

Last week the NSPCC came in to lead an assembly for the whole school and workshops for Years, 2, 5 & 6. They made sure the children know that as well as their safe adults at school, they can always get help from childline.

I received some great feedback from the NSPCC presenters for the listening, focus and engagement by the children .



Last week our football team had their first match. They have only recently formed and started training together and the match was very challenging. In the second half they regrouped, held their focus and played well. I hope this gives them something to build on for future training sessions and matches. I am proud of their resilience and determination.



The children in Early Years and the Nest had visitors last week. they met a number of different animals and found out about them. They held a snake and were shown how to stroke its scales. They touched the shell of a tortoise, feeling how hard and bumpy it was. They also held a colorful chameleon and some of them even let it sit on their head. What a fascinating way to learn about living things.



Have a lovely weekend.

SAFE
We move around school in a safe manner. We follow instructions to keep ourselves safe. We keep hands, feet and unkind words to ourselves. We use equipment safely. We stay safe online. We talk to an adult if we feel unsafe.

READY
We wear correct uniform. We arrive at school on time. We have our equipment ready. We show that we are listening and ready to learn.

RESPECT
We listen when others speak and we respect the property of our friends and the school. We have an understanding of others cultures and beliefs. We respect that everyone have a right to learn.



Type of query	Member of staff to contact
Safeguarding/child protection	Mr Fisher, Mrs Cracknell, Miss Borgeat, Mrs Poole and Mrs Richardson
Any issues relating to your child or another child in the class	Email admin to arrange a meeting, sometimes a phase leader may join this meeting
If you do not feel the issue has been resolved or you may need more advice.	<p>Step 1 Phase Leader</p> <p>EYFS-Miss White Year 1 - 3- Mrs Christman Yea 4 - 6 -Mr Chandler</p> <p>Step 2 Deputy Headteacher Mrs Hannah Cracknell</p> <p>Step 3 Headteacher- Mr Fisher</p>
Inclusion/ Special Educational Needs	Miss Borgeat
Looked After and Previously Looked After Children	Mrs Cracknell
Payments/Finance	Miss Byrne Mrs Tilbury
Admissions	Miss Byrne
Complaints	Please refer to school complaints policy on the <u>website</u> .

Upcoming Events 2026

February

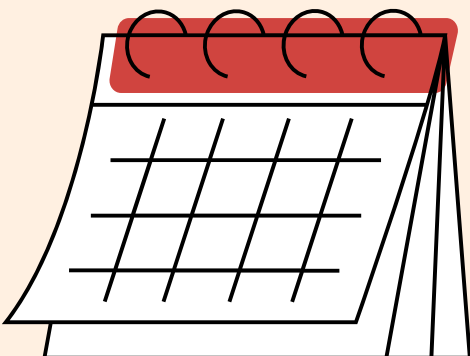
Wednesday 4th	Cycle event - Years 4 and 5
Friday 6th	Year 3 trip to Celtic Harmony camp
Friday 13th	Tales together
Friday 13th	End of half term finish normal time
Monday 23 rd	Inset day - School closed
Tuesday 24th	Back to school
Wednesday 25th	Parents evening / stepping stones - Nursery / Reception Years 2-6 and the Nest
Thursday 26th	Parents evening / stepping stones - Reception and Years 2-6
Thursday 26 th	Informal school photo's - individual only

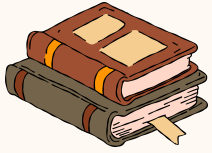
March

Monday 2nd	Y6 Bike ability - all week
Tuesday 3 rd	Y4 pedestrian skills
Thursday 5 th	School council visit to the Houses of Parliament
Thursday 5 th	Y2 scooter sessions
Monday 23 rd	Rock steady concert
Wednesday 25 th	Parents evening / stepping stones - Year 1
Thursday 26th	Y5 trip to Knebworth House
Thursday 26th	Parents evening / stepping stones - Year 1
Friday 27th	Tales together
Friday 27th	End of term 1:15pm finish

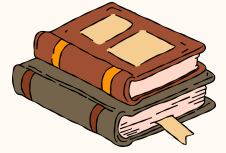
April

Monday 13 th	Everyone back to school
Tuesday 28th	Y1 visit to Hertford Museum

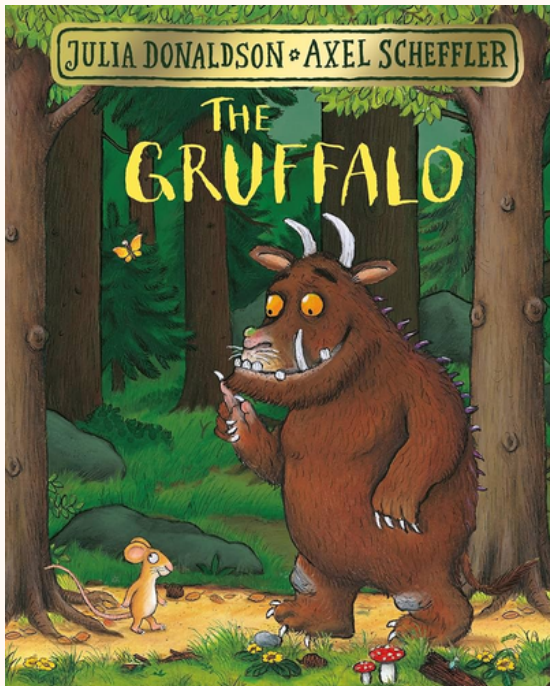




Staff book review



By Mrs Ahmed



The Gruffalo By Julia Donaldson

The Gruffalo is a much-loved picture book that has delighted children (and grown-ups!) for years.

Written by Julia Donaldson and illustrated by Axel Scheffler, it tells the story of a small, clever mouse who takes a walk through the woods. Along the way, the mouse meets several hungry animals but instead of being scared, he uses his imagination to stay safe.

The story is fun to read aloud with rhyming text and using different voices for the characters. Children will enjoy repeating the famous descriptions of the Gruffalo, while adults will appreciate the humour and the smart twist in the tale. The illustrations are bold, colourful and full of character, bringing the woodland world to life on every page.



I love Julia Donaldson's books because they are such a pleasure to read aloud. The stories she writes are warm, clever and full of humour. Her characters are often small but brave, and they solve problems by thinking creatively, which I really enjoy. The books appeal to both children and adults, with gentle messages that never feel forced and they are the kind of stories you're always happy to come back to.

I keep coming back to reading this book because I really love it. It is full of humour, which makes it enjoyable every time you pick up the book to read it. The playful language and funny moments make the story fun to read aloud with the children, while the emotions in the story help create a strong connection between the reader and the characters. Because of this, the book never feels boring, no matter how many times it is read.

This book is perfect for younger readers, story time, or sharing together as a family. A true classic that never gets old

Nursery

Nursery have been very busy learning about whether animals have feather, fur or scales! We had a visit from some animal friends and we were lucky enough to be able to touch and even hold them!



Year 1

Year 1 have been very busy building their rockets in DT. This week they turned their plans into real models, using a flange joint to connect the parts. Next week we will begin painting them- how exciting! In RE, the children have been exploring Christianity. They acted out the story of 'The Prodigal Son' as part of our big question: 'Why did Jesus teach about God in his parables?' In English, we continued our work on our book Julian Is a Mermaid. The children designed carnival costumes and headdresses, wrote labels, and even created their own adverts using adjectives, bossy verbs and questions to draw in customers. Our maths work has focused on subtraction and the different strategies children can use. They have also been trying really hard with handwriting and forming letters correctly. This week we have focused on the letters a, b, g and o using our RWI handwriting scheme. We are very proud of all their hard work.



Year 3

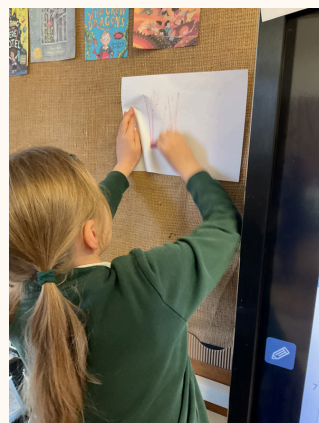
This week, our Year 3 children became enthusiastic young scientists as they explored the fascinating world of rocks. Their investigation focused on discovering the different properties of a variety of rocks and observing how these materials might change when exposed to adverse weather conditions.

The children examined each rock closely, testing for hardness, texture, permeability, and durability. They discussed how wind, rain, and temperature changes can gradually wear rocks down over time. With plenty of hands-on exploration and thoughtful predictions, the class showed impressive curiosity and scientific thinking.

It was wonderful to see their excitement as they compared results, shared ideas, and drew conclusions from their observations. Year 3 are well on their way to becoming confident investigators with a growing understanding of the natural world.



In Art this week, we explored texture in a wonderfully hands-on way. The children experimented with a range of materials to create detailed rubbings, discovering how different surfaces produce unique patterns. Once their rubbings were complete, they carefully cut out sections and arranged them to form colourful, textured flowers. The results were beautifully individual, and the children were proud to see how their creative choices came together in their final artwork.



Year 5

During RE, the children are focusing on Hinduism. During the lesson they had to draw around a child in their group and dress the outline as Krishna. They had to investigate what you need by looking at Krishna pictures and exploring crafts from Hindu parents entering their children for dressing up competitions. For examples, how to make crowns and peacock feathers



The children had a visit from the NSPCC which is the UK leading childrens' charity, working for over 140 years to stop child abuse and neglect. The children took part in a workshop where they were taught how to keep safe in person and online through services like childline.

The children have been learning how computers follow step-by-step instructions, known as algorithms and putting this into practice using the micro:bit. Their work has focused on understanding how clear, logical instructions can make a device behave exactly as intended. They've run their programs on the micro:bit, spotted when things didn't work as expected and improved their algorithms.

