



# The Herald

24<sup>th</sup> April 2026

What a lovely week it has been – it is lovely that we can all get out.

We are constantly trying to make our grounds look lovely. We are particularly looking for sleepers, top soil, planters and bark. If you know anyone that can help, please could you ask them to pop into the office.

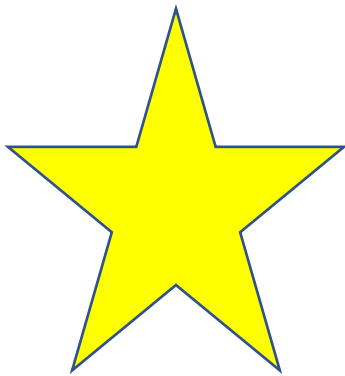
A couple of people have asked me about the new OFSTED framework and how it has changed. This is a short video which tells parents all about the Inspection process.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=kbl0FvY976g> . It is only about 3 minutes long.

Thank you to the parents who have started to come into school to hear readers. We always have room for more!!

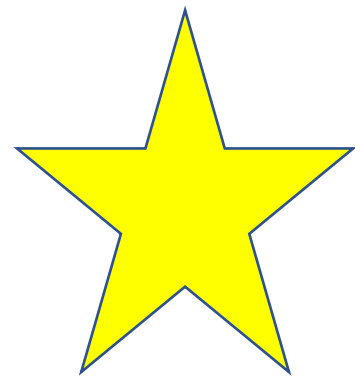
Have a lovely weekend – fingers crossed the sun stays shining.

Mrs Fitz



## Stars of the Week

Grace  
Tanvi  
Skyla  
Esme  
Franco  
Leon



## Mrs Fitz's Star of the Week

Sonny

## National Year of Reading



Part of the  
National Year of Reading 2026

GO  
ALL  
IN.

Thank you to those of you that have been into read or registered an interest. If you have some time on a Monday and/or Friday morning between 8:45am to 9:00am speak to the office or your child's teacher to arrange to come in. We would love to see you.

## Class Book Worms of the week Challenge

Well done to everyone who has read at home at least 3 times this week.

**This week's Book Worms of the Week are:**



## Maple Class

Class percentages for the week:

Fir Class	28.6%
Ash Class	18%
Rowan Class	25%
Birch Class	24%
Sycamore Class	28.6%
Maple Class	34%

Remember each week the class with the highest percentage of children who have read 3 or more times at home will become 'Class Book Worms' of the week. Every Thursday diaries will be collected in and anyone with 3 or more reads will count towards the class total. The challenge is on to see if we can increase our class percentages. Happy Reading!

**REMEMBER - library sessions every Friday from 3.15pm to 4pm. Entry to the library can be made through the school office once you have picked up your child.** I look forward to seeing you there!

Thank you for your continued support,

Mrs Cameron

### Up-coming events:

Friday Library Opening– 3.15pm – 4pm every Friday (visit with your child)  
Class Book Worms of the week Challenge



## Early Years

Early Years have had another busy and exciting week stepping into another story! The children were excited to come into see another crime scene on Monday! They became detectives again and spotted that this time we had stepped into Little Red Riding Hood.

This week, we have been retelling the story of Little Red Riding Hood, and talking about the moral of the story, how we shouldn't talk to and give our personal information to strangers. We have also discussed 'trusted adults', who they are and how they might help us i.e. teachers, police officers, doctors etc. In maths, we have been learning about the teen numbers 14, 15, 16.

Next week, we will be writing the beginning of Little Red Riding Hood, using story language such as Once upon a time... and programming 'Beebots' to follow a map or route. In maths, we will be exploring the numbers 17, 18, 19 and 20.

**Next term**, Early Years will be beginning a new project all about jobs and what they might want to do when they grow up. We would love it if any parents would like to come in and talk about their job to the children, please contact the office or your child's class teacher if you are able to come in and for further details.

Many thanks to the parents who have been able to come in and volunteer to read with the children, it is very much appreciated!

Thank you for your support and have a lovely weekend.

The Early Years Team

### Year 1

Year 1 have had a great week this week! We have continued using bubble maps to create our own acrostic poems about ourselves and the children chose to write one about a slug or a snail. We are very impressed with the results. We have also looked at the suffixes -er and -est. For example, **fast** becomes **faster** and **fastest**. The children used these suffixes in a sentence. We have also read the book we will be focusing on for the next couple of weeks 'The Tiny Seed' by Eric Carle.

We will also be starting some artwork that will go in the children's books towards the end of the project. The children will be using acrylic paint and experimenting with some different techniques to decorate their pages.

In maths we have been looking at different volume and capacity of containers. They children have had the chance to use water to measure the size of different containers, which they really enjoyed. Next week we will be beginning to count in 2s, 5s and 10s, any practise at home would be great!

Have a lovely weekend,

The Year 1 Team

### Year 2

We're looking forward to another exciting and creative week ahead!

We will continue working with our class text *Dragon Snatcher* by M.P. Robertson. The children will begin writing the next part of the story, focusing on using expanded noun phrases and adverbs to make their writing more detailed and engaging.

For example:

- Expanded noun phrase: *the enormous, fiery dragon*
- Adverb: *the dragon crept silently through the forest*

This will help bring their storytelling to life and build their descriptive writing skills.

In art, children will develop their sketching techniques in preparation for creating a detailed dragon eye. They will experiment with shading, texture, and line work, as well as practice a range of sketching styles to build confidence and creativity.

In maths, we will continue our work on fractions. Children will find the whole from a given fraction, learn that  $\frac{1}{2}$  is equivalent to  $\frac{2}{4}$ , be introduced to  $\frac{3}{4}$  and explore what it represents. These concepts will be supported through practical and visual activities to deepen understanding.

Swimming lessons resume next week — please ensure your child brings their swimming kit on the correct day. To help lessons start promptly, we encourage children to change as efficiently as possible, as this helps them return to school more quickly.

Thank you for your continued support—we're excited for another fantastic week of learning!

The Year 2 Team

### Forest School

The sessions for next week's Forest School are:

**Tuesday – Birch Class**

**Wednesday – Sycamore Class**



Thank you

Mrs Fulbrook

### **Castle Hill Friends**

Our annual sponsored hop will be taking place on Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> May 2026. A leaflet and a sponsor form will be sent home with your child today. We hope they are looking forward to it 🐉

We are still looking for someone to help with sound and electrics at our summer fayre on Friday 12<sup>th</sup> June, please get in touch if you know anybody who can help us.

### **INSET Days**

#### **2025/2026**

Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> May 2026

Friday 10<sup>th</sup> July 2026

#### **2026/2027**

Tuesday 1<sup>st</sup> September 2026

Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2026

Monday 4<sup>th</sup> January 2027

Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> March 2027

Friday 9<sup>th</sup> July 2027

### **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 the skill of being grateful. We are particularly thinking about:

I appreciate things people do for me

Astro the Appreciation  
Dragon



We are grateful

### **Diary Dates**

Wednesday 29<sup>th</sup> April - Nurturing Neurodiversity Group

Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> April – Sycamore swimming

Monday 4<sup>th</sup> May – May bank Holiday – School Closed

Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> May – Class photos

Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> May – Maple Swimming

Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> May – Sycamore swimming