



## Waycroft Academy Newsletter - 16th May 2025

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## A Message from the Headteacher



Firstly, I would just like to take this opportunity to congratulate all of the Year 6 children this week who have been sitting their SATs tests. Everyone has really tried their best and that is

all that we ask for. Thank you also to the rest of the school for adapting to changes and for keeping noise to a minimum during each morning.

It has been lovely having such good weather this term and seeing so many of our classes taking their learning outside to make use of the fantastic grounds we have - long may it continue! With this in mind, please can you ensure your child is coming to school each day with a water bottle, hat and having already applied sun cream to ensure they are safe outside during break times and in any outdoor lessons. Please also check your child regularly for 'Ticks' (most tick bites are harmless but they can carry Lyme disease and other infections). It is especially worth checking in areas like the scalp, behind the ears, around the neck, and under arms.

Looking ahead to next term, we look forward to welcoming parents to our sports days and our summer fayre-please see the dates and times below. Please note that the sports day dates are provisional and are weather dependent-if we have to cancel due to weather conditions we will let you know as soon as possible but this could be on the morning, depending on how the field is looking.

There is currently a phrase being circulated online (particularly on Tik Tok) which some of our children are beginning to repeat. The term, 'good boy' is being used in a condescending way to demean their classmates and/or staff. We will be warning the pupils in school that this is not a respectful term and will not be tolerated, therefore it is important that you are also aware of it at home so you can have the same conversations.

Finally, I am delighted to share with you five poems (below), written by children from Years 4 and 6. Our trust have held a poetry competition for children to enter poems on the theme of 'Belonging' and these have been chosen from Waycroft to be used in the trust's anthology, which will be available for parents to purchase at some point in the near future. A huge well done to these children for some really fantastic ideas and language.

I hope everyone continues to enjoy the lovely weather and has a super weekend!

Mr Smith



## A Fresh Start



Some people describe a new school as a fresh start.  
Others think their world's been torn apart.  
As you set foot upon the pieces,  
You may see lots of strange, new faces.  
As for me, I soon became lonely.  
I just wanted friends! If only, if only.  
But then I found it – people – I could trust!  
But the story does not end there – oh no.  
Once again, sadness was stirring, and I knew so.  
Year 6 was coming to an end- and fast,  
I prepared to say goodbye for a last.  
Off to secondary, but suddenly then,  
I realised the adventure had started again.  
With new courage I said to myself, "Have heart!"  
Because this was not bad-just a fresh start.

Josh C, Year 6, WCA

## Our Relation

I often think of the world around,  
Waves washing, sea crashing, making not a sound.  
I walk around in circles, finding inspiration,  
My heart washes out, an ocean of relation.  
Friendship flying round me,  
I was hiding but you found me.  
Where is my life going?  
What will I do?  
But no matter what,  
I have you.  
You're holding my hand,  
Every step of the way.  
I am for you,  
You are for me,  
Us together,  
Just me and you, forever.



Grace C, Year 4, WCA

Forever and together

Ready, respectful and resilient

Intelligent friends until the end

Every single laugh brightens up the path

Never argue, never fight

Dance and sing, make something



Save our friendship throughout the year, together  
let us cheer!

Evie I, Year 4, WCA

### A cousin

A cousin ...

Cares for you.

Overthinks with you.

Underestimates you.

Somehow loves you.

Is always with you.

Never lets you down.



Pel H, Y6, WCA



### My Park

After school in the breeze,  
See the flowers and the bees.  
I race on my scooter,  
Laughter in the air.  
I just can't wait to get there!

Kick a football, score a goal,  
This feels good in my soul.  
Sitting on a bench eating food,  
Puts me in a really good mood!



Time to go home for my tea,  
I take my memories with me.  
I'll come back soon, another day,  
To laugh, to run, to swing, to play!

Toby E and Jack L-M, Year 6, WCA

## Health and Safety/Online Safety



London Grid For Learning have some fantastic resources for parents linked to children being online. A summary of key things to ensure you are doing are below but for more information, please visit: <https://parentsafe.lgfl.net/>

### Top Tips for Parents (Ages 4–11)

#### 1. Start Early and Talk Often

- Begin conversations about online safety as soon as your child starts using devices.
- Use age-appropriate language and keep the dialogue open and non-judgmental.

- Ask questions like: “What games do you like?” or “Who do you talk to online?”

## **2. Use Parental Controls**

- Set up safe search filters, screen time limits, and age-appropriate content restrictions on devices and apps.
- Use built-in tools from Apple, Android, and Microsoft to manage access and monitor usage.

## **3. Know the Apps and Games**

- Familiarise yourself with the platforms your child uses. London Grid for Learning offers a “What’s That App?” section to help decode popular apps.
- Check age ratings and privacy settings.

## **4. Balance Screen Time**

- Encourage a healthy balance between screen time and offline activities.
- Use screen time as a reward or part of a routine, and model good habits yourself.

## **5. Teach Critical Thinking**

- Help children understand that not everything online is true.
- Discuss topics like fake news, online advertising, and the importance of privacy.

## **6. Encourage Safe Sharing**

- Teach children not to share personal information (like their full name, school, or address) online.
- Explain the risks of sharing photos or videos.

## **7. Report and Block**

- Show children how to block users and report inappropriate content.
- Reassure them that they can come to you if something online makes them uncomfortable.

## **8. Stay Involved**

- Keep devices in shared family spaces.
- Play games and explore apps together to understand your child’s digital world.



## Attendance



### **Week commencing - 06/05/2025**

Whole school attendance - 92.1%

EYFS/KS1 class with highest attendance - Matthew 95.5%

KS2 class with highest attendance - Discovery 96%

### **Week commencing - 12/05/2025**

Whole school attendance - 94.9%

EYFS/KS1 class with highest attendance - Matthew 97.9%

KS2 class with highest attendance - SSGB 100%

### **Penalty Notices**

- If a child has at least 10 (10 or more) sessions of unauthorised absence in 10 school weeks, their parent/carer(s) may receive a penalty notice (a morning or afternoon is one session; a whole school day is two sessions.)
- The first time a penalty is issued within a three-year rolling period, it is £80 (per parent/carer, per child) payable within 21 days, rising to £160 if paid between 22 and 28 days. (If the fine is not paid, the parent/carer may be prosecuted for the child's unauthorised absence.
- The second time a penalty notice is issued to the same parent/carer for the same child the amount will be £160 per parent/carer, per child (if paid within 28 days). There is no reduction in the amount if the penalty is paid early. (Again, if the fine is not paid, the parent/carer may be prosecuted.)

- Fines per parent/carer will be capped to two fines within any 3-year period. Once this limit has been reached, a prosecution will be considered. Prosecution may result in fines of up to £2,500 per parent/carer, per child.

**School attendance: Is your child missing out?**

	In a week means missing ...	Over a year means missing...	Over the seven years of primary school means missing...
<b>100% attendance</b>	No days	No weeks	No learning at all!
<b>90% attendance</b>	Half a day	Almost four weeks	Over four terms
<b>80% attendance</b>	One day	Over seven weeks	One school year and two terms
<b>70% attendance</b>	One and a half days	Eleven weeks	More than two years
<b>60% attendance</b>	Two days	Over fifteen weeks	Two years and four terms
<b>50% attendance</b>	Two and a half days	Almost twenty weeks	Three and a half years

## SEND and Mental Health



# Special Educational Needs & Disabilities

### Who are HappyMaps?

HappyMaps is an award-winning charity founded by healthcare professionals in collaboration with parents and young people, to address young people's mental health. They understand the challenges families face when seeking help and how time-consuming it can be to navigate online information and find resources you trust.

Let HappyMaps be your guide in finding the support you need, along with accurate information and recommended resources endorsed by CAMHS and fellow parents and young people.

For further information, please go to their website: [www.happymaps.co.uk](http://www.happymaps.co.uk)



## **Right to Choose**

Many families are seeking support from the 'Right to Choose' scheme for an Autism or ADHD/ADD assessment for their child. If you are currently going through this process for your child, please email the school and provide any paperwork so that Mrs Winsley can record this.

## **EYFS**



## **Admiral**

The children in Admiral nursery have been very busy learning about seeds and plants. We discovered through song what a seed needs to help it grow and learned the names of some parts of a plant - stem, leaves, roots, bud and flower. We are going to plant our own sunflowers and cut open some fruits and vegetables to find their seeds. We created water colour flowers using cotton pads and pipettes, inspired by our artist of the term Georgia O'Keeffe. Our new children continue to settle in well and are now doing their full hours.

## **Mary-Rose Pre-School**

We have had a lovely couple of weeks in Pre-School, making the most of the gorgeous sunshine. We have done lots of planting in our new gardening area, including cress heads and sunflower seeds, and we can't wait to see these keep growing and growing.

We also had some new pet caterpillars come to stay in Mary-Rose and the children have loved watching them slowly grow bigger and bigger, and we are so excited to see them turn into beautiful butterflies.

We have been learning about the story 'The Very Hungry Caterpillar' and have learnt some great knowledge of the lifecycle of a butterfly, and have done lots of activities about this, including making symmetry butterflies and repeating pattern caterpillars.

### **Reception**

We can't believe it's nearly the end of term already! Reception have continued exploring the fascinating world of plants, flowers, and minibeasts through a range of hands-on, cross-curricular activities. We began by planting seeds and observing how water, sunlight, and soil help plants grow, learning key vocabulary such as "roots," "stem," "leaves," and "petals." The children also enjoyed investigating different types of flowers, identifying their parts, and using magnifying glasses to look closely at their details. As part of their learning about life cycles, the children explored the life cycles of other minibeasts like ladybirds and frogs through stories, songs, and sequencing activities. We have been out in the Meadow together! This outdoor learning allowed our children to see bugs in their natural habitat, fostering curiosity and showing respect for living things. Through art, role play, and storytelling, the children expressed their learning in creative and meaningful ways.





## KS1



### Year 1

Year 1 have been doubling and halving in Maths. We know that we need 2 equal groups to make half. We are looking forward to learning about quarters next week.

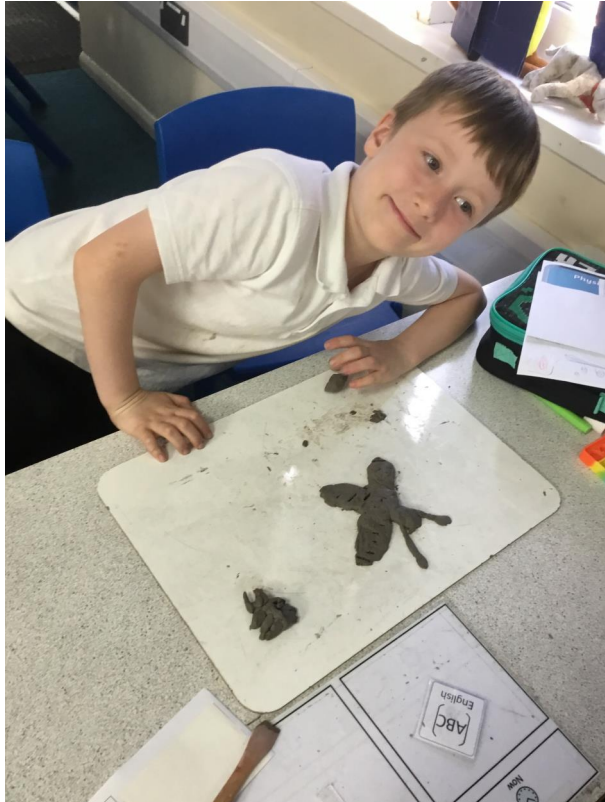
In Science, we have been looking at plants. We looked at plants around the school and the different types of trees we have. We know that evergreen trees stay green all year and have thin needle like leaves and deciduous trees have large, flat leaves that fall off in the autumn.

### Year 2

This week, Year 2 engaged in an exciting circuit training session. They hopped over hurdles like energetic kangaroos, raced friends with the speed of cheetahs, performed tuck rolls like nimble beetles, and balanced, jumped, and rolled on beams with the agility of monkeys. It was a fun and dynamic gymnastics experience!

We've also been getting our hands messy and our imaginations buzzing as we created our very own clay bugs in Art! From wriggly worms to spotty ladybirds and stripy bees, the classroom has been crawling with creativity. This fun project linked perfectly with our Science topic, where we've been learning all about insects and their amazing features. The children loved shaping, squashing, and decorating their bugs—some even gave their names and little backstories! It's been a brilliant way to mix science with art, and we've all had a blast bringing our minibeast knowledge to life in such a hands-on way.

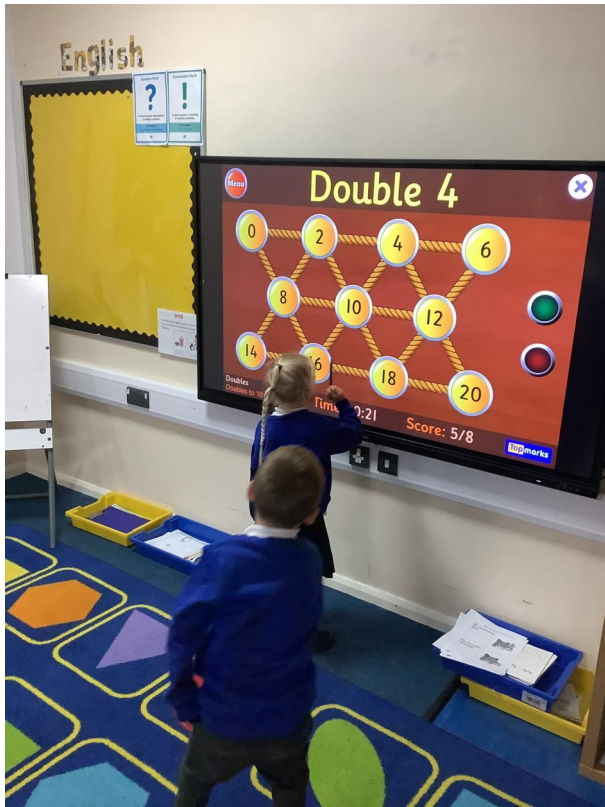


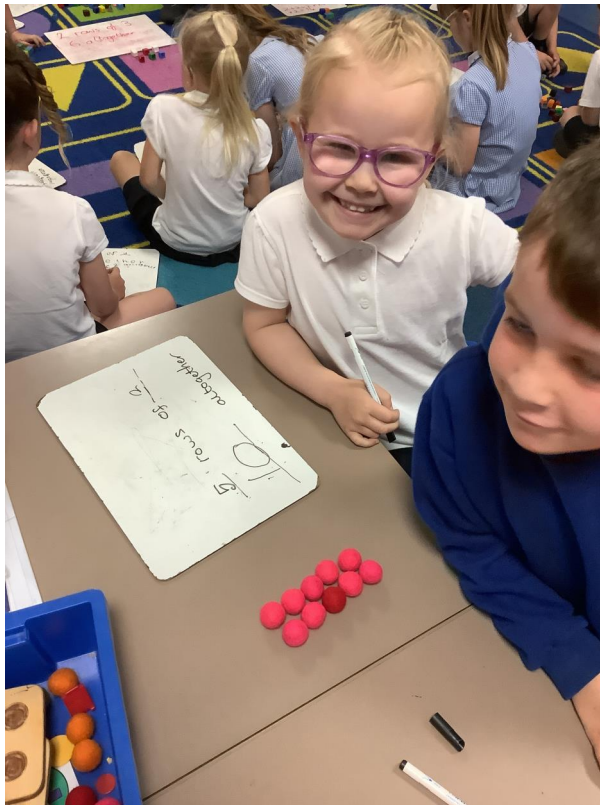














## LKS2



### Year 3

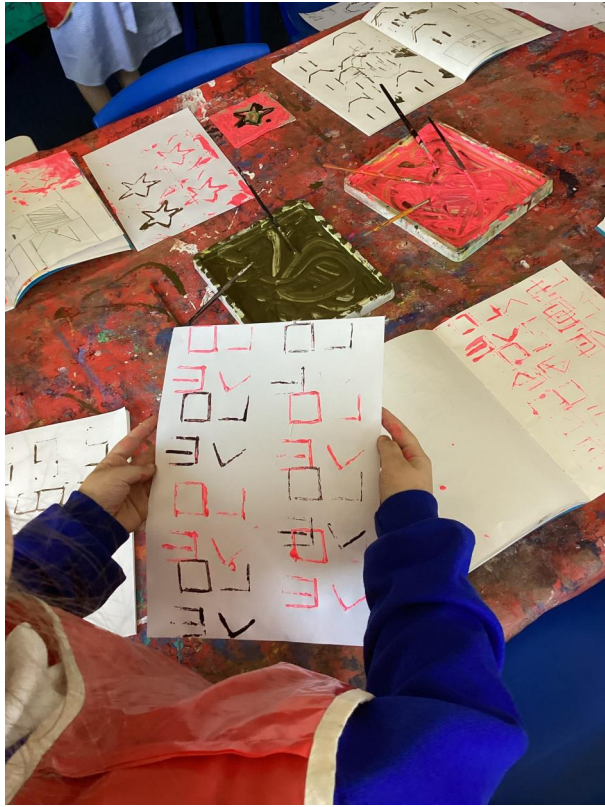
.Year 3 have been building upon their learning of famous explorers between 1400-1600 by finding out about why some consider Sir Francis Drake to be a hero whereas others consider him to be a pirate. In maths, they have furthered their understanding of time and are beginning to tell the time to the nearest minute on both analogue and digital clocks. In science, they completed their cress growing experiment and were surprised to discover that cress grew tallest in the dark; however, it wasn't a healthy plant. In art, they created their own stamp using cardboard squares and matchsticks and used these to create their own artwork.

### Year 4

Year 4 have been working really hard in computing this term. They have been learning to code on microbits and have even made a game of 'rock, paper, scissors'. They have also enjoyed learning about the history of art and are enjoying making their final piece in their painting unit. Also, Year 4 have enjoyed using powerful description in their writing this week to describe settings and characters. In swimming, all of the children have made huge progress and have built confidence in the water.







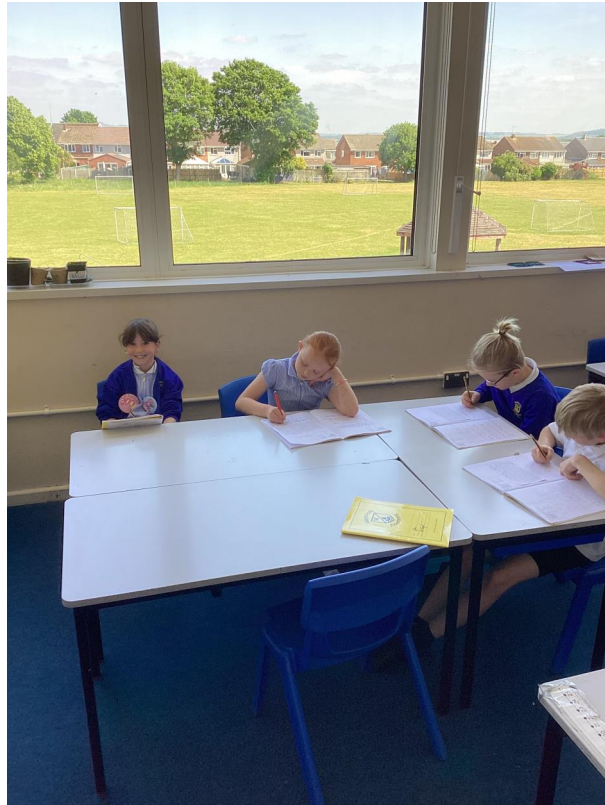












## UKS2



### Year 5

Year 5 have had a fantastic couple of weeks creating artwork inspired by Chris Ofili, using oil pastels and pencil to create colourful backgrounds and add detail. In English, they have been mystery novel writers as well as investigative journalists, as they wrote narratives and newspaper reports about some strange happenings in Waycroft. They've also continued with their fantastic orienteering and cricket work in PE, practising reading and marking maps and having 'mini matches' in the sunshine. Great work year 5!

### Year 6

Firstly, Miss Leek, Mrs Wright, Miss Archer, and Mrs Geen would like to say a huge well done to all of the children in Year 6! We are so proud of them and how well they have approached their SATs this week. Each and every one of them embodied the school values of being ready and resilient by showing great determination and perseverance throughout all of the tests; we could not have asked for anything more.

As well as completing our SATs, the children have had a busy few weeks across the curriculum. In Art, both classes have started to design their superheroes, ready to create a painted superhero and city or moonscape, based on the work of the artist Roy Lichtenstein.



In PE, the children have been practising their gym skills, working incredibly hard with the external gym coaches.











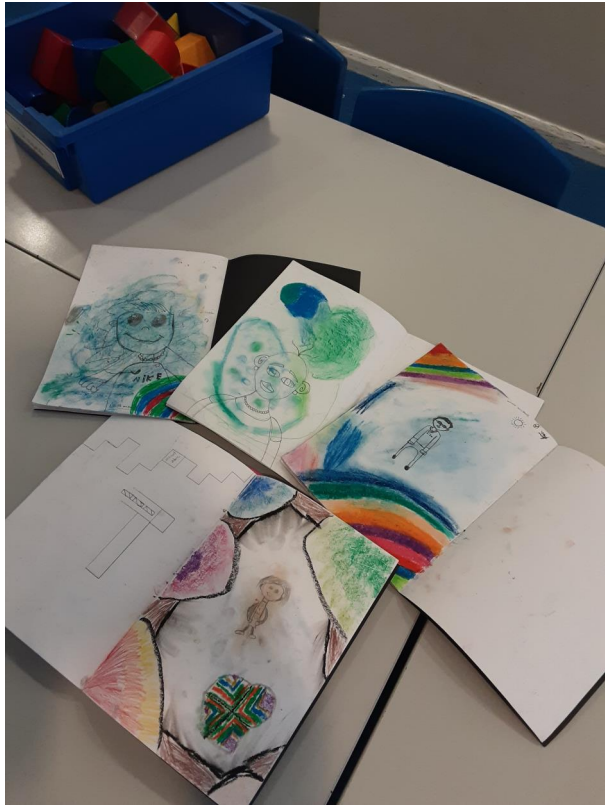


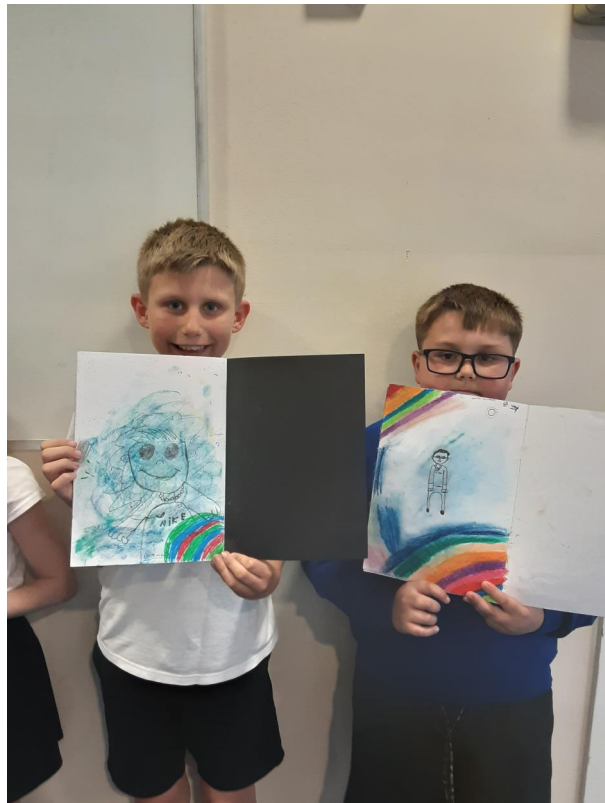










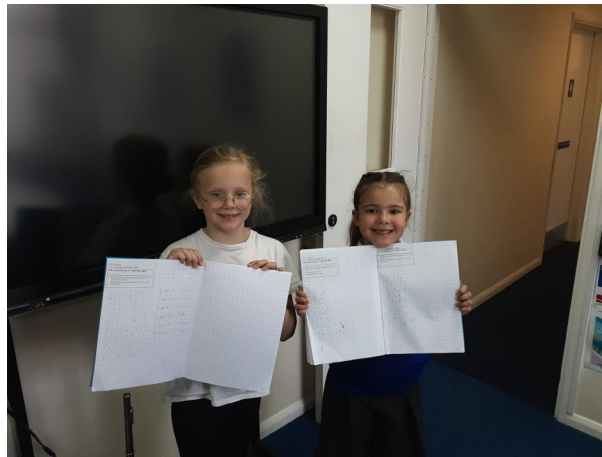
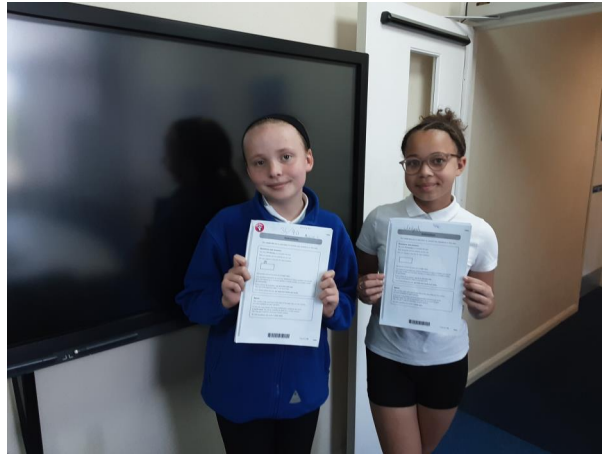


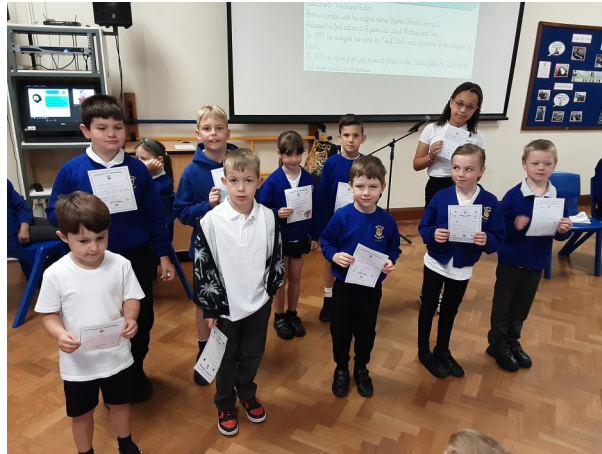
## Celebration Assembly

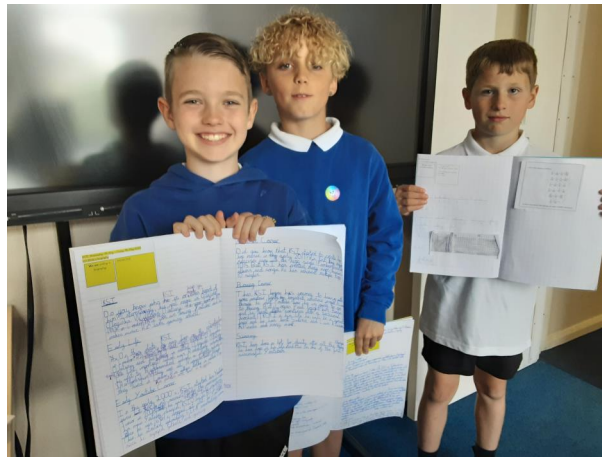
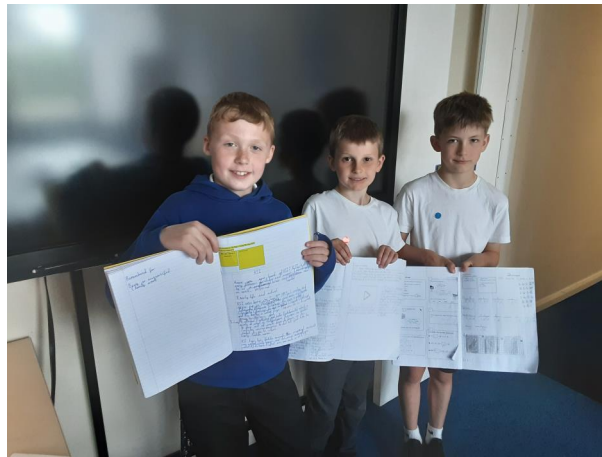
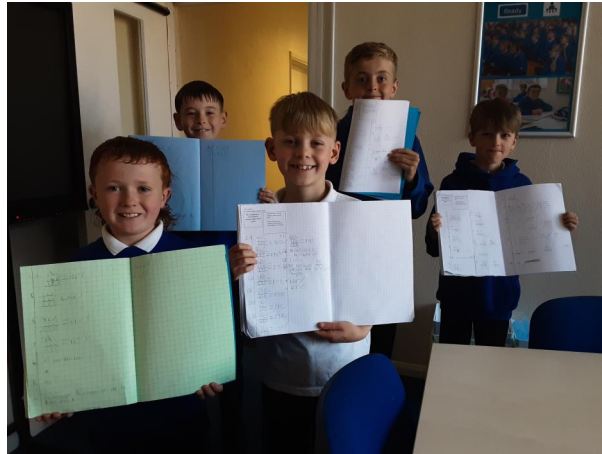


A variety of photos below from the last few celebration assemblies and work celebrated with Mr Smith and Mrs Sweet.















## Save the Dates for Term 5 and 6



Thursday 22nd May - Year 5 Swimming to commence (more information to follow)

Friday 23rd May-Non-uniform day (sweets and biscuit donations for summer fayre-no chocolate products)

Wednesday 4th June - Class photos

Friday 6th June - Non uniform day (cakes and bottle donations for summer fayre)

Saturday 7th June-Summer Fayre 10am-1pm

Monday 16th June - Year 1 and 2 Sports Day at 1.30pm

Tuesday 17th June - Year 3 and 4 Sports Day at 1.30pm

Wednesday 18th June - Year 5 and 6 Sports Day at 1.30pm

Thursday 19th June - Reception Sports Day at 2pm

Wednesday 2nd July-Mary-Rose Sports Day at 2.15pm

Monday 7th July - Year 6 Simonsbath Camp

Wednesday 16th July - Class swap and meet the teachers (times for meet the teacher to be confirmed)

Monday 21st July - Year 6 Leavers Disco at 5 -6.30pm

Tuesday 22nd July - Year 6 Leavers' service at 2.15pm

### **Inset Dates 2024/2025**

Friday 4th July 2025

Monday 7th July 2025

### **Payment Reminders**



**Reception trip to Court Farm** - £16.61 due by Friday 30th May. ParentMail sent out with further information.

**Year 1 trip to Cattle Country** - £19.02 due by Friday 30th May. ParentMail sent out with further information.

**Year 5 Swimming** - £24 due 22nd May 2025.

**Year 6 Simonsbath camp** - £50 deposit due 25th October 2024. With the suggested payment plan of £90 due 31st December 2024, £90 due 28th February 2025, £90 due 25th April 2025 with final balance of £89.58 due by 30th May 2025.

**Year 6 Simonsbath camp Pupil Premium** - £50 deposit due 25th October 2024. With the suggested payment plan of £40 due 31st December 2024, £40 due 28th February 2025, £40 due 25th April 2025 with final balance of £34.79 due by 30th May 2025.



## Community Notices



HOW TO MEASURE YOUR CHILD

**price-buckland.co.uk**

*Price & Buckland*  
SCHOOLWEAR SINCE 1959

**ORDER YOUR UNIFORM ONLINE**

QUICK, EASY, FAST

**ORDER BY  
1<sup>ST</sup> AUGUST**

for delivery before  
the start of term



**Scan  
Me!**



 **Trustpilot**



"Great quality. Fast and  
friendly service"

**SIGN UP FOR EXCLUSIVE  
DISCOUNTS AND  
OFFERS!**

# ORDER SCHOOL UNIFORM ONLINE

Our uniform is supplied by Price and Buckland, who have been manufacturing exceptional schoolwear since 1959. Visit the website below to shop for your school uniform.

- Free Returns
- Free Delivery over £65

**Scan Me!**



## Accepted Payment Methods



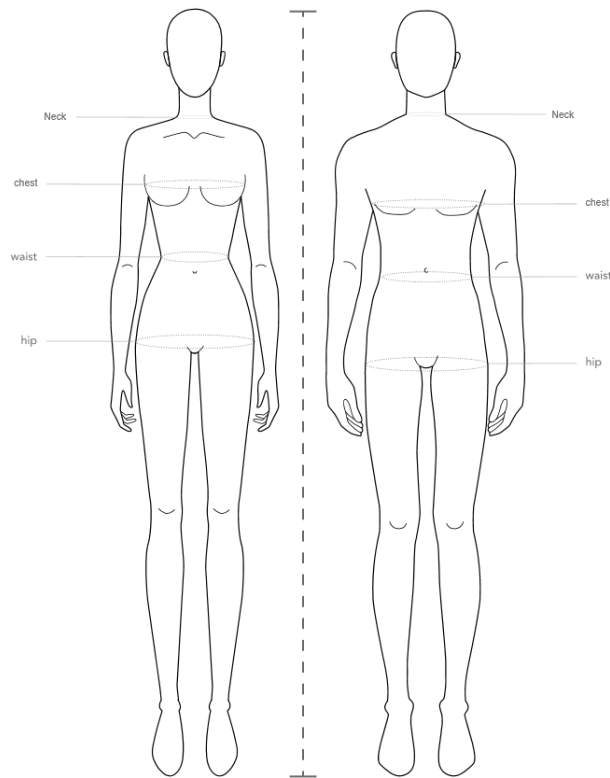
## HOW TO ORDER

- 1** Visit the school finder by scanning the QR Code above or by visiting the Price and Buckland website.
- 2** Search for your school and select it from the list.
- 3** Browse the uniform range and add to basket.
- 4** Log in to your account or register as a new customer.
- 5** Complete your order by proceeding to payment and await your order confirmation email.

**price-buckland.co.uk**

HEIGHT: Without shoes, with the back against the wall place feet together flat on the floor. Measure from the top of the head to the ground.





**NECK:** Measure around the base of the neck where the shirt collar would normally sit. Leave a little room for comfort.

**CHEST:** Measure the chest at the fullest part placing the tape close up under the arms.

**Scan this QR code to check out our sizing video!**

**WAIST:** Measure around the natural waistline, at the narrowest part. Leave a little extra room for comfort.



**HIPS:** Standing straight, with heels together, measure around the fullest part.

**INSIDE LEG:** In bare feet take the measurement from the top of the inside leg to on or just below your ankle joint, where the trousers would naturally finish.

**Sweatshirts / Cardigans / Polo Shirts**

Chest	20"	22"	24"	26"	28"	30"	32"	34"
Age	2-3	3-4	4-5	5-6	7-8	9-10	11-12	13

**Blazers / Jackets**

Chest (")	28"	30"	32"	34"	36"	38"	40"	42"	44"	46"
Chest (cms)	68-71	73-76	79-81	83-86	88-92	94-97	99-102	104-107	109-112	114-117

**Blogs   Social Media**

## GARMENT CARE

Always refer to your garment care label to ensure your garment looks just as good as the day you bought it.

Remember to also wash and dry your garments inside out, fasten any buttons and don't overload your machine.

We also recommend ironing your garments inside out on a cool setting to avoid heat damage.



### Washing symbols



Dry Normal,  
low heat



Machine  
wash at  
stated  
temperature



Do not dry  
clean



Do not  
tumble dry



Do not  
bleach



Iron on low  
heat



Iron on high  
heat



Do not iron

## NEWSLETTER

Sign up to our newsletter to receive exclusive discounts and offers, and to be updated with chances to win in our competitions!

You won't want to miss out!

[www.price-buckland.co.uk/email-sign-up/](http://www.price-buckland.co.uk/email-sign-up/)

Check out our blogs on our website for handy hints and tips and up to date news.



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