmas Dinner Day
14.12.23	Year 6 – Tudor workshop
15.12.23	Christmas Disco
18.12.23	WESSP Whole School Sports Day in school
19.12.23	Christmas Concert
20.12.23	Christmas Church Service



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	
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	
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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
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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
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25	26	27	28	29	30	31	29	30						27	28	29	30	31		

June 2024							July 2024							August 2024						
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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.