



Dear Parent/ Carer,

Wow—what a busy and wonderful half term it was been! The children have enjoyed so many opportunities to learn in exciting and stimulating ways: visits from a variety of animals this week; dinosaur and fossil workshops; creative arts and crafts using clay and papier mâché; spending time reflecting on the importance of mental health, as well as the usual Forest School and sporting events on offer. Our new start and end of day timings are really working well. Thank you for your ongoing support with this. Next half term, we will be sending out information to all Pre-school parents to consult on extending the timings on Pre-school.

We are also looking to adapt and improve the old computer/ library. If any parent has design or architectural knowledge and would be happy to support with initial thoughts and ideas, please do get in touch.

Reminder—Parents' Evenings will be held in March and you will be able to book after half term. Wishing you a relaxing and fun-filled half-term break.

Mrs Stoddart



This week, Classes 5 & 6 experienced an animal workshop. The children got to meet four different animals: a giant stick insect (insect), a frog (amphibian), a bearded dragon (reptile) and a polecat (mammal). The handler, Marie, explained to the class about the individual animals including their age, habitat and adaptations to their environment.



The children got to stroke or hold the animals to look closer at their features. The class also could see some of the scales that the bearded dragon had shed and were taught how to appropriately handle the animals. Nellie P was allowed to feed the polecat, Faye, when it woke up. Everyone had a wonderful time and a memorable experience. Thank you to Marie for visiting!

Miss Downer

It was a lot of fun and I can't believe we got to hold or touch all the animals. My favourite was definitely the polecat because she was cute. I learnt a lot of things I didn't know before about animals and their environments.

Freddie, Class 5

First up were some eggs that looked like sunflower seeds and were actually stick insect eggs! Then Marie showed us two week old baby stick insects. We met a full-sized adult stick insect named Sticky and she passed him around allowing us to hold him. Marie chose a person to have a photo holding the animal. Harry was chosen to have a photo with Sticky and it crawled onto his face! The next animal was a White's tree frog that is a species from Australia called Skippy. Marie allowed us to come up and stroke Skippy, which felt surprisingly, and at the same time unsurprisingly, sticky! The person chosen to have a photo was Elliot because it was his birthday and he answered a question. Skippy jumped on him funnily. We were next shown a bearded dragon named Rocky. We were allowed to stroke Rocky on his back, side spikes and beard. He was so cute with his dark, deep eyes! I was the person lucky enough to hold him. His species is one of the most common exotic pets in Britain. The final animal was a polecat; a very, very vicious animal in the wild but a different story in a domesticated home where they can be a friendly and flexible pet. Thank you to Mr Coupe and Miss Downer for organising this great experience for us.



Sidney, Class 6

Diary Dates

Forest School

Wednesdays

Class 2 26th February

Class 1 5th March

Class R 12th March

Pre-school 19th March

Class 6 26th March

Class 5 2nd April

Class 3 start swimming

Monday 24th February

Parents' Evening 1

Thursday 6th March

5pm to 7.30pm

Bookings will go live after half term on Parentmail. More info to follow.

World Book Day

Thursday 6th March

Children are invited to come to school as their favourite book character.

Parents' Evening 2

Tuesday 11th March

3.40pm to 6pm

Class R Teeth and Bones Workshop

Friday 14th March

MSA Wonka Film Night

Friday 14th March

See p2 for more detail

Parent Forum

Friday 14th March at 2pm

Year 6 Residential to Charterhouse

Tuesday 18th to Friday 21st March

Year 5 Sports Festival at Kingsmead

Thursday 20th March

Easter Break

Monday 7th to Monday 21st April.

House Points	Weekly Total	Half Term
London Plane	127	802
Cork Oak	177	1007
Blue Cedar	183	1024
Horse Chestnut	96	919

OUTSTANDING LEARNERS OF THE WEEK

Preschool	Tommy for getting really involved in dough disco this week.
Class R	Ethan for always staying focused in his phonics lessons. You like to share your love of phonics with all those around you and often choose to write many notes and lists during own learning sessions.
Class 1	Caleb for your excellent effort in PE.
Class 2	Katie for working really hard on your handwriting, spelling and punctuation when writing a diary entry by Mary Anning!
Class 3	Darcy T for fantastic week of learning and for upholding the school values.
Class 4	The whole of Class 4 for the effort and progress in your swimming lessons.
Class 5	Eva and Ethan for your excellent thought and care in your story writing this week.
Class 6	Amelie for her continued huge amount of effort and dedication to her own learning and supporting the class and the school.



Class 3 braved the chill this week to spend the morning in Forest School. We started by identifying buds that are starting to show, chatting about the catkins that grow on the alder and the sticky buds of the horse chestnut, before having some time to search the woodland. After a game of '1, 2, 3, Where are you?', Mr Wedderkopp showed us how to tie a no-tie rope in order to hang a tarp to make a den. Just by wrapping the cord around the tree trunks it was strong enough to hold Finn! This ignited the imagination of some to make their own den. What followed was excellent teamwork, clear communication and sturdy dens that were ideal to drink hot chocolate in. Thank you, as ever, Mr Wedderkopp for a great Forest School. We had so much fun, not many children even mentioned the cold!

Miss Brooke



This week we have spent time using 'Tree Town' our Pre-school Forest School area. We have been building bug hotels, playing on the swing, playing in the mud kitchen and exploring the fairy houses to see what we could find. We used some

tubes to make our own music with sticks. This will lead on to our 'All Things Creepy Crawlies' topic that we start after half term. PRESCHOOL PLEA! We need some help with the planting area outside the Pre-school entrance—we need help to gig over and weed the area ready for us to install the raised beds and begin our planting. Let me know if you can help.

Charlotte

Dear Wonderful Parents and Pupils of Milverton School, please save the date for our **Wonka Film night on Friday 14th March 2025!** Everyone is invited to join us for an entertaining afternoon with all proceeds made going back to the school (for things like fixing the Adventure Playground). As always, we are grateful for volunteers so keep a look out on WhatsApp groups and Parentmail for more details. Look forward to seeing you there! Have a great half term, your MSA.

On Tuesday 11th February, we celebrated Safer Internet Day here at school. The theme this year was 'Too good to be true? Protecting yourself and others from online scams.' On Monday and Tuesday Mrs Stoddart led assemblies on the theme and then classes have completed follow up work. This included identifying key signs of online scams and reminding the children to follow SMART (including talking to trusted adults) if they are ever concerned about something online. If parents would like more information about phone online safety please visit: [Phone safety for your family | NSPCC Toolkit | Vodafone UK](#)

Mr Penny

S Stay Safe
Don't give out your personal information to people / places you don't know.

M Don't Meet Up
Meeting someone you have only been in touch with online can be dangerous. Always check with an adult you trust.

A Accepting Files
Accepting emails, files, pictures or texts from people you don't know can cause problems.

R Reliable? Reliably?
Check information before you believe it. Is the person or website telling the truth?

T Tell Someone
Tell an adult if someone or something makes you feel worried or uncomfortable. Follow these SMART tips to keep yourself safe online!

YEAR 5 – Outdoor Education PE Enrichment Session Friday 31st January

Team building games were played to work on the children's communication skills as all team mates had to work together to achieve a spatial awareness. We played a 'Capture The Flag' type of game but with individuals achieving positions, not with a 'flags' objective. These games were followed by more games explicitly designed to encourage the teams to come up with the best tactics to win the challenges set. The attitude and commitment from all the children was excellent but Jesse stood out for both his communication with his teammates and his determination in resolving the tasks set.

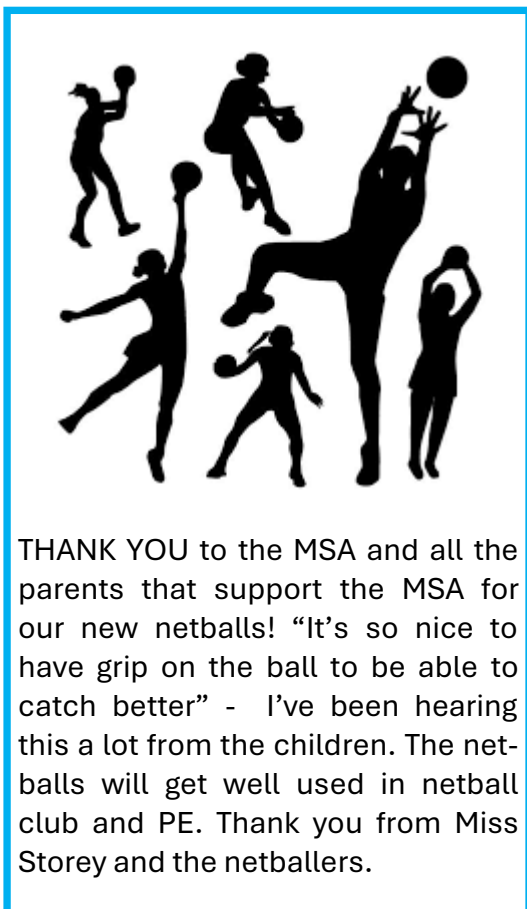
YEAR 1 – Ultimate Frisbee PE Enrichment Session Friday 7th February

The session started outside with throwing technique instruction and practice. The children then moved onto a 'Coconut Shy' game trying to hit objects with accuracy with their frisbees. The weather turned against us so we finished off with multi-skills and ball skills games inside. Year 1 were very understanding and I was impressed by their flexibility and how well they immediately adapted to different indoor games after being outside. Otterly and Caleb both impressed me with their concentration and focus throughout the 2 hour session, achieving the tasks set and guiding others too.

Mr Aldwin

On Tuesday morning, Class 4 travelled over to Blackbrook Pavilion for a Net and Wall Festival organised by SASP. The children took part in a variety of games including volleyball, badminton and table tennis with children from other local primary schools. The morning was a great success with the children playing in a competitive but sporting way. Class 4 represented our school well, but more importantly, had a great time. We would like to say a huge thank you to the SASP coaches, Kingsmead staff and Kingsmead students, which included many ex Milverton pupils, for organising such a fun event.

Mr Penny



THANK YOU to the MSA and all the parents that support the MSA for our new netballs! "It's so nice to have grip on the ball to be able to catch better" - I've been hearing this a lot from the children. The netballs will get well used in netball club and PE. Thank you from Miss Storey and the netballers.

Venues near you this February:

Holy Trinity Primary School, Taunton, TA1 3AF

Multi-Activity Camp

17th -20th February 2025, 09:00-15:30, Age 4-11, £24.99 per day

Gymnastics Camp

19th February 2025, 09:00-15:30, Age 4-11, £24.99 per day

Parkfield Primary School, Taunton, TA1 4RT

Multi-Activity Camp

17th -20th February 2025, 08:30-16:00, Age 4-11, £26.99 per day

Cotford St Luke Primary School, Taunton, TA4 1HZ

Dodgeball, Nerf and Taekwondo Themed Day

18th February 2025, 09:00-15:30, Age 4-11, £24.99 per day

Football Themed Day

19th February 2025, 09:00-15:30, Age 4-11, £24.99 per day

Gymnastics Themed Day

20th February 2025, 09:00-15:30, Age 4-11, £24.99 per day

15% DISCOUNT available until Sunday 19th January 2025

Visit www.premier-education.com to book

Contact dcrysell@premier-education.com for queries

See you soon!

**PLEASE
BRING
PLENTY OF WATER
SUITABLE CLOTHING
LOADS OF ENERGY!**

Our Holiday Camps keep children entertained, safe & on the move during the school holidays.

A bucket load of fun activities, every school holiday. With great value sports, performing arts, and games to enjoy each half term, we have plenty for your children to get stuck into in the school break.

Book now for a school holiday full of fun!



**SCAN HERE FOR MORE
INFORMATION**

or visit premier-education.com/holiday-camps.



Based on over 20,000 reviews