



The Herald

2nd October 2026

As you all know, community is one of our school values. The links we have with our local community are incredibly important to the school. Mr Whistler and I have been at the back gate this week and we were surprised at the number of cars blocking the residents' garages and parking on the bends of the road. Please could all parents be mindful of where they are parking and not park on the white lines in front of the garages.

It has been a busy week for the children in school. We have elected our School Council, Eco Team and EARA group. The children in these groups will be part of decision making in the school as part of our pupil voice. They also may represent our school at EARA meetings with other schools and the Cranbourne Cluster Conference. I know that Mrs Newman is very keen for the School Council to come up with ideas about how to improve lunchtime play.

The School Council met for the first time yesterday. They had a visitor called Ali, who works for the Camrose Centre. The School Council found out about how the Camrose Centre supports homeless people and they have decided that they would like to raise money for the Centre during this year's Christmas performances.

Next week, Year 2 will be taking part in a Guinness World Record attempt – look at the National Year of Reading section on the newsletter for more details!

Have a lovely weekend!

Mrs Fitz

Stars of the Week



Eddie
Sophie M
Roman
Jax B
Oskar
Raff



National Year of Reading



Part of the
National Year of Reading 2026

GO
ALL
IN.

Guinness World Record Attempt!

We have been offered the exciting opportunity to take part in the 'Take 10 to Read' Guinness World Record Attempt next Thursday 8th October. Year 2 will take part in an online workshop which will include, a reading of *Super Uma* by Rashmi Sirdeshpande, followed by a draw-along activity with illustrator Nakul P. This workshop will include a ten minute reading session that will count towards the World Record Attempt.

Take 10 to Read highlights the wellbeing benefits of reading and encourages people of all ages to take just 10 minutes to read on and around World Mental Health Day. In the National Year of Reading, the message is simple: whatever you're into, take 10 to read into it.

Library Opening – Every Friday!

It was lovely to see many families last Friday at the library, sharing books and changing their books for the weekend. Don't forget you can bring your child along to share a book with you or borrow one to take home to share. Entry to the library is through the office once you have picked up your child at 3.15pm and will be open until 4pm. I hope to see you there.

Class Book Worms of the week Challenge

Well done to everyone who has read at home at least 3 times. Please help your child by reading at least 3 times at home with them and recording this in their home reading diaries.

We look forward to Early Years joining the challenge next week.

This week's Book Worms of the Week are:

Birch Class



Class percentages for the week:

Rowan Class	12%
Birch Class	32%
Sycamore Class	14%
Maple Class	30%

Percentages have improved this week but next week I would love to see above 50% in each class.

Mrs Cameron



Early Years

This week, the children have started to learn the phonic sounds **s, a, t, p**. We have been so impressed by their enthusiasm and excitement about learning new sounds. **In your child's bookbag, please find a zippy wallet filled with the sounds we have learnt so far. These will be updated with new sounds each week. Please keep these in the bookbag as we may use them in school as well.** The sounds are there for your child to practise with you at home. If you are unsure about how to pronounce them, please look at the Early Years page on our website for some handy videos. You can play games with the letters and perhaps choose one and go on a sound hunt around the house to look for items starting with that sound. We would love to see some photographs on Tapestry.

The children have also been exploring the word **unique**, and our similarities and differences. We have enjoyed using the mirrors to look at ourselves before painting a self-portrait. We have also used an iPad to take a selfie and talked about our hair and eye colour.

In maths, we have been looking at pairs, matching and differences. We used the story, 'Simon Sock' as a starting point. The children enjoyed playing 'Sock Snap' and finding a friend who was holding the matching sock to their one to make a pair. The children are very good at pairing matching socks, so make sure to use them to help at home!

Next week we will be exploring our families, using our time to talk books, and we will continue to use the word **unique** to discuss how all families are different. We will be learning the sounds **i, m, n, d**, in

phonics. In maths, we will be looking at measuring while we compare lengths and investigate weight using heavy and light objects.

During the week beginning 12th October we will be talking about the role of different people in our families. If any grandparents have a spare fifteen minutes and would like to come into class to talk about being a grandparent, please speak to the class teacher to organise this.

Thank you for your continued support. Have a lovely weekend, and we look forward to seeing you next week!

The Early Years Team

Year 1

This week in project we have been experimenting with different rubbish items. The children have focused on plastic, paper, cardboard, glass and metal and have predicted whether each material would be waterproof, absorbent and stretchy. The children were fantastic scientists and loved putting each material to the test! Next week we will be moving onto art, we will be using paint and playdough to explore what prints we can make. We will also be beginning to make our sea creature sculptures using clay.

In maths we have made a start writing number sentences such as $2+3=5$. The children have worked really hard using the new + (add) symbol and next week we will also be moving onto – (subtract). Any practise of this at home would be really helpful to secure their understanding.

In order to help with our sculptures over the next few weeks, please could we have any clean plastic milk bottles, plastic bottle tops and lids, egg boxes, fruit nets, yoghurt pots, plastic bags and cereal boxes. If you have any at home that you can recycle, please hand them to your child's class teacher next week. Thank you for your continued support.

Have a great weekend!

The Year 1 Team

Year 2

This week, the children have enjoyed writing their fact files on pandas. The children have also plotted the next part of the journey that the animals have taken in our class story, 'The Journey Home', using geographical language. Next week they will continue their learning journey as we travel to Indonesia and find out all about orangutans.

In maths this week, the children have been recapping bonds to 10 and using this knowledge to find bonds to 20. They have also worked on fact families for example:

$$13 + 4 = 17$$

$$4 + 13 = 17$$

$$17 - 4 = 13$$

$$17 - 13 = 4$$

Next week, they will be adding and subtracting 10s and 1s and using their number bonds to solve problems.

Just a reminder that P.E days are **Mondays** and **Tuesdays**. We try to go outside as much as possible so please make sure children have warmer clothes. Please can you check you have named all children's clothes so we can make sure items go back home with the right children.

This week in your child's Time to Talk book you will find the slip which will advise you on which animal your child can research and create their habitat in a box for. This is part of their home learning.

Have a wonderful weekend,

The Year 2 Team

Thought of the Week

Next week in school we will focus on our school value of truth. We are particularly thinking about:

I do what I say

This is part of 'We are honest'

Tickle the Truth Dragon



We are honest

Castle Hill Friends

Thank you to everyone who has purchased Cauliflower Card products! The forms will now be sent back to the company to process and create your products. We hope you loved your children's artwork 🌲

The Halloween Disco will take place on 23rd October 🎃

The times on last week's newsletter were incorrect, they will be as followed:

EY- 3:20pm-4:05pm

Y1- 4:15pm-5pm

Y2- 5:10pm-5:55pm

Tickets can be purchased on our website for £3 each 🧛

INSET Days

2026/2027

Monday 4th January 2027

Thursday 25th March 2027

Friday 9th July 2027

Diary Dates

Wednesday 14th October – Individual school photos

Thursday 15th October – Harvest Festival in school – children only

Monday 19th October – Tuesday 20th October – Parents evening – bookings open on Arbor