



Weekly NEWSLETTER

Week Commencing

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Dear Parents and Carers,

School closes on Wednesday 27th March and re-opens on Monday 15th April 2024! May I take this opportunity of wishing you all a very peaceful and enjoyable spring break and we look forward to welcoming the children back into school for the Summer term!

Junior school swimming and PE lessons Summer Terms

Please be reminded of next terms PE and Swimming days. Your child needs to bring appropriate swimwear and remove all jewellery themselves prior to the lesson starting. If you haven't already completed the form then please do so, we need this information to group the children into the right swimming sessions.

Year 3	Swimming- Wednesday	PE- Thursday	Swimming begins 24 th April
Year 4	Swimming- Monday	PE- Friday	Swimming begins 22 nd April
Year 5	Swimming- Tuesday	PE- Wednesday	Swimming begins Tuesday 23 rd April
Year 6	Swimming- Thursday (see start date)	PE- Tuesday PE- Wednesday	Swimming begins- Thursday 6 th June



Class Photos

Reminder - It is coming up to time of year for class photos. This year they will be held on Tuesday 16th April. Please ensure that children are dressed in smart full uniform on this day.

Choir - Rainforest Rumble

Our amazing choir performed at the Hexagon on Monday 18th March along with 13 other schools. This was an event organised by the Junior Music Festival – the children sang beautifully and were great representatives for our school. We would like to thank all those that came to watch. The children loved seeing you there.

Parking on school site

Please be reminded that you are only allowed to park on school site if you hold a blue badge **and** have permission from the school. We understand some of you have been given permission by the council to drive through the restrictions but this does not give you permission to park on site. There is no parent parking between 7:30am and 3:30pm.



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Sports For Champions

In May, we are hosting an inspirational workshop with Sean Conway- an ultra-endurance athlete for team GB. Sean needs your help to raise funds for vital training, medical and competition costs. This money will also help our school and other athletes across the country. The sponsorship forms came home with the children last Friday ready for your children to start getting sponsors. All sponsorship money raised **MUST** be paid into the school's crowd-funder page. The link for this will be sent out as soon as it is ready.

Sean Conway— Ultra Endurance Athlete



My Greatest Achievement

My greatest achievements are that I was the first person to swim the length of Britain in 2013, then I achieved the record for the world's longest Triathlon which was 4200 miles, I then was the fastest person to cycle across Europe unsupported, and finally I hold the world record for the most number of Iron Man distance Triathlon's completed in a row. I have also cycled around the world! The feeling I get when I think about these achievements is relief because it's finished, but I also love the feeling of being able to set the bar so high to show everyone that they can set goals and achieve them just like I have!

Florence Rostron

Headteacher





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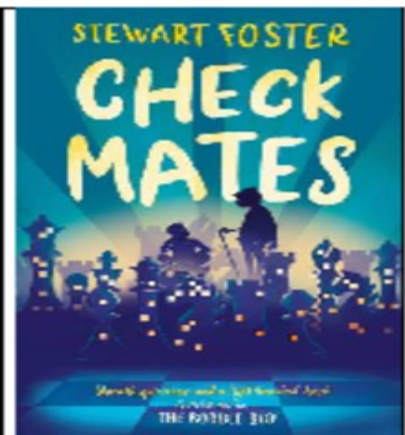
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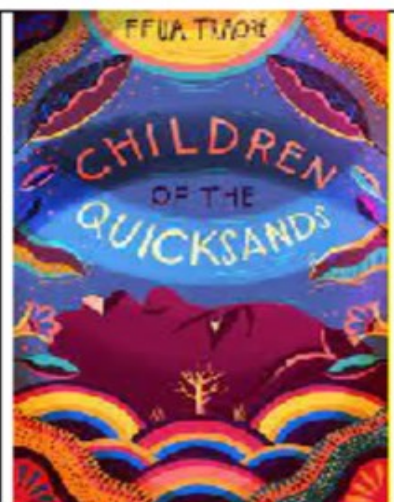
Book Reviews

A reminder that we love to hear about what you are reading at home! Please complete the template (available on Weduc) or write your own review and bring it to your teacher. Thank you

Title of the Book:	Checkmates
Author / Illustrator:	Stewart Foster
Review written by:	Tristan Piper
Star Rating:	★★★★★
Three Words to describe:	Exciting, Suspense, Mystery
I liked this book because :	I like this book because It shows people how you teach something while doing other things. For example you can be doing chores and be learning how to do a math method.
Who would you recommend this book to?	People who like Mystery, suspense or chess.



Title of the Book:	The Children of the Quicksands
Author / Illustrator:	Efua Traore
Review written by:	Phoebe Adango
Star Rating:	★★★★★
Three Words to describe:	Magic Family Adventure
I liked this book because :	This is my favourite book and I would definitely recommend it to people who love suspense but also to young children who come from a West-African background.
Who would you recommend this book to?	I am recommending to Miss Hughes.





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West Berkshire
LIBRARIES



Rabbit Picture Hunt

Thursday 28th March and throughout
the school Easter holidays.

Theale Library

Children of all ages are invited to search for the rabbits who are hiding all around the library. Pick up a hunt sheet from the counter. There are special Easter prizes for everyone who completes the hunt.

For more information: 0118 930 3207 /
thealelibrary@westberks.gov.uk
www.westberks.gov.uk/libraries

West Berkshire
COUNCIL

West Berkshire
LIBRARIES

Dogs Trust Family Workshop



Monday 8 April 1:30 to 2:30

Theale Library

Join us for this fun and interactive workshop to learn how to keep safe around dogs and how to keep your dog happy and healthy. With games, crafts, and role play!

Suitable for children aged 7 to 11. Places are free but must be pre-booked;

Please contact the library to register your interest
0118 930 3207, thealelibrary@westberks.gov.uk

www.westberks.gov.uk/library-events

West Berkshire
COUNCIL



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SPOTLIGHT
RAY OF HOPE



DISCOUNTED FAMILY PASSES

BEALE PARK, PANGBOURNE



BEALE

WILDLIFE PARK

VARIOUS DATES AVAILABLE

SPOTLIGHT UK ARE OFFERING DISCOUNTED FAMILY
DAY PASSES TO BEALE PARK BETWEEN APRIL &
NOVEMBER

£3 PER PERSON ON FIRST COME FIRST SERVED
BASIS

THIS IS AN EXCLUSIVE BOOKING FOR SPOTLIGHT UK

Bookings must be made by emailing

activities@spotlightuk.org

www.spotlightuk.org Reg Charity 1129258



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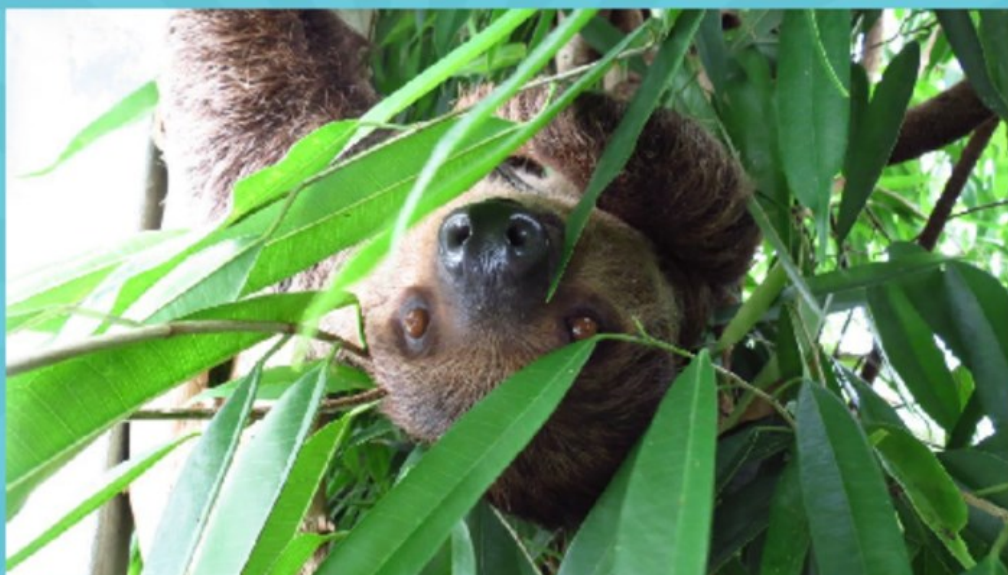
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DISCOUNTED FAMILY PASSES

The Living Rainforest, Thatcham



VARIOUS DATES AVAILABLE

SPOTLIGHT UK ARE OFFERING DISCOUNTED FAMILY
DAY PASSES TO THE LIVING RAINFOREST IN
THATCHAM BETWEEN APRIL & NOVEMBER
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Infant School Update

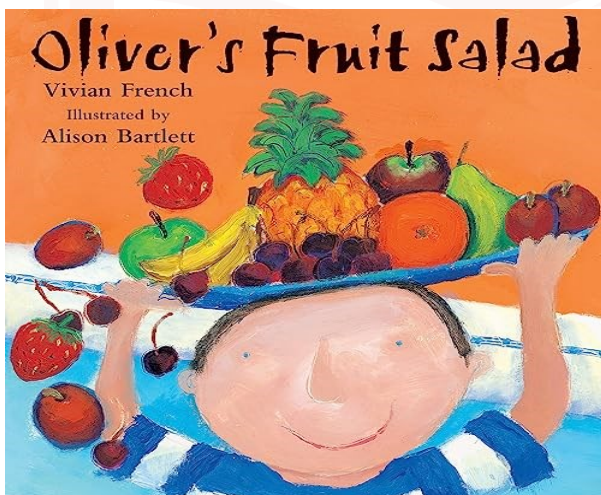
Nursery

Last week the children took advantage of the mostly dry days and spent as much time as possible outside. They were busy using their fine motor skills to clean the babies and other toys, they look so much better now, thank you everyone.



On Tuesday afternoon we were invited to the dress rehearsal for the Year 1 performance of 'Chicken Licken'. We were excited to be going to the main school. It was a brilliant performance, everyone was mesmerised and we listened and watched attentively.

The focus story last week was 'Oliver's Fruit Salad' by Vivian French. There were lots of investigation of fruits and vegetables. We used magnifying glasses to look closely, cutting them to explore the way fruits and vegetables smell, feel, look, sound and to experience how hard some of them are. It was sticky work, but someone had to do it!



With all the colds this term, Nursery has run out of tissues. Please can you provide a box of tissues for us to use for the children. Thank you.



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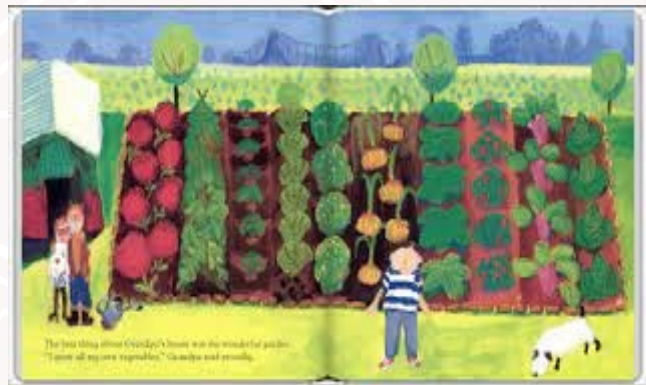
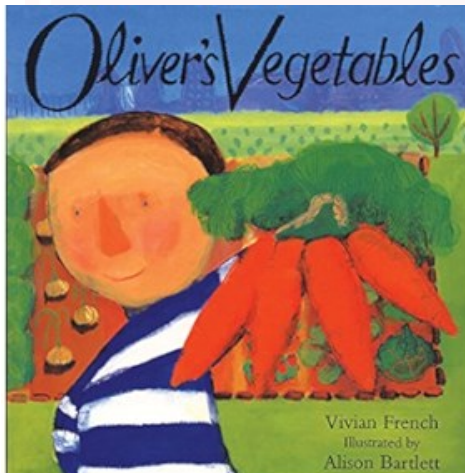
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Reception

Last week, we enjoyed sharing the story “Oliver’s Vegetables” and learning about different fruits and vegetables. We learned some fascinating facts including the potato was the first vegetable grown in space and strawberries and grapes can come in many colours! In Maths, we began to look at number bonds for 9 and 10 and enjoyed exploring the different compositions using a variety of resources. In PE, we continued to practise running at speed and manoeuvring around objects. The children have done well with changing speed and direction as they run.





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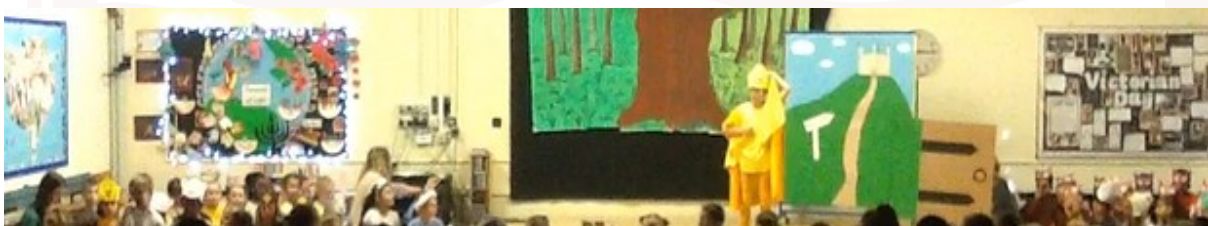
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Year 1

Last week, year 1 had a fabulous time performing their show of “Chicken Licken.” We were so impressed with all the hard work and dedication that the children have put into their singing, acting and learning of lines. Thank you to all parents for putting in the time to help your children learn lines and for supplying their costumes. We are very excited that we will get to do one final performance today for our year 3 and 4 children.



Reminders:

- Year 1 will be attending Forest School on Tuesday 26th March 2024, please can you ensure children have the correct attire for this day.
- If your child's library and phonics books have not yet been collected, then these will be collected on Monday 25th March.
- If your child attends our Monday morning phonics club, this will no longer be taking place. After the spring holiday we will be completing these during school hours.



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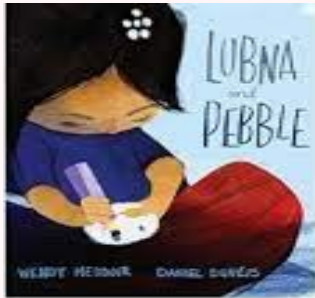
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Year 2

This week in Year 2 we have been looking at the past tense – using the -ed suffix (the girl walked) and the past progressive tense using a past tense 'to be' verb and the -ing suffix (the girl was walking). We had been writing a setting description for our book Lubna's Pebble and this week we will be re-writing the sequence of our story.



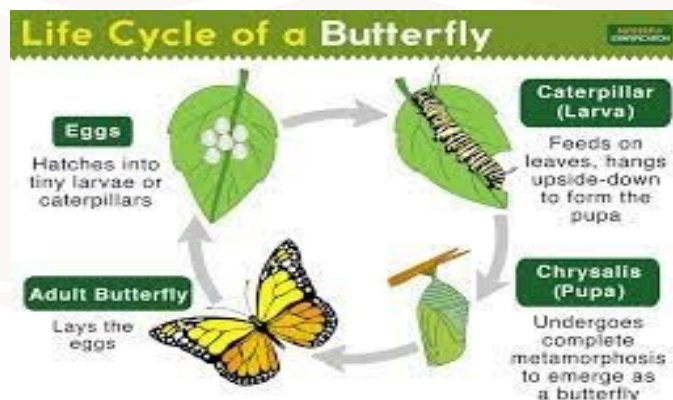
In Maths, we were looking at fractions, learning about numerators and denominators and what makes a unit fraction and non-unit fraction.

$$\frac{3}{5}$$

← numerator

← denominator

In Art, we did some Batik paintings using a wax resist and in Science, we have continued learning about metamorphosis within the life cycle of a butterfly.



Reminders

We have collected in the Library books this week, if your child didn't bring theirs back, please ensure that you return them all before the Easter holidays!





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Junior School Update

Year 3

We are so proud of our Year 3 children this term. They have learned songs, lines, dances and so much more in preparation for our production of 'The Jellicle Ball'. This week they showed us what amazing performers they are, and everyone has been so generous in their praise and admiration. We have all had the best time rehearsing and singing, and the children have risen to the challenge in all areas. Thank you to all the people who have supported and helped us with the production. The live music, lights, sound, face painting, costumes, stage dressing, props and so much more; it is all very much appreciated. Well done Year 3; you have all worked so well together to create a very successful show. Have a well-deserved holiday and we look forward to seeing you all in April.





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Year 4

This week, Year 4 have been learning how to write poetry! We have been looking carefully at rhyme and meter and identifying these within a poem to ensure that it has flow. The children spent time reading a variety of poems, including Haikus and rhyming poems. They were able to identify their likes and dislikes about these poems and pick out interesting adjectives that had been used to create an image in the reader's mind.

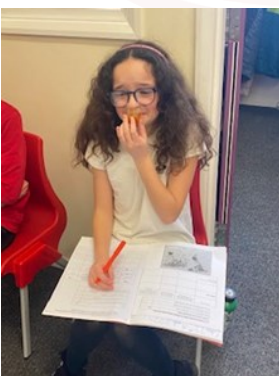
We then had a go at writing our own clerihew poems which the children really enjoyed! They took inspiration from their own names and had a go at writing some of their own. Here are some examples of our great clerihews.

*'Oh smart Eugene,
How he likes to grow greens.
Every 2 years,
They grow to his ears.'*

*'My good friend Freddy,
is always calm and ready.
Except when he forgets his
glasses,
and is late to all his classes.'*

Year 5

Last week was a productive and busy week, as usual! Year 5 enjoyed planning an alternative, modern-day version of The Highwayman and Bess! We have spent the week learning about equivalent fractions and decimals, and the children have flown through the many challenges within lessons. They have shown great resilience and effort in lessons. In DT, we continued our topic of Food and Nutrition, working towards creating our own soup. We had great fun soup tasting, where the children tried different soups- some tasty, some not so tasty! Their faces said it all!





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Year 6

Year 6 have had a really good week again. They are working really hard to progress in all areas of the curriculum. We have been looking at continuous and closed data through dual bar graphs, line graphs and pie charts. In addition to this, we have looked at timetables - this will help them when they get their secondary school timetables! In Literacy, we have been doing non-chronological reports on Japan- the children have learnt a lot about the Japanese culture and diet. They were particularly interested in the fact that Mount Fuji has not erupted in over 300 years.



Attendance is being looked at all the time by the office and SLT, please ensure that your children are in school as much as possible. There is a direct link between attendance and achievement and staff would always call home if a child was unwell during the day.



Things to look out for/ Dates

- Please look out for the year 6 Sexual Relationship Education (SRE) programme of study. We are due to be starting it after Easter and would like to share the information with you so that you can support the children, when they may have questions or want to discuss these topics at home.
- Please look out for the SATS letter which will be coming out the week after Easter. This will detail the timetable and other things that we have going on during this week.
- Sports Week is week beginning the 20th May and Sports Day will be on Friday 24th May.
- Thursday 23rd May will be the PGL Information Evening to parents - we encourage you to attend.
- Monday 3rd June is Year 6 photographs and the Newbury Weekly News "Moving up" photo – a form is now live for you to complete so your child can take part.





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Certificates and Attendance for week ending 15th March 2024

Nursery: **Everlie** for following instructions and being a very good role model and **Marley** for demonstrating kindness towards others and beginning to flourish in his maturity.

Reception:

RAM - **Justin** for making super progress with his reading and he is always keen to read to an adult at school and home. **Erin** for being able to spell lots of the harder to read words.

RJM - **Naliah** for working really hard to use her phonic knowledge for spelling in her writing and **Marshall** for always having a positive attitude to learning.

Year 1:

1VW - **Lola** for beginning to share her ideas more confidently in class discussions and **Winter** for being a great role model to her peers whilst practising our school play.

1SA - **Darcey** for being inquisitive about her learning in History on Rosa Parks and **Bertie** for always coming into school with a smile and trying her best.

1RT - **Oaklee** for moving up a reading level and **Archie** for being sensible during play practices.

Year 2:

2MD - **Frankie-Jane** for some fantastic reading this week in our assessments, **Sanaya** for working really hard in our maths assessments this week, **Gracie** for working really hard on her spelling in our assessment this week and **Aisha** for working really hard on her writing in our assessments this week.

2LH - **Ipek** for a super retelling of 'Christopher's Caterpillars' and **Khadijah** for excellent effort in phonics sessions and using what you have learned to improve your reading!

2FD - **Shay** for being really enthusiastic about his phonics and **Amelia** for always being a lovely friend.

Year 3:

3AB - **Troy** for being a wonderful Mr Mistoffelees in "The Jellicle Ball" and **Guste** for being a superstar at learning her words for "The Jellicle Ball".

3ST - **Ugochi** for being a superstar at learning her lines for "The Jellicle Ball" and **Jacob** for a great job at learning his lines as the stationmaster in "The Jellicle Ball".

3NC - **Abeesha** for trying hard to learn your lines for the Y3 production "The Jellicle Ball" and **Yusuf** for your enthusiasm and participation during the Y3 play rehearsals of "The Jellicle Ball".

Year 4:

4AM - **Emily** for excellent resilience during our assessments and **Heidi** for being a fantastic example of the 3Rs.

4CL - **Grace** for consistent high standards in every subject and **Burlin** great effort during assessment week.

4MB - **Freddie** for resilience during our class assessments and **Finley** for always being polite and kind to others.

Year 5:

5DP— **Jamil** and **Bethany** for excellent Hot Writes with a lovely description and narrative writing.

5SL - **Aiden** for excellent attitudes in Literacy and **Diego** for excellent efforts in assessment week.

Year 6

6DE - **Bruce** for an example piece of descriptive writing and **Safiyah** for trying hard in all lessons.

6MH - **Ava** for an excellent piece of writing and **Sofia** for a fantastic Hot Write.

6RS - **Jimmy** for a great piece of descriptive writing and **Junior** for superb effort in Maths.

French Certificates

Oliver (Y6) - ton travail est toujours très bien

Olivia (Y4) - pour tu fais toujours de ton mieux

Manners Badges

Year 3— **Ajeebah**

Infant School Attendance 98.6% Attendance Certificate awarded to 2FD - well done Year to date Attendance – 93.2%

Junior School Attendance 98.3% Attendance Certificate awarded to 3ST - well done Year to date Attendance – 92.7%