



Weekly NEWSLETTER

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Dear Parents and Carers,

SATs breakfast

If you haven't already returned the slip for your child to attend the SATs breakfast please return them to your child's teacher as soon as possible. The breakfast starts at 8:00am and is an ideal opportunity for children to arrive to school on time, ensure they are fuelled and ready for the day, and to relax with their friends before the tests start. This has kindly been donated by the PTFA. Additional copies of the letter can be obtained through the junior school office.

Bikes and Scooters

Please be reminded that children should not be using bikes, scooters and electric scooters on school grounds. This is for health and safety reasons to ensure everyone's safety. Please note that we do not accept any responsibility for bikes/scooters whilst they are in school.

MNR summer sports afterschool sessions – Year 5 & 6

We still have space available on our after-school summer sports club (This will not include football). This is run by MNR Coaching and the club is on Thursdays 3:20pm-4:15pm and is Year 5 and 6 mixed. The cost of the club is £25 for the remaining 10 sessions.

If you would like to be added to the wait list for years 1 & 2 or 3 & 4 then please contact your school office.

Book Reviews

We would love to know what books you or your child have been reading recently. If you would like to submit a review of a book you have read then please complete the form on Weduc and we will include it in our newsletter

Headphones

If you have any over ear headphones that have a wire to connect to laptops/chromebooks and you don't use we would love them in school please. Please bring them to either school office.

Baby News

I am very pleased to be able to tell you that Mrs Eva is expecting a baby later this year. I am sure you will all join me in wishing Mrs Eva and her husband all the very best for their new arrival.

Florence Rostron

Headteacher



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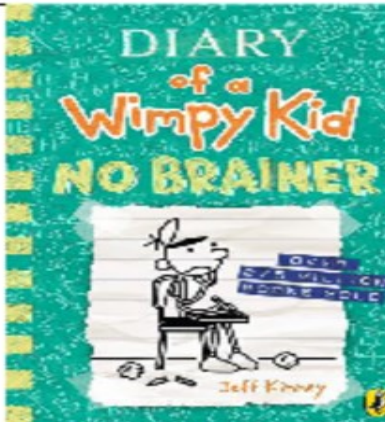
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Book Reviews

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:	The Thieves of Ostia	
Author / Illustrator:	Caroline Lawrence	
Review written by:	Lucia Fernandes	
Star Rating:	★★★★★	
Three Words to describe:	Mystery Adventure Historical Fiction	
I liked this book because :	This book is the prologue to a series of exciting Mysteries. Perfect for anyone who likes mystery ; romance ; adventure and history.	

Title of the Book:	diary of a wimpy kid no brainer	
Author / Illustrator:	jeff kinney	
I would recommend to:		
Review written by:	lewis sayer	
Star Rating:	★★★★★	
Three Words to describe:	great, funny, entertaining	
I liked this book because :	a hilarious and funny novel written by jeff kinney. i am a big fan of diary of a wimpy kid and jeff kinney and i managed to finish the book in a week and didn't put it down once i started reading it and the topic is funny and the book is just a great book to read and you should read it when you can.	
Who would you recommend this book to?	everyone and anyone	



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On Wednesday 22nd 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 your school and other athletes across the country. The sponsorship forms were sent home with the children at the end of March. All sponsorship money **MUST** be paid into the school's crowd-funder page by **Wednesday 15th May**, please also use your child's name when making the donation so we can track them correctly.

<https://www.crowdfunder.co.uk/p/calcot-junior-school-1>



Sean Conway— Ultra Endurance Athlete

How I started

I used to be a school portrait photographer, and after ten years of doing that I decided to sell my business for just £1, I wanted to go travelling but didn't have any money so I thought if there was a world record that has a travel angle to it, then I could secure sponsorship. So, the first thing I did was cycle around the world and that set me onto this new path!

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!

My Hobbies

I enjoy woodworking, knife-making, classic car restoration, filmmaking, and looking after my vegetable garden! These hobbies keep my life interesting and fulfilling, and I think it's important that everyone has things they can focus their energy on!

My Greatest Challenge

My greatest challenge has been thinking of something that excites me enough to chase them. I love having these huge goals to follow and aim for in life, and it gives me purpose in more ways than one as they keep me in tip-top shape, and I can show people that everybody can set goals no matter how big or small and not only achieve them, but continue that momentum to build a fulfilling life!

My Future Aspirations

In the future I hope to begin competing at shorter distance competitions like double or triple Iron Man's, and some ultra marathons, and I hope to be aiming for more and more outrageous goals as time goes on!



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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

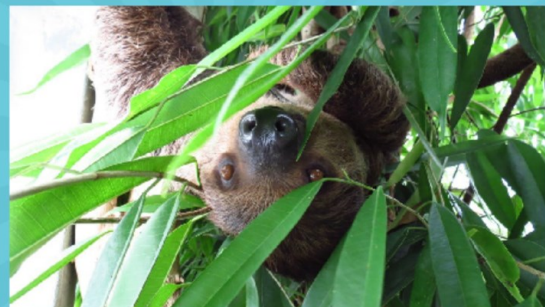
www.spotlightuk.org Reg Charity 1129258

SPOTLIGHT
RAY OF HOPE



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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TIME OUT FOR PARENTS



HANDLING ANGER IN THE FAMILY

Sessions for anyone parenting children aged 5 to 16

Every Tuesday, 6.30-8pm
18th June - 9th July 2024

East Family Hub, Curtis Rd, Calcot,
RG31 4XG

Book online:
https://booking.westberks.gov.uk/family_hubs_events.html

For more information contact
Claire Roberts 07796 994230
claire.roberts@westberks.gov.uk

Nicky Phillips 07920 477560
nicky.phillips@westberks.gov.uk

£10.80 which includes a handbook

Common-sense, jargon-free information
and ideas to help you to engage with your
children and boost your relationship





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RYA Courses ★ Paddlesports ★ Sailing Courses ★ Instructor Training ★ Multi-Activity

ASC Reading: Hangar Road, Theale, Reading, RG7 4AP

SAVE THE
DATE!



OPEN DAY 2024



Andrew
Simpson
Centres

Join our team on 18th May to find out more about
what ASC Reading is offering in 2024!

- ✓ Free drop-in sessions
- ✓ Taster sessions just £5
- ✓ Sign up to our mailing list for event updates

in partnership with:



SCAN FOR
MORE INFO!



andrewsimpsoncentres.org/events

andrewsimpsoncentres.org

0118 930 3467 / reading@andrewsimpsoncentres.org

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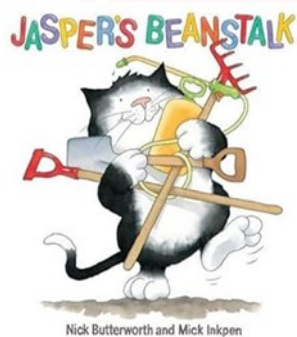
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Infant School Update

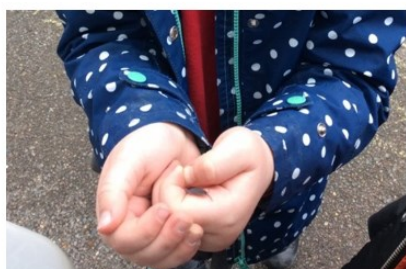
Nursery

The story focus for this week has been 'Jasper's Beanstalk' by Nick Butterworth and Mick Inkpen. We have been learning about planting seeds and growing. Seeds need water, light, warmth, air and time, Jasper found it hard to wait for his bean seed to grow, the adults wonder if the children will feel the same. There have been lots of planting opportunities, exploring soil and creating our own Jasper stories in the small world area. We have used our fine motor skills to thread objects onto a piece of doweling to make our own beanstalk, if we didn't hold the bottom, our beanstalk would topple over, it was a tricky but fun activity.



Reception

This week we have continued with our life cycle theme by sharing the well loved story of 'The Very Hungry Caterpillar' which describes the lifecycle of a butterfly. We have learnt how caterpillars completely change as an adult compared to humans and learnt to say the word 'metamorphosis' to describe these amazing changes in animals. In Maths, we have begun to look at counting patterns beyond ten and looking at a range of different representations and using practical resources to help support the children with their 1 to 1 counting and matching them to different quantities. The children have been keen to explore how BeeBots work and programming them to follow instructions using the vocabulary FORWARD, BACKWARDS, TURN LEFT, TURN RIGHT, GO. The outcome wasn't always the one they wanted but we used this to discuss how instructions need to be clear!





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Year 1

This week in Literacy, Year 1 has continued using the book "Peace at Last" to support their learning. We have been exploring root words and the suffix -ing. It has been fantastic listening to the children innovating the story by coming up with their own objects and verbs to replace the ones in the book that keep Mr Bear awake. We have had tummy's rumbling, mummy yawning, baby pretending, dogs barking and even a microwave buzzing.

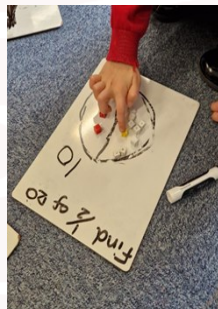


Daddy Bear could not sleep because the clock was ticking. So he walked to the kitchen but the tap was dripping. "Oh No!" said Daddy Bear. "I can not stand this!" Daddy Bear went to the garden but the owl was hooting loudly and the wind was howling.



Baby bear was pretending to sleep but he was too busy playing with his plane.

Maths has been a lot of fun this week too. We have been using a variety of resources to help us understand how we can half and quarter different amounts. We know that to find a half, we need to split our whole number into 2 equal groups and to find a quarter we split our whole number into 4 equal groups. We had lots of different maths stories to help us explore our learning further. If you have any small items like raisins or pasta at home, we are sure the children would love to show off their learning.



Sophie has 8 colouring pencils and she wants to share them out with 3 of her friends. How many children are there altogether?

Reminders

At the end of each day, we spend a lot of time trying to find the owner of jumpers/cardigans. Can we please ask that you name all your children's school items (bags, bottles, lunch boxes, clothing including PE kit).



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Year 2

This week, we have been learning to write the perfect postcard. We pretended that Lubna had moved to Calcot and we wrote a postcard to Amir. We also used subordinating conjunctions to add more information to our postcards and we used the school editing codes to correct and up-level our work.

Please remember to send in a self-addressed and stamped envelope for your child so we can post them.

In Maths, we have been using the more than(>) and less than(<) symbols to apply to measurement whilst we have been working in metres and centimetres. We were also ordering different objects from tallest to shortest and vice versa. We have also been working on consolidating our place value knowledge, looking at how seven tens are the same as 70, and partitioning two digit numbers (for example: 58 is made up of 50 or five tens, and 8 ones).

In Geography, we were learning about the seven cities in Scotland and we used the atlas to help us label them. We also learned about some Scottish landmarks and traditions, and we learned about how a true Scotsman wears his kilt!



Our History this week was about the history of Reading Abbey – it was fascinating to learn that it was destroyed by King Henry VIII. We compared it to Westminster Abbey and did a virtual tour around it which was really awe inspiring. We looked back at important historical events which had taken place there such as the coronation of Queen Elizabeth and King Charles, and the royal wedding of Prince William and Catherine Middleton.





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Junior School Update

Year 3

We were so proud of the children on Wednesday when they had their first swimming lesson. They were fantastic during the lesson and thoroughly enjoyed every minute of swimming time. Please remember that no jewellery is to be worn on swimming days, and the children must come in to school in their P.E. kits and not their school uniform on Wednesdays.

The children were very excited for their first recorder lesson this week. All of their hard work learning notes and rests earlier in the year helped them play their first tunes. With lots of practice the children will do extremely well.

Please encourage the children to:

Have their left hand at the top

Blow softly to avoid squeaking!

Cover the holes carefully

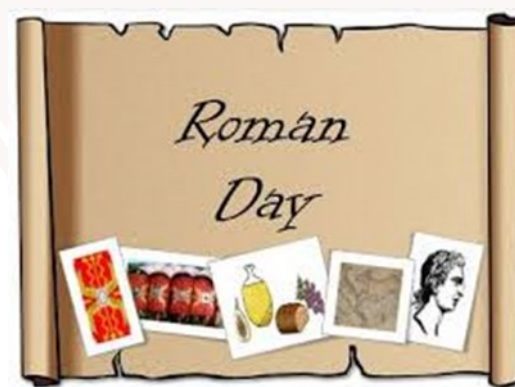
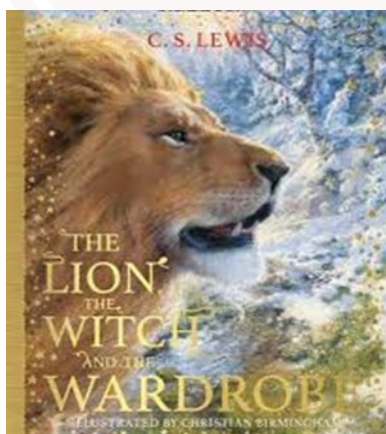
Use their tongue to separate the notes



Thank you for your support in allowing them to practise, and apologies for the early days of learning this instrument!

Year 4

In Year 4 this week, the children have been learning about decimals in Maths and exploring 'The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe' in Literacy. They have been focusing on fronted adverbials and adjectives to add detail to their writing. We also explored whether gas has mass in Science and had great fun acting scientifically while we discovered it does indeed have mass! The children were fantastic in their first swimming lesson on Monday. For the next two weeks, our swimming day will move to Fridays so please ensure swimming kit is brought in on Fridays. Next Thursday, the children will participate in a Romans Day where they are encouraged to dress up in Ancient Rome attire; we are very excited for this and cannot wait to share photos next week.





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Year 5

Year 5 have had a really exciting week. The children especially enjoyed their trip to Reading Train Station, where they were able to learn about the history of the station, the architecture, as well as travel by train to Didcot and learn how trains are run. Some children even got to go in the Driver's cab! We are very grateful to GWR for a fully funded trip and the opportunity to take part in Look, Draw, Build, which is a competition run for approximately 9 schools in Reading, for the children to design and make their stations. So far, the children have named their stations and created a logo for them.

The children have also enjoyed learning how to use a protractor and creating their own shapes, measuring angles and lines.

They have also continued with their study of "The Boy in the Tower", the children wrote some very informative and detailed non-chronological reports. We were very impressed by their knowledge, use of formal tone, and layout understanding.





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Year 6

We have had yet another superb week in Year 6; well done children, keep it up!

The Year 6 children have shown remarkable resilience and unwavering determination in their endeavours, and we couldn't be prouder. Their commitment to their studies and their positive attitude towards challenges have been truly inspiring. They have approached each task with diligence and perseverance, demonstrating a level of maturity beyond their years. Their relentless efforts are a testament to their dedication and hard work, and it's evident that they are poised for success. We commend them for their excellent attitude and applaud their achievements.

We encourage you to continue supporting your child/children in completing their homework. This period is crucial for their academic progress, and the assigned tasks are tailored to their needs and aimed at aiding their preparation for the SATS exams. Your continued involvement ensures that they receive the necessary support and guidance to excel in their studies during this important phase. Thank you for your continued support with this - the children are really enjoying building up their water balloon count with every piece of homework they hand in!



In addition to Timestable Rockstars, which we encourage children to continue using for improving their multiplication skills, we've introduced a new online educational platform called SPaG Monsters. Children were given their accounts last Friday and found the activities engaging and enjoyable. Not only are these activities entertaining, but they also greatly assist in enhancing spelling, punctuation, and grammar skills. Please remind your child/children that they can access this resource from home. We'll be hosting a weekly competition, awarding certificates during Friday's assembly as they advance through the online course levels.



Congratulations children on yet another excellent week. We are so proud of you.

Reminders:

- Children's P.E. days are Tuesdays and Wednesdays.



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Certificates and Attendance for week ending 19th April 2024

Nursery: **Harper** for showing a mature attitude and following instructions and **Elijah** for joining in with others and sharing equipment.

Reception:

RAM - **Max** for working hard in PE and creating great dance moves linked to the emotion 'happy' and **Reuben** for working hard in Maths and being able to create a repeating pattern.

RJM - **Kane** for great ideas and narrative in his imaginative play and **Aurora** for accurately segmenting for spelling in her writing.

Year 1:

1VW- **Albie D** for being a kind and supportive friend and **JJ** for an improved attitude towards his learning

1RT- **Tyler** for a super first week at school! **Amelia** for some fantastic writing in literacy this week focusing on punctuation.

1SA - **Sami** for wonderful effort in Literacy. creating a fantastic piece of writing that included commas in a list and **Fraiser** for coming into school ready to learn and working in literacy independently.

Year 2:

2MD - **Sofia** and **Tessa** for working really hard in Maths this week.

2LH - **Samayra** for making a super start to the new term and **Albie** for great ideas in Literacy.

2FD - **Ria** for making a great start to the new term and Freddie P for doing fabulous writing including subordinating conjunctions independently.

Year 3:

3AB - **Wali** for his great instructions on 'How to feed a dragon' and **Zahra** for her brilliant attitude and engagement in all her learning.

3ST - **Rayan** for having a positive attitude towards your learning and for always trying your best and **Natalie** for an excellent set of instructions on 'How to feed a dragon'.

3NC - **Elias** for excellent effort and engagement in all your lessons and **Noah E** for imaginative ideas and wonderful creative writing in English.

Year 4:

4AM - **Ashdon** for working independently when dividing a 1-digit number by 10 and **Lexi-Mae** for a fantastic start to the Summer term.

4CL - **Charlie F** for his enthusiasm and participation in all lessons and **Beau** for his excellent attitude to his times tables learning.

4MB - **Ben L** for a fantastic first week back and **Alex** for wonderful work with decimals in Maths.

Year 5:

5DP -**Shelby** for excellent Reading this week and Freddie M for excellent understanding of angles in maths.

5SL - **Amira** and **Samuel** for excellent effort in Maths.

Year 6

6DE - **LJ** for his faultless hard work all week! **Leona** for her superb descriptive writing this week.

6MH - **Grace** for her excellent ideas and contributions this week Literacy and **Harry** for his consistent attitude and effort in all subjects.

6RS - **Issac** for excellent effort and responding to feedback and **Daisy** for trying hard and taking on adults' feedback.

French Certificates

Edna (Y3) - ton travail est toujours très bien

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

Manners Badges

Year 3— **Yui**

Infant School Attendance 100% Attendance Certificate awarded to RAM and 2FD - well done Year to date Attendance – 93.3%

Junior School Attendance 99.4% Attendance Certificate awarded to 3AB - well done Year to date Attendance – 92.7%