



The Herald

27th February 2026

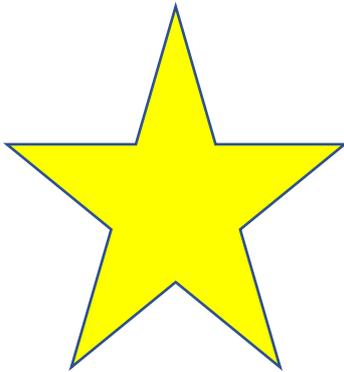
Welcome back to Spring 2. The weather at the beginning of the week was lovely and the children made the most of it outside!

Next week is Book Week. Monday is always my favourite day, with wearing PJs to work. Staff will be dressing up on Thursday for World Book Day, I wonder if you can work out who we are? The staff in each class have chosen a book for their costumes.

It has been a busy week with clubs starting for Years 1 and 2 and Mrs Cameron is also opening the library after school on a Friday. There is more information in the National Year of Reading section below.

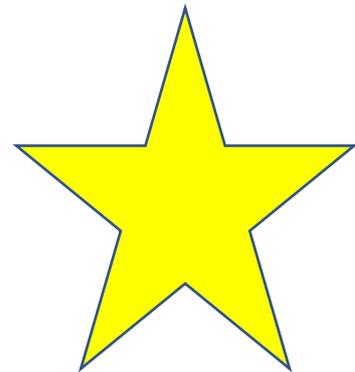
Years 1 and 2 have also started Cricket this week, with external coaches coming in to work with the children during PE sessions.

Have a lovely weekend
Mrs Fitz



Stars of the Week

Laniyah
Ameera
Aaron
Evie B
Saxon
Layla-May



Mrs Fitz's Star of the Week

Airlie

National Year of Reading



Part of the
National Year of Reading 2026

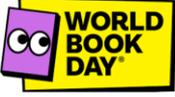
**GO
ALL
IN.**

LIBRARY NEWS!

Don't forget that **from today** I will be opening **the school library every Friday from 3.15pm to 4pm** for you to come and visit with your child. It would be lovely to see you and is a great opportunity to encourage a love of reading for pleasure. **Entry to the library can be made through the school office once you have picked up your child.**

Welcome back to Spring 2! Next week we will be celebrating World Book Day with a variety of activities across the week, starting with Bedtime Stories Day on Monday where all children can come dressed ready for bed. Please ensure sensible choices for the weather and sensible footwear as the children will be outside as normal for break and lunchtime.

A reminder of the timetable of the week. Please check your child's class shared reading session, it would lovely to see you there.

<p>Monday 2nd March</p> 	<p>Bedtime Stories Day All children and staff can come into school dressed 'ready for bed' (pyjamas and dressing gowns and sensible outdoor footwear). At 2:30 each class will listen to a bedtime story with a glass of milk and a biscuit.</p>
<p>Tuesday 3rd March</p>	<p>Sharing our reading! Year 2 parents/carers are invited to listen to, and hear their children read: Sycamore: 9:00-9:20 Maple: 2:50-3:10</p>
<p>Wednesday 4th March</p>	<p>Sharing our reading! Year 1 parents/carers are invited to listen to, and hear their children read: Birch: 9:00-9:20 Rowan: 2:50-3:10</p>
<p>Thursday 5th March</p> 	<p>World Book Day! Dress up as your favourite children's book character. We will have a special assembly to share our amazing characters /costumes. We will announce a winner from each class! A carousel of book themed activities will take place throughout the morning for the children to take part in</p>
<p>Friday 6th March</p>	<p>Sharing our reading! Early Years' parents/carers are invited in to listen to, and hear their children read: Ash: 9:00-9:20 Fir: 2:50-3:10</p> <p>Remember the library will be open from 3.15pm to 4pm every Friday!</p>

Reading Shed update – Our reading sheds on the playgrounds will open next week for the children to enjoy at lunchtimes.

As a school we have earned the following badges so far through the National Year of Reading Go All In initiative, showing that we have made a great start to our commitment to reading.



Mrs Cameron

Up-coming events:

- Story time book voting in class
- Friday Library Opening– 3.15pm – 4pm every Friday (visit with your child)
- Week beginning 2nd March – Book Week Activities
- 5th March - World Book Day – Dress up as your favourite character from a book
- Class Book Worms of the week Challenge – more information to follow

Early Years

What an exciting week we have had this week, starting with the delivery of eggs for the launch of our new project 'Old MacDonald Had a Farm'! The children have been so excited and we have been lucky enough to see some of them actually hatch.

Next week we will be looking at the life cycle of a chick, continuing to write our chick diaries and learning the story of The Little Red Hen. In maths we will be looking at different ways of making 10 (number bonds). In phonics we continue to review the sounds we have learnt and working on blending. The

children all have extra reading books available to them using their Oxford Owl log in found at the back of their Home Learning diaries.

Don't forget that you can access Tapestry to upload and share WOW moments with us. You can also see your child's online learning journey. If you are having any problems accessing this please come and speak to us and we can help you.

We hope that you have a lovely weekend and look forward to a fun packed week next week. Please refer to the Book Week information that was sent home before half term to find out what exciting things we have going on in school.

We will now be reading with your child twice a week. Please ensure that your child's reading book is in their book bag so that we can read it with them.

Many thanks for your continued support,

The Early Years Team

Year 1

We've had a fantastic week back at school! The children were introduced to our new project 'Wonderful Winklebury' in which we will be focusing on the Geography and History of the local area. The children practiced writing an address, sentences about where they live and where they have visited around Basingstoke. We have also been looking at maps of the area and finding familiar places.

In maths this week we have moved onto subtraction to 20. The children have been practicing with number bonds such as $5-2=3$ so $15-2=13$ and have used double sided counters to support them. We have also begun to use subtraction to work out the difference between two numbers.

This half term the children will be taking part in cricket PE lessons every Wednesday afternoon. It was great to see them all joining in so well this week and we are looking forward to continuing it! Please check the Book Week activities information in the National Year of Reading box to find out our shared reading time next week. We hope to see you there.

The Year 1 Team

Year 2

We hope you all had a wonderful and restful half term break and are looking forward to the weeks ahead. It has been lovely to welcome everyone back and see the children settling quickly into their routines with enthusiasm and positivity.

This half term, we are excited to begin our new project, *Creature Comforts*. We have been researching and writing about reptiles and birds, and next week we will be exploring amphibians, mammals and fish. A project overview has been sent home, along with the home learning information, so please do take a look.

In maths, we are finishing our unit on multiplication and division, including recognising that some numbers in the 10 times table also appear in the 5 times table. Next week, we will begin a new unit focusing on length and height, measuring in centimetres (cm) and metres (m).

Cricket has also started (**Wednesdays**), and it has been wonderful to see all of the children involved, engaged and showing great enthusiasm. We're looking forward to a busy and exciting half term ahead!

Please check the Book Week activities information in the National Year of Reading box to find out our shared reading time next week. We hope to see you there.

The Year 2 Team

Forest School

Happy news!

Forest school is back and will start next week. We have decided to make Forest school sessions longer to give the children more opportunities to take part in activities and extend their play.

Sessions will run every other week for the classes.

The sessions will be as follows:

Tuesday 3rd and 17th March: **Birch**

Wednesday 4th and 18th March: **Maple**

Tuesday 10th and 24th March: **Rowan**

Wednesday 11th and 25th March: **Sycamore**

Thank you

Mrs Fulbrook



Castle Hill Friends

Mud Kitchen Magic

We're excited to share our latest purchase using funds raised through our PTA pot. We've invested in a brand-new mud kitchen to replace the damaged one, and we know the children are going to absolutely love it. Thank you for helping us make these little improvements that make a big difference to their play.

World book day book sale

We can't wait to see the children in all their favourite book character outfits on Thursday. We have also decided to hold a book sale after school on that day (5th of March) Books will be 50p each or three for £1 

Easter Fun Coming Soon

We're busy planning some lovely Easter activities for the children. We'll be sharing all the details very soon, so keep an eye out for updates.

Have a wonderful weekend and thank you for supporting CHF 

INSET Days

Parent Evening Booking

The self-scheduling period is now closed. If you have successfully booked an appointment, you are able to view the details on your child's Arbor profile.

If you have not yet booked your consultation, please contact the school office as soon as possible and they will be happy to assist you in arranging an appointment.

2025/2026

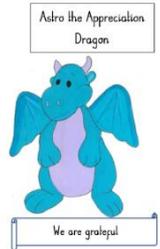
Friday 22nd May 2026

Friday 10th July 2026

Thought of the Week

Next week in school we will focus on our school value of Appreciation. With this value we are looking to develop our appreciation of others. We are particularly thinking about:

I appreciate things people do for me



Diary Dates

Monday 2nd – Friday 5th Book Week

Monday 2nd March - Dress ready for bed (Pyjamas, dressing gowns)

Tuesday 3rd March - Sharing our reading Year 2

- **Sycamore** 09:00
- **Maple** 14:50

Wednesday 4th March - Sharing our reading Year 1

- **Birch** 09:00
- **Rowan** 14:50

Thursday 5th March - World book day! Whole school – children to come to school dressed as their favourite book character

Friday 6th March - Sharing our reading Early Years

- **Ash** 09:00
- **Fir** 14:50

Monday 9th – Tuesday 10th March – Parents Evening

Wednesday 11th March – iRock Concert 09:00 – 09:30