



# Lowerplace Newsletter

Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> June

No.13

## A message from the Ms Martin, Headteacher

Dear Families,

It's been another busy and productive time in school since returning from the half term break, with several year groups completing statutory assessments.

Our Year 4 pupils worked incredibly hard in preparation for their Multiplication Tables Check last week. Their dedication, perseverance and positive attitude towards practising their times tables have been fantastic to see. We are very proud of the effort they have put in and the growing confidence they are developing in their maths skills.

Year 1 pupils also completed their Phonics Screening Check last week. They have worked diligently all year to learn and apply their phonics knowledge, and we are extremely proud of the way they approached the check. The children confidently applied all their learning to read a range of both real and alien words.

Year 6 have continued to show great commitment, producing a high volume of writing as they apply all of their Key Stage 2 writing knowledge. Assessment data for Year 6 is being submitted to the local Authority this week. As with their SATs, the children have impressed us greatly with their determination, creativity and dedication. We will now begin preparing them for their transition to high school, and parents have received a separate letter outlining upcoming events.

On Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> July when Y6 pupils spend the day at their high schools, we will also be holding a **Transition Tuesday** for all other year groups. Children will spend most of the day in their September classroom with their new teachers and teaching assistants, helping them to become familiar with their new learning environment.

We know that transitions can sometimes feel like an anxious time for both children and parents, and we encourage you to support your child by talking positively with them about what they can look forward to. A letter will be sent to parents on July 2<sup>nd</sup> with full details to help you prepare your child for Transition Tuesday.

We must also recognise the fantastic work taking place across all other year groups. I get the privilege of visiting classes regularly and it is clear to see the strong progress being made across the school.

With best wishes,

Ms K Martin

Headteacher



**A new date for your diary....**

**Friday 26<sup>th</sup> June**

**Reception and KS1 Sports Day - morning  
KS2 Sports Day - afternoon.**

**Let's hope the sun shines this time!**

# Our Inclusive Attendance Bronze Award

I am delighted to share that, thanks to the combined efforts of our staff, children and families, we have achieved the Inclusive Attendance Bronze Award this year.

Mrs Jabeen and I were proud to receive the plaque last week, which will soon be displayed in our entrance hall for all to see.



This is a fantastic achievement and reflects the real improvements we have made together. Our attendance is now significantly stronger than in previous years, with a positive upward trend year on year.

That said, we are not complacent. We know there is still more we can do. By continuing to work in partnership, we can ensure even more children are in school every day, giving them the very best chance to succeed.

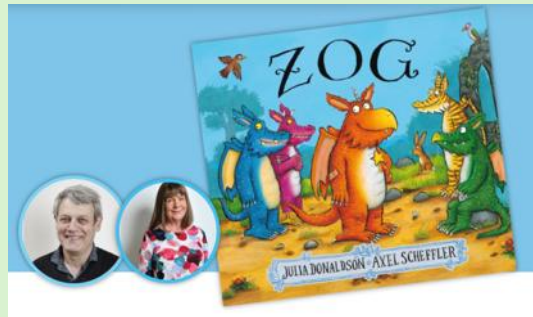
Our current data shows

<b>Lowerplace Attendance :</b>	<b>94.6%</b>
<b>National Attendance:</b>	<b>94.6%</b>
<b>Authorised absence:</b>	<b>3.2%</b>
<b>National authorised absence:</b>	<b>3.8%</b>
<b>Unauthorised absence:</b>	<b>2.2%</b>
<b>National unauthorised absence:</b>	<b>1.5%</b>
<b>Persistent absence (<i>more than 19 days absence in the year</i>):</b>	<b>14.0%</b>
<b>National persistent absence:</b>	<b>15.1%</b>

Let's see if we can improve our unauthorised absence figure – lates after the register closes is an unauthorised absence as are term time holidays, appointments without medical evidence.

Thank you for your ongoing support.

## Julia Donaldson event



On Thursday 11th June, Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 classes were delighted to take part in a live Zoom event with the much-loved author Julia Donaldson and illustrator Axel Scheffler as part of the national celebration of Zog Day.

The children enjoyed a special reading of *Zog and the Flying Doctors*, alongside real flying doctors from the Great Western Air Ambulance Charity, who shared information about their important work and even showed the children their helicopter.

Pupils were also thrilled to watch Axel Scheffler draw Zog live and meet some of the voice actors from the *Zog* TV adaptation.

It was a fantastic and inspiring experience that brought one of our favourite stories to life.



An illustration drawn by Ivar in Reception

## Y5's URENCO Workshop

Year 5 have enjoyed an exciting and informative workshop delivered by URENCO.

The children learned about uranium and discovered that there are two types: uranium-235 and uranium-238. They explored how uranium-235 is used to generate electricity by splitting the atoms, releasing large amounts of heat energy. This heat is then used to produce electricity. To separate the different types of uranium, URENCO uses a process involving centrifuges that spin at incredibly high speeds—possibly even as fast as the speed of sound!

The workshop included a range of hands-on scientific activities focused on identifying and classifying substances. Pupils were first challenged to separate mixtures of materials such as salt, lentils, and pasta. Using only a sieve and a bowl, they quickly realised that while some materials can be separated easily, others—like uranium isotopes—are too similar in size for simple methods.

The children then became scientists themselves, carefully observing a range of mystery substances. Using labelled sticks and spotting tiles, they recorded detailed descriptions based on what they could see, feel, and observe—without guessing what the substances were. This helped them develop key scientific skills, including observation and accurate recording. Safety was a key focus throughout the session, with pupils reminded how to handle unknown substances responsibly.

Each group shared their findings in a mini “science conference,” presenting their observations to the class. They then used an indicator solution to test the substances. The results were fascinating: pink indicated an acid, green or blue showed an alkaline substance, and purple meant neutral. Some substances even produced bubbles, showing that a chemical reaction had taken place and that a gas was released.

To finish the workshop, pupils explored chromatography. Using filter paper and black ink, they watched as the colours separated and spread across the paper—revealing that black ink is actually made from a mixture of different colours. The children were delighted to learn that they could recreate this experiment at home using simple household materials.

It was a fantastic day of scientific discovery, and Year 5 showed great enthusiasm, curiosity, and teamwork throughout!



# Dates for your diary

We hope you find the calendar of upcoming events helpful.

Please pin this to your fridge/add the events to your own calendar.

## Summer Term

Dates	Event/Activity
Wed 22 <sup>nd</sup> & Thurs 23 <sup>rd</sup> April	Parents Evening
Wed 22 <sup>nd</sup> April	Y1 trip to the farm
Tues 28 <sup>th</sup> April	Y5 Inter-school Olympics Event
Wed 29 <sup>th</sup> April	Reception Eureka trip
Mon 4 <sup>th</sup> May	Public Holiday
Wed 6 <sup>th</sup> May	Y4 Production
Mon 11 <sup>th</sup> May – Fri 15 <sup>th</sup> May	Mental health Awareness Week
Mon 11 <sup>th</sup> May – Thurs 14 <sup>th</sup> May	Y6 SATs
Tues 19 <sup>th</sup> May	Sports day - <b>CANCELLED</b>
<b>Mon 25<sup>th</sup> May – Fri 29<sup>th</sup> May    Half Term</b>	
Mon 1 <sup>st</sup> June - Fri 12 <sup>th</sup> June	Y4 Multiplication Check
Wed 3 <sup>rd</sup> June	New Reception Welcome Meeting    3.30pm & 5pm
Fri 5 <sup>th</sup> June	Y6 Outdoor and Adventure Trip    7.30am – 7.30pm
Mon 8 <sup>th</sup> June – Fri 12 <sup>th</sup> June	Y1 Phonics Screening Check
Thurs 11 <sup>th</sup> June	Ra Assembly
Mon 15 <sup>th</sup> June – Fri 19 <sup>th</sup> June	Y2 SATs
Thurs 18 <sup>th</sup> June	New Reception Stay and Play
Wed 24 <sup>th</sup> June	Parent Wellbeing Day
Thurs 25 <sup>th</sup> June	New Reception Stay and Play
<b>Friday 26<sup>th</sup> June</b>	<b>New date for Sports Day</b>
Fri 3 <sup>rd</sup> July	INSET
Tues 7 <sup>th</sup> July	Y6 SATs Results Day
Tues 7 <sup>th</sup> July	Move Up Day
Wed 8 <sup>th</sup> July	Rb assembly
Fri 10 <sup>th</sup> July	Annual reports sent home
Tues 14 <sup>th</sup> July	2C Recorder performance
Wed 15 <sup>th</sup> July	Y6 Production

**Summer Holidays: Wed 22 July to Wed 2 September 2026**  
**School reopens on Thursday 3 September 2026**