



# FAIRFORD CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY SCHOOL

Isaiah 49:16 'I have written your name on the palms of my hands'.

Actively learning together in a safe, happy environment shaped by the certainty that each individual is loved and known by God.

## Term 4 Newsletter March 2026

Dear Families

As Term 4 draws to a close, it has been amazing to be a part of a wonderful term of learning at Fairford! We have had little bits of sunshine that has enabled the children to play on the field together, fewer wet play and lunchtimes – always welcomed and lots of visits both inside school and outside of school.

Whilst the term has only been 5 weeks, a lot of learning has been packed in that time. I am sure everyone is ready for a proper 'Springtime' break and all of us at school wish you and your families a wonderful Easter break and we hope everyone gets to spend time with those they love and care about most. If the sun shines of course that will make it all the better too – fingers crossed for everyone.

We return to school on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> April for the start of Term 5 which is a 6 week term. In Term 5, children are beginning to consolidate what they have learnt this year and using that prior learning to help them further develop new skills and learning before the end of the year.

Thank you for all your continued support in your child's learning, remember if you are finding it difficult to support your child's learning at home, please do speak to their class teacher who will be more than willing to help and support.

We look forward to seeing you all on the 13<sup>th</sup> April.

Best wishes

Julie Fellows

Head Teacher



Fairford C of E Primary School, The Park, Leafield Road, Fairford, GL7 4JQ

[www.fairford.gloucs.sch.uk](http://www.fairford.gloucs.sch.uk)



## Term 5 Events

Please check our Weekly Update sheet for further details of the events, activities and clubs taking place in school. This is sent out to parents on The Portal every Friday.

For more diary dates, please see the Diary Dates at the end of this Newsletter or click on the link below.

## Diary Dates

## School Fete

The Summer Fete is taking place on Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> May. We are holding a non-school uniform day on Friday 15<sup>th</sup> May and ask parents to donate a small outdoor toy or game, if possible, for the tombola stall.



## **Treetops and late collection Fee for Term 5 2025\_2026**

From Term 5, we are introducing a late collection fee for children who are collected after the end of the last Treetop session of the day. £20.00 will automatically be applied to your Portal account when a child is picked up after the end of Treetops for that day. This is to cover staffing costs if a child is not collected by the end of Treetops.

**Primary School - last session ends 5:30pm**

**Little Explorers – Treetops session ends 5:00pm**

Please contact the office if you have any questions regarding the late collection fee.

**Bookings for Treetops will be available from 6:00pm on Friday 10<sup>th</sup> April.**

Please note the number to contact Treetops between 3:00 and 5:30pm is **07508 866554**. Please do not contact the school office.

## **Music Tuition in School**

If you are interested in Music lessons in school the contacts are:

**Rob Cooper** – Drum Instructor [info@drumsense.com](mailto:info@drumsense.com)

**Lindsay and Jim Bateman** – Guitar, Piano, Keyboard [jim@batemanmusic.co.uk](mailto:jim@batemanmusic.co.uk)

**iRock School of Music** – Rock and Pop Band [info@irockschool.com](mailto:info@irockschool.com)

## **Free School Meals**

For every child that is entitled to free school meals the school receives extra funding to enhance provision and improve progress and outcomes for children. So please apply even if you do not wish to take up your free school meal.

To apply or find out further information please follow the link below:

[Apply for free school meals | Gloucestershire County Council](#)

## **After School Clubs Booking for Term 5 2025\_2026**

A range of clubs will be running in Term 5, booking will open on The Portal at 6:00pm Friday 10th April.

Term 4 Newsletter March 2026

	Before School Club	After School Club	Coach/ Location		Year Group	Max	Cost	Notes	Collection
Monday		Street Dance	Matt Fiddes Dance Eleri Hall	13/04, 20/04, 27/04, <b>Not</b> <b>04/05, 11/05,</b> 18/05	Y2,Y3,Y4,Y5,Y6 3:00-4:00pm	25	£30.00 £6:00 per session	PE Kit	Eleri Hall
		Crochet	Mrs Coxhead Hawthorn Class	13/04, 20/04, 27/04, <b>not</b> <b>04/05, 11/05,</b> <b>NOT 18/05</b>	Year 6 3:10-4:10pm	6	£32.00 £8.00 per session	No experience needed - just bring your enthusiasm and imagination!	Rear Entrance (Same as used by Treetops)
Tuesday		Performing Arts Theatre Club	Ama Performing Arts Eleri	21/04, 28/04, 05/05, 12/05, 19/05	Yrs 1 & 2 3:00-4:00pm	Book Direct	Book Direct	Eleri Hall	Eleri Hall
		Tag Archery	Josh Cox Target Archery	14/04, 21/04, 28/04, 05/05, 12/05, 19/05	Yrs 4-6 3:00- 4:15pm	20	£6:00 per session £36.00	PE Kit	School Grounds
		Mad Science Club	Mad Science Club Willow Class	28/04, 05/05, 12/05, 19/05, 02/06, 09/06, 16/06, 23/06	Years 1-6 3:00 - 4:00pm	22	Book Direct - 8 week course £12.00 per session	Willow Classroom	Willow Classroom
Wednesday		Forest School Club	Hannah Garbutt	15/04, 22/04, 29/04, 6/05, 13/05, 20/05	Y1 - 6 3-4:30pm	15	£60.00 £10 per session	Pond dipping, investigating aquatic life, sowing a wildflower area and using the Science Dome	Outside the Branch Classroom
		Performing Arts Theatre Club	Ama Performing Arts Eleri	22/04, 29/04, 6/05, 13/05, 20/05	Yrs 3 - 6 4:45 - 5:45pm	Book Direct	Book Direct	Eleri Hall	Eleri Hall
		After School Cooking Club	Meliny Timms Atrium	15/04, 22/04, 29/04, 6/05, 13/05, 20/05	Yrs 1-6 3:00-4:30pm	24	£76.50 £12.75 per session	Great British Menu - some of Britain's favorite dishes	Rear Entrance (Same as used by Treetops)
Thursday	Early Bird Fencing		Kevin Nelson Eleri Hall	16/04, 23/04, 30/04, 07/05, 14/05, 21/ 05	Y4, Y5,Y6 7:30- 8:30pm	16	£51.00 £8.50 per session	Long trousers and top	
		Gymnastics A	Rachel Rogers Eleri Hall	16/04, 23/04, 30/04, 07/05, 14/05, 21/ 05	Y1 -6 3:00- 4:00pm	20	£36.00 £6:00 per session	PE Kit	Eleri Hall
		Gymnastics B	Rachel Rogers Eleri Hall	16/04, 23/04, 30/04, 07/05, 14/05, 21/ 05	Y1 -6 4:00- 5:00pm	20	£36.00 £6:00 per session	PE Kit	Eleri Hall
		Sports Leaders Club multi-skills/multi-sports club - different team games and skills.	School Grounds Miss Addey and Farmor's Pupils	16/04, 23/04, 30/04, 07/05, 14/05, <b>NOT 21/ 05</b>	Y 3 and 4 & selected year 6 3:00-4:15pm	15	£30.00 £6:00 per session	PE Kit	From Hazel Classroom (Miss Addey's Class)
		Choir	Mr Driscoll Old Hall	16/04, 23/04, 30/04, 07/05, 14/05, 21/ 05	Y3,4,5,6 3:00-4:00pm	Existing Choir Members	£36.00 £6:00 per session		Rear Entrance (Same as used by Treetops)
Friday		Golf	Jez from Cotswold Coaching	17/04, 24/04, 01/05, 08/08, 15/05, 22/05	Yrs 2 - 6 3:00 - 4:15pm	24	£45.00 £7.50 per session	PE Kit	Rear Entrance (Same as used by Treetops)
		Eco Club	Mrs Ewens Sycamore Class	17/04, 24/04, 01/05, 08/08, 15/05, <b>NOT</b> <b>22/05</b>	Year 3 - 6 3:00-4:00pm	10	£30.00 £6:00 per session	Drink bottle and a snack. Outdoor Clothing/coats/wellie s etc if wet. Gardening gloves useful	outside Sycamore Class on playground

## ECO Club

Mrs Ewens will be running ECO club after school on Fridays from 3-4pm.

**Location:** Meet in Sycamore, however activities will often take place outside in the school grounds.

Pick up: outside Sycamore Class on playground.

### Notes and details:

Children should bring a drink bottle and a snack with them.

We will aim to spend most sessions outside in our school grounds so children will need to come prepared with waterproof/warm coats and wellies. If they have gardening gloves then would be useful but not essential.

We will be helping to improve our school grounds through a variety of activities including: Litter picking, clearing, tidying and gardening. We will be putting together the pallets for our church bug hotel project.

Other activities may include making posters, and planning activities to raise awareness, and to encourage others to be environmentally friendly.

Children will be able to use evidence of taking part in these activities to apply for a Green Blue Peter Badge at home. I will be able to send details at the end of the 6 sessions. Children with a Blue Peter badge can get free entry into many places throughout the UK.

## Golf Club



Cotswold Coaching  
Wiltshire & Gloucestershire  
01285 238322  
info@cotswoldcoaching.co.uk

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## Primary School TRI GOLF @ Fairford School

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### Parents of Children in Years 2,3,4,5,6

Cotswold Coaching by Jez provides fun and exciting GOLF lessons.

Teaching technique, discipline and coordination whilst playing a huge variety of team and individual games.

### After School GOLF Club

GOLF Club will be run by Jez, a golf instructor with over 20 years' experience, and will continue for 6 weeks.

It will take place every FRIDAY afternoon from 3pm till 4.15pm on the school field or hall..

The dates will be as follows: -

**April 17<sup>th</sup>, 24<sup>th</sup>, May 1<sup>st</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup>, 22<sup>nd</sup>**

**How to reserve space:**  
Please sign up on the School Portal

More info can be found.....

Online: [www.cotswoldcoaching.co.uk](http://www.cotswoldcoaching.co.uk)

Should you have any queries, please contact me directly.  
01285 238322 or hit the WhatsApp button on my home page.  
[info@cotswoldcoaching.co.uk](mailto:info@cotswoldcoaching.co.uk)



## After School Club – Mad Science

The Mad Science after school club will be running another club from April – June. For further details and booking, please follow the link below.

<https://madsciencesw.ipalbookings.com/>

**AFTER SCHOOL SCIENCE CLUB** HERE AT YOUR SCHOOL

**The Club**  
Mad Science After-school Clubs provide the perfect mix of fun, interactive, educational content. Taking aspects of physics, chemistry and some biology to engage and excite all children enrolled. Our hands-on, enquiry based sessions encourage independent learning skills and discovery at their pace. They'll be immersed in a fully unique and different topic each week during the course, so there's plenty to explore as they get to grips with key science concepts and fun STEM based explorations.  
They'll have so much fun, they forget they're learning!

**Booking**

Scan QR code to access registration.

1. Create your parent account
2. Add your child's details
3. Book Your Course

**Club Information**

**FAIRFORD COFE PRIMARY SCHOOL**  
Tuesday  
25th April 2026  
5th, 12th, 19th May 2026  
2nd, 9th, 16th, 23rd June 2026

**DEADLINE: 7th April 2026**  
SPACES LIMITED, BOOK BEFORE THE DEADLINE DATE FOR THE BEST CHANCE OF SECURING A SPACE.

**8 Week Course for £92**  
Join us for all new content this term!

BOOK ONLINE: [LINK IS CASE SENSITIVE](https://madsciencesw.ipalbookings.com)  
<https://madsciencesw.ipalbookings.com>

**1 Hour** All Staff All Materials

**Spark Their Curiosity REGISTER & BOOK TODAY!**

01792 348205 • www.madsciencesw.co.uk

**Mad SCIENCE**

**AFTER SCHOOL SCIENCE CLUB** HERE AT YOUR SCHOOL

**Spark Their Curiosity REGISTER & BOOK TODAY!**

Mad Science SW after-school clubs are here to spark the imagination and curiosity of all children. Providing a safe fun to learn and providing them with the tools to feel their own discovery. We focus on providing fun, engaging educational programmes, which are curriculum centred and designed to enhance their interest. Please view what's school our clubs are a great solution to provide their education through STEM.

01792 348205 • www.madsciencesw.co.uk

## Musical Theatre Club

AMA KS1 and KS2 Musical Theatre Club will be starting W/C 20<sup>th</sup> April.

The KS1 club will take place after school on Tuesdays from 3:00–4:00pm and will be led by Emily Apps, a professional West End performer. Sessions will include singing, dancing, and acting, and are designed to encourage confidence, creativity, and self-expression in a fun and supportive environment.

KS2 club take place on Wednesday from 4:45 to 5:45pm



To book email: [info@amaperformingarts.co.uk](mailto:info@amaperformingarts.co.uk)



The Kitchen Club’s after School club takes place every Wednesday afternoon from 3:15 to 4:30pm and will begin Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> April for 6 weeks until the May Half Term. This term’s theme is “Great British Menu” where the Chefs will be cooking some of our Favourite British Dishes. Our menu will be:

Fairford 2025/26 Term 5	Great British Menu
15/04/2026	Cottage Pie
22/04/2026	All Day Breakfast
29/04/2026	Chicken Tikka Masala
06/05/2026	Mac 'n Cheese
13/05/2026	Fish Cakes and Wedges - our take on fish and chips
20/05/2026	Roast Dinner

## School Office Hours

The School Office is open from 8:15am to 3:30pm. If no one is available to answer your call, please leave a message on the answerphone or email us at [school@fairford.gloucs.sch.uk](mailto:school@fairford.gloucs.sch.uk).

Please note that emails or messages left after 2.30pm may not be picked up in time for 3.00pm pick up as it is a busy time.

You can report you child's absence from school on the day of absence by emailing [absence@fairford.gloucs.sch.uk](mailto:absence@fairford.gloucs.sch.uk) or [school@fairford.gloucs.sch.uk](mailto:school@fairford.gloucs.sch.uk) Alternatively you can do this on the School Portal before 9am. Login to the School Portal <https://portal.thesystem.cloud/>

## News from the Classrooms

### Apple - Reception

What a busy and exciting term we have had in Reception this term. Our theme has been 'How can I help? We started our term with the story 'Supertato' which led us to thinking about superhero qualities and what we could do to be superheroes in our classroom and with our friends and family. We of course enjoyed role playing Superheroes, dressing up and making our own masks and props to tell stories of helping people.

In the forest, we learned about helping the birds and animals by making bird feeders and picking up the litter with the litter pickers.

We had a fun week for 'Careers and Aspirations week' we loved having visitors to tell us about their jobs. Thank you so much to all our parent visitors. Over the course of a few days, we rotated around the classrooms in Y1 and Y2 to experience aspects of different professions. In Lime class we learned about professions connected to the theatre such as choreographers and prop makers. In Sycamore class, we explored under the ground and had a go at being archaeologists and palaeontologists and in Cherry class we learned about being vets and in Apple class, we explored the creative professions of fashion design, architecture and games design.





In maths this term, we have been securing our knowledge of the numbers 6,7,8 and discovering and learning the pairs of numbers which add to total these numbers. We have also learned about doubles and evens and made the connection that all double numbers are also even.

We have been very lucky this year that we have had several visits from Lisa from Cirencester library who we call 'Library Lisa'. She is the most amazing storyteller and she arrives dressed to match the theme of her storytelling for that week. The children love a Lisa storytelling visit which always ends with a bubble party! We are very sad that the charity funding for Lisa's visits has now ended and she is no longer able to visit. Lisa works at Cirencester Library and does storytelling sessions there on a Wednesday and you are able to visit her there.

In our final week of this term, our thoughts turned to Easter and why we celebrate it. We learned about the symbol of the cross and that eggs symbolise new life and that's why we eat Easter eggs. We had a wonderful Easter Feast cooking day with Meliny from the Kitchen Club and enjoyed cooking hot cross buns, egg sandwiches, Easter nests and cupcakes. We made Easter baskets, flower arrangements and Easter bonnets and were joined by our grown-ups for our Easter Feast.

**Apple Class Happy Easter everyone!**

## **Year 1 and 2 Cherry, Lime and Sycamore**

What a fantastic Spring Term we have had, it's hard to believe we are at the Easter break and are getting ready for the summer term!

This term, we have focused on poetry, the seasons and weather! Always are great topic when we have experienced such a variety of weather these past few weeks! The children have focussed on our school value of forgiveness and have thought about how to keep themselves and others safe.



All 3 of our classes have enjoyed seasons poems from around the world, we have especially enjoyed writing our own versions using their senses and performing them to our classes and for some of us, the whole school. Amazing performance poetry!



Lisa, from Cirencester Library has continued to visit us and we have enjoyed many stories with her. If you would like to hear more stories from Lisa over the holidays, you can find her in Cirencester Library on a Wednesday for story time at 10am or 11am.

It was lovely to welcome many of you to the classrooms last Friday for our Reading Café, the children really enjoyed sharing their stories with you!



We have also enjoyed our annual celebrations for World Book day, dressing up as our favourite character and completing lots of lovely activities in our classes. We even enjoyed some special online treats like listening to Corrine Bailey Rae's story and hearing some of her music. Mr Mobey led a great assembly for the school at the end of the day where we got to listen to his favourite story from Dr Seus.

In Year 1 Maths, we have continued to embed our number knowledge and have looked carefully at addition and subtraction using a variety of ways to secure our understanding.

In Year 2, we have been learning about multiplication and division, exploring how numbers can be grouped and shared in different ways. They have been using practical resources, drawings, and recording their calculations to help them understand how multiplication and division are connected.



For information on all KS1 learning objectives/targets, please visit our website page:

Year 1 <https://fairford.gloucs.sch.uk/year-1-targets/> Year 2 <https://fairford.gloucs.sch.uk/year-2-targets/>



At the end of last term we had a wonderful day where we went back to 1666 and fully immersed ourselves in the events of the Great fire of London! We explored how to build dens if our homes had been destroyed in the fire, we had a go at making delicious bread and, inspired by Samuel Pepys who buried his cheese, we created our own KS1 time capsule that we will bury in the school grounds this summer.

This term we enjoyed aspirations week and learnt about many of the wonderful careers that we may have when we are older. We thank all of you who were able to share your time with us to talk about your inspirational career. In our classes we explored workshops that focused on careers working with animals, being creative, palaeontology and even jobs in the theatre!



In Art, we have been finding out about the abstract art of Kadinsky and Paul Klee whilst we reflected on lines and shapes. The children have enjoyed exploring this theme and making many of their own versions of abstract art.

Alongside this we have continued with our love for planting and growing. The children have worked hard to name some common species of flowers and trees and understand the best conditions for healthy seed and bulb growth. Each class has some lovely daffodils blooming and we are just starting work on our section of the Star garden. If you have any planters or seeds that you are happy to donate, we have many excited and budding gardeners who will happily put them to good use and get sowing our sweet peas and other plants!





It may have been the shortest half term, but we have really packed in lots of fun activities. Thank you all for your continued support. We wish you all a wonderful Easter break and look forward to welcoming you all back in Term 5.

Happy Easter! **The KS1 Team** 😊

## Year 3 & 4 Olive, Birch and Willow

What a wonderful Term 4 we have had in Year 3 and 4! The children have been fully immersed in their learning, showing enthusiasm, creativity and curiosity across all subjects.

### English

In Willow and Birch classes, our learning was inspired by The Beatles. The children explored different music genres and expressed their creativity through Beatles-themed art. They developed their writing skills by learning a range of sentence types, which supported them in producing detailed and engaging non-chronological reports. In Olive class, we thoroughly enjoyed reading *How to Train Your Dragon* by Cressida Cowell. The children loved the humour in the story and engaged brilliantly with the text. They learned how to draw Toothless and used their writing skills to create imaginative instructions and poetry based on dragons.



### History and Geography

In History, Willow and Birch classes explored the Anglo-Saxons. The children took on the role of archaeologists, examining artefacts and using these clues to learn more about Anglo-Saxon life. They asked thoughtful questions and developed a deeper understanding of this period in history. Olive class focused on Geography, learning about Bear Island in Norway. They explored Norwegian culture and studied the island's human and physical features. The children also developed their map skills, learning how to read maps, create their own, and follow directions accurately.



## DT

In Science, Willow and Birch classes investigated pneumatics and hydraulics. The children explored how these systems work and enjoyed hands-on learning experiences that helped bring these concepts to life.

## Science

Olive class studied rocks and soil, learning about the formation of rocks and identifying the three main types: igneous, sedimentary and metamorphic. They particularly enjoyed observing rocks up close and identifying their different features. Willow and Birch classes have been learning about the digestive system through fun and engaging activities. They explored teeth by carrying out an experiment using eggs to understand how sugar affects enamel, and learned about the different parts of the body involved in digestion, even creating their own "poo" model. The children also took their learning outdoors by building giant food webs, helping them understand producers, primary consumers, and secondary consumers.



## Religious Education (RE)

Across Year 3 and 4, we explored how Christians live and express their beliefs. The children learned different ways of gathering information, including surveys, census data and interviews. They developed an understanding that while people may identify as Christian, they can express their beliefs in many unique ways. Children explored The Creation Story and developed an appreciation for the world around us by going into nature and capturing its beauty through art.



## Aspirations Week

A highlight of the term was Aspirations Week! The children took part in a variety of exciting activities designed to inspire them about future careers. They explored roles such as party planners, fashion designers and those working in technology. We were also fortunate to welcome several special visitors. A coastguard taught the children about their role and even gave them the opportunity to practise CPR and try on real equipment. We also learned about



the role of a midwife through engaging role play, and a

firefighter visited to talk about their important work. These experiences were both educational and incredibly exciting for the children.

Overall, it has been a fantastic term filled with rich learning experiences. We are incredibly proud of the children's hard work and enthusiasm, and we look forward to another exciting term ahead!

### **Year 3 & 4 Olive, Birch and Willow**

### **Year 5 - Mulberry and Maple Classes**

It seems impossible to believe how much learning has taken place over such a short term!

We have completed our maths work on fractions, and are now looking at the relationships between fractions, decimals and percentages. Next term, we will also begin to explore geometry and drawing angles using a protractor. If your child has their own equipment in school, this would be an ideal opportunity to add a protractor to their pencil case – if they don't already have one! We will also continue to revise our previous learning to continue practising our skills across the maths curriculum.



In English, we have used the picture book "Window" by Jeanne Baker to reflect on changes over time to our environment and the impact these can have on people living with these developments. We have used a variety of creative methods for planning our writing, and compared diary and recount writing. Following our visit to London, we combined our first-hand experience of the Houses of Parliament and Westminster Abbey along with the use of model texts to write a recount of the day.





We have an exciting English curriculum planned for next term, as we are collaborating with other classes in school on our whole school text – which will be revealed during our first week back after the break!



Once we had completed our work on Earth and Space in science, the focus changed to Forces. We explored the impact of gravity, air resistance and friction on the speed of moving objects. Next, we considered the use of levers, pulleys and cogs in making the movement of heavy loads easier. Our topic for next term is Living Things and their Habitats, during which we are looking forward to using our wonderful school grounds for many practical investigations and developing our environmental scientific skills.



The children have enjoyed the independence in creating their own cam toys in DT. Having explored a variety of toys and considered how their characters would move, they used tools and different skills to create a toy with moving parts. It was truly wonderful to witness the children's perseverance as they overcame design frustrations and modified their constructions to achieve their intended goals.



We have been impressed by the children's enthusiasm and dedication in all areas of learning this term, and look forward to seeing them continue to develop this mature attitude over our remaining two terms together. We do hope that you enjoy a restful and peaceful Easter break.

## **The Year 5 team**

### **Year 6 - Hawthorn and Hazel classes**

As we reach the end of a short yet incredibly busy term, Year 6 have continued to approach their learning with enthusiasm and positivity. Despite the limited time, the weeks have been filled with rich learning experiences, laughter, and memorable moments across the curriculum, reflecting both their commitment and growing maturity.

#### **Mathematics**

As you read this, the children have now completed the Year 6 maths curriculum—an excellent achievement in what has been a short but productive term. Their most recent topics have included geometry, statistics and measurement. Within these areas, pupils have explored properties of 2D and 3D shapes, calculated missing angles, interpreted and constructed pie charts and line graphs, and developed their understanding of area, perimeter, volume and unit conversion.

Moving forward, maths lessons will continue daily, with a strong focus on securing and extending previously taught concepts. We will begin by revisiting fractions, decimals and percentages, alongside the four core operations, as these are fundamental building blocks for mathematical success. This approach will help to strengthen confidence, improve fluency, and ensure all pupils feel well-prepared for the next stage of their learning.

#### **English**

This term, the children have engaged very positively with the novel *Wonder*, which explores themes of kindness, acceptance and understanding differences through the story of a boy with facial differences starting school. Through this text, pupils have developed their reading skills, with a particular focus on inferring characters' emotions and using evidence from the text to justify their thoughts and opinions.

Alongside this, the children have produced thoughtful pieces of writing, including letters written from different characters' perspectives, challenging the unfair treatment of August. This has supported their ability to write with empathy, purpose and audience in mind.

Next term, the whole school will take part in an exciting mystery-based writing, reading and Oracy project, so there is no need to purchase a specific book. Alongside this, Year 6 will continue to consolidate key GPS (grammar, punctuation and spelling) knowledge and reading skills, ensuring pupils feel confident and well-prepared for the next stage of their learning.

### Science

This term, the children have been learning about living things, their habitats, and the fascinating concepts of evolution and inheritance. They have explored how living things are classified based on their characteristics, how animals and plants adapt to their environments, and how traits are passed from one generation to the next. The children have also begun to understand how adaptation can lead to evolution over time.

This topic will continue into next term, where pupils will further develop their understanding of classification systems, including the work of scientists such as Carl Linnaeus, and learn how and why living things have changed over time. They will also explore how fossils provide evidence for evolution and how environmental factors can influence adaptation and survival.

### Design and Technology

This term, the children have taken on the role of engineers, exploring different ways to strengthen and create complex structures. They have investigated a range of techniques and materials, considering how design choices impact stability and durability.



As part of this project, pupils were challenged to design and build bridges that met specific criteria, including length, width and load capacity. Working collaboratively, they planned, constructed and tested their designs, evaluating how well their structures performed under pressure. The children greatly enjoyed this hands-on experience, demonstrating creativity, teamwork and problem-solving skills—although, as with real engineering, some designs proved more successful than others!

### Other Activities

During the term, the children took part in Aspirations Week—a fantastic opportunity to explore a wide range of careers and future pathways. Throughout the week, they learned about roles within the emergency services, the diverse opportunities available in the air force, as well as careers in engineering, construction, fashion, design and exploration. It was particularly pleasing to hear the children speak so positively about these experiences, with many expressing an interest in exploring these fields further. As part of the week, we also considered the growing role of artificial intelligence and how it may shape future careers, encouraging the children to think critically and make thoughtful, realistic predictions about the world of work ahead.

This term, Year 6 enjoyed celebrating World Book Day, a wonderful opportunity to hear and share a wide variety of stories. It was inspiring to see how listening to different tales encouraged even those who sometimes find reading challenging to engage with books for pleasure. The children loved the creative dress-up aspect of the day, with noticeably fewer Wallies than usual and a slow rise in the number of Gangsta Grannies, adding plenty of fun and laughter to the celebration.

It was also particularly special for the children to have the opportunity to experience Easter at Saint Mary's church. Although this visit was sadly delayed in the past, it provided a valuable chance for pupils to engage more deeply with this cornerstone of the Christian faith. The children listened attentively, reflected thoughtfully, and showed great respect throughout. It was especially impressive to hear the insightful questions they asked, demonstrating genuine curiosity and a developing understanding of the meaning of Easter. Experiences such as this help to enrich their learning beyond the classroom and strengthen their connection to the wider community and its values.



As we finish this term, we would like to thank all our families for their continued support. Your encouragement at home has made a real difference to the children's learning and confidence. We wish everyone a peaceful and joyful holiday, filled with rest, celebration, and time together. We look forward to welcoming the children back in the New Year, ready for another exciting and successful term in Year 6.

## Little Explorers

To start Term 4 we looked at the changing season and discovered what spring means and what happens in spring. We discovered how blossom grows on trees, the different weather we could expect, the flowers that will start to bloom and the baby animals that will be born.





We then turned our attention to People Who Help Us and we learnt all about Fire Fighters, Police, Doctors and Nurses as well as Vets, Dentists and The Mountain Rescue Service. We spent time looking at what each profession does, how they help us and how we can contact them. The children had a fabulous time learning about and creating art around the different occupations.



**Have a wonderful Easter the Little Explorers Team.**

**Diary Dates 2025 2026**

Please note these dates may be subject to change. Please check the weekly dates and reminders and Portal Messages for updates.

	<b>2025_2026</b>	<b>Month Activity</b>
<b>Term 5 13.04.26 – 22.05.26</b>	<b>April</b>	
	13/04/2026	Return to School
	15/04/2026	Willow Cooking
	17/04/2026	RIAT STEM workshop with year 5
	22/04/2026	Birch Cooking Outdoor Learning Year 5 to Lea Woods 8:30am
	28/04/2026	Outdoor Learning Year 4 to Lea Woods 8:30am
	29/04/2026	Maple Cooking
	30/04/2026	Outdoor Learning Year 3/4 Lea Woods
	<b>May</b>	
	04/05/2026	Bank Holiday
	06/05/2026	Maple & Mulberry Cooking
	08/05/2026	Bag2School collection
	w/c 11/05/2026	Year 6 SAT's
	13/05/2026	Mulberry Cooking
	15/05/2026	Non School Uniform Day –donation of toy/game for Fete
	16/05/2026	Summer Fete 12:00pm
	w/c 18/05/2026	Maths Week Year 6 Activity Week
	19/05/2026	Reception to Coggs Farm
	20/06/2026	Hawthorn and Hazel cooking
	<b>June</b>	
	w/c 01/06/2026	Year 4 MTC - Multiplication tables check
	02/06/2026	Transition meeting for pupils going to Farmor's in September
	03/06/2026	Cherry Cooking
	05/06/2026	Sports Day
	08/06/2026	Phonics Screening week
	10/06/2026	Cherry and Lime Cooking Yr 6 Cathedral Service
	12/06/2026	Reserve Sports Day
	17/06/2026	Year 6 out of school
	19/06/2026	Class Photos
	23/06/2026	Yr 1/2 to Westonbirt
	24/06/2026	Sycamore Cooking Fresh Air Sculpture visit yr 3 4
	25/06/2026	Fresh Air Sculpture Year 4
	27/06/2026	Armed Forces Day
	14/06- 05/07/2026	Quenington Fresh Air Sculpture Festival
	30/06, & 1/07	Year 7 Induction day at Farmor's
	<b>July</b>	
	01/07/2026	Sycamore Cooking Parents Information evening RECEPTION 2026

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	03/07/2026	Scholastic Book Fair
	w/c 06/07/2026	Take on picture week
	06/07/2026	Yr 6 Dress Rehearsal
	08/07/2026	Olive Class Cooking Year 6 Show
	09/07/2026	Year 6 Show
	10/07/2026	Year 3 & 4 to Harry Potter
	13/07/2026	End of year Reports to Parents Open Classrooms
	14/06/2026	Change over morning
	15/06/2026	Hawthorn and Hazel Cooking
	17/07/2026	Year 6 Pizza Lunch <b>End of term main School finish 2:00pm</b>

**SCHOOL TERMS AND HOLIDAYS  
2025/26**



SEPTEMBER					OCTOBER					NOVEMBER							
Mon	1	8	15	22	29	Mon	6	13	20	27	Mon	3	10	17	24		
Tues	2	9	16	23	30	Tues	7	14	21	28	Tues	4	11	18	25		
Wed	3	10	17	24		Wed	1	8	15	22	29	Wed	5	12	19	26	
Thur	4	11	18	25		Thur	2	9	16	23	30	Thur	6	13	20	27	
Fri	5	12	19	26		Fri	3	10	17	24	31	Fri	7	14	21	28	
Sat	6	13	20	27		Sat	4	11	18	25		Sat	1	8	15	22	29
Sun	7	14	21	28		Sun	5	12	19	26		Sun	2	9	16	23	30
DECEMBER					JANUARY					FEBRUARY							
Mon	1	8	15	22	29	Mon	5	12	19	26	Mon	2	9	16	23		
Tues	2	9	16	23	30	Tues	6	13	20	27	Tues	3	10	17	24		
Wed	3	10	17	24	31	Wed	7	14	21	28	Wed	4	11	18	25		
Thur	4	11	18	25	26	Thur	1	8	15	22	29	Thur	5	12	19	26	
Fri	5	12	19	26	27	Fri	2	9	16	23	30	Fri	6	13	20	27	
Sat	6	13	20	27	28	Sat	3	10	17	24	31	Sat	7	14	21	28	
Sun	7	14	21	28		Sun	4	11	18	25		Sun	1	8	15	22	
MARCH					APRIL					MAY							
Mon	2	9	16	23	30	Mon	6	13	20	27	Mon	4	11	18	25		
Tues	3	10	17	24	31	Tues	7	14	21	28	Tues	5	12	19	26		
Wed	4	11	18	25		Wed	1	8	15	22	29	Wed	6	13	20	27	
Thur	5	12	19	26		Thur	2	9	16	23	30	Thur	7	14	21	28	
Fri	6	13	20	27		Fri	3	10	17	24		Fri	1	8	15	22	29
Sat	7	14	21	28		Sat	4	11	18	25		Sat	2	9	16	23	30
Sun	1	8	15	22	29	Sun	5	12	19	26		Sun	3	10	17	24	31
JUNE					JULY					AUGUST							
Mon	1	8	15	22	29	Mon	6	13	20	27	Mon	3	10	17	24	31	
Tues	2	9	16	23	30	Tues	7	14	21	28	Tues	4	11	18	25		
Wed	3	10	17	24		Wed	1	8	15	22	29	Wed	5	12	19	26	
Thur	4	11	18	25		Thur	2	9	16	23	30	Thur	6	13	20	27	
Fri	5	12	19	26		Fri	3	10	17	24	31	Fri	7	14	21	28	
Sat	6	13	20	27		Sat	4	11	18	25		Sat	1	8	15	22	29
Sun	7	14	21	28		Sun	5	12	19	26		Sun	2	9	16	23	30

Term Time	Holidays
Bank Holiday	INSET

Christmas Bank Holidays	25 <sup>th</sup> December 2025
	26 <sup>th</sup> December 2025
New Year Bank Holiday	1 <sup>st</sup> January 2026
Good Friday	3 <sup>rd</sup> April 2026
Easter Monday	6 <sup>th</sup> April 2026
Early May Bank Holiday	4 <sup>th</sup> May 2026
Spring Bank Holiday	25 <sup>th</sup> May 2026
Summer Bank Holiday	31 <sup>st</sup> August 2026

Term 1: Mon 1 <sup>st</sup> Sept – Fri 24 <sup>th</sup> Oct 2025	40 days
Term 2: Mon 3 <sup>rd</sup> Nov – Fri 19 <sup>th</sup> Dec 2025	35 days
Term 3: Mon 5 <sup>th</sup> Jan - Fri 13 <sup>th</sup> Feb 2026	30 days
Term 4: Mon 23 <sup>th</sup> Feb – Fri 27 <sup>th</sup> Mar 2026	25 days
Term 5: Mon 13 <sup>th</sup> April – Fri 22 <sup>nd</sup> May 2026	29 days
Term 6: Mon 1 <sup>st</sup> June – Mon 20 <sup>th</sup> July 2026	36 days
<b>Total</b>	<b>195 days*</b>

\*195 days are defined as "School days". In the school year 2025/26 pupils must attend for 190 days. Schools may decide individually or collectively which 5 days in the year are INSET or non-contact days (days pupils do not need to attend). Academies and free schools are not legally bound by school day and school year regulations; however, the DiE has stated they should be working towards a minimum of 32.5 hours per school week by September 2024 at the latest.

**Please Note:** As per the Governance handbook, academies and free schools can choose to set their own term dates. Schools

SCHOOL TERMS AND HOLIDAYS  
2026/27



SEPTEMBER					OCTOBER					NOVEMBER								
Mon		7	14	21	28	Mon		5	12	19	26	Mon		2	9	16	23	30
Tues	1	8	15	22	29	Tues		6	13	20	27	Tues		3	10	17	24	
Wed	2	9	16	23	30	Wed		7	14	21	28	Wed		4	11	18	25	
Thur	3	10	17	24	Thur	1	8	15	22	29	Thur		5	12	19	26		
Fri	4	11	18	25	Fri	2	9	16	23	30	Fri		6	13	20	27		
Sat		5	12	19	26	Sat		3	10	17	24	31	Sat		7	14	21	28
Sun		6	13	20	27	Sun		4	11	18	25	Sun	1	8	15	22	29	
DECEMBER					JANUARY					FEBRUARY								
Mon		7	14	21	28	Mon		4	11	18	25	Mon		1	8	15	22	
Tues	1	8	15	22	29	Tues		5	12	19	26	Tues		2	9	16	23	
Wed	2	9	16	23	30	Wed		6	13	20	27	Wed		3	10	17	24	
Thur	3	10	17	24	31	Thur		7	14	21	28	Thur		4	11	18	25	
Fri	4	11	18	25	Fri	1	8	15	22	29	Fri		5	12	19	26		
Sat		5	12	19	26	Sat		2	9	16	23	30	Sat		6	13	20	27
Sun		6	13	20	27	Sun		3	10	17	24	31	Sun		7	14	21	28
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Sat		5	12	19	26	Sat		3	10	17	24	31	Sat		7	14	21	28
Sun		6	13	20	27	Sun		4	11	18	25	Sun		1	8	15	22	29

Term Time	Holidays	Bank Holiday	INSET
Term 1: Tue 1 <sup>st</sup> Sept – Fri 23 <sup>rd</sup> Oct 2026			39 days
Term 2: Mon 2 <sup>nd</sup> Nov – Fri 18 <sup>th</sup> Dec 2026			35 days
Term 3: Mon 4 <sup>th</sup> Jan - Fri 12 <sup>th</sup> Feb 2027			30 days
Term 4: Mon 22 <sup>nd</sup> Feb – Thur 25 <sup>th</sup> Mar 2027			24 days
Term 5: Mon 12 <sup>th</sup> April – Fri 28 <sup>th</sup> May 2027			34 days
Term 6: Mon 7 <sup>th</sup> June – Wed 21 <sup>st</sup> July 2027			33 days
<b>Total</b>			<b>195 days*</b>

  

Christmas Bank Holidays	25 <sup>th</sup> December 2026
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Early May Bank Holiday	3 <sup>rd</sup> May 2027
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Summer Bank Holiday	30 <sup>th</sup> August 2027

**INSET Days** 1st, 2nd September, 22nd, 23rd October 2026, 21st July 2027