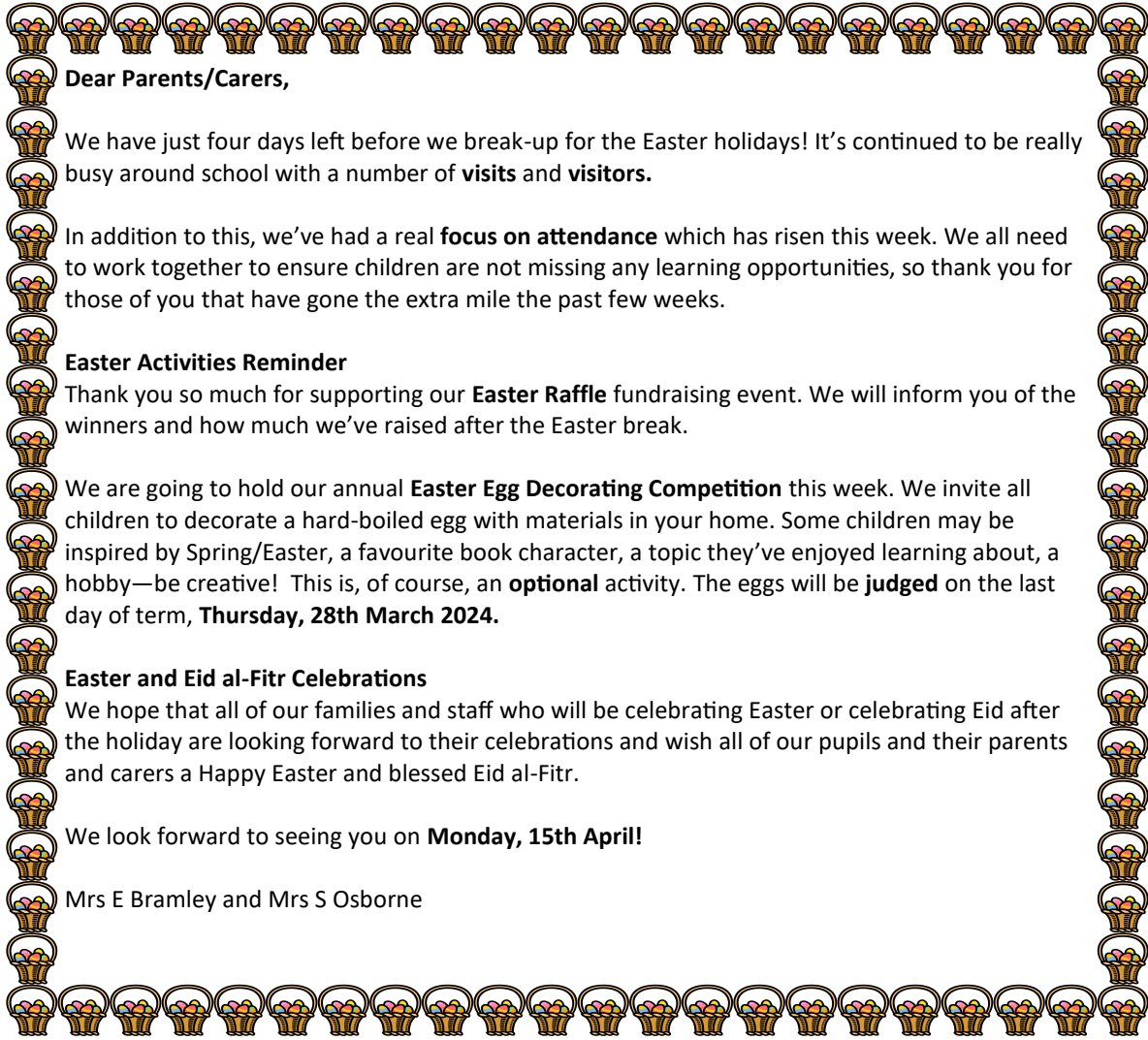




Right of the Fortnight: Article 40:
Your right to legal help if you have been
accused of breaking the law



Dear Parents/Carers,

We have just four days left before we break-up for the Easter holidays! It's continued to be really busy around school with a number of **visits** and **visitors**.

In addition to this, we've had a real **focus on attendance** which has risen this week. We all need to work together to ensure children are not missing any learning opportunities, so thank you for those of you that have gone the extra mile the past few weeks.

Easter Activities Reminder

Thank you so much for supporting our **Easter Raffle** fundraising event. We will inform you of the winners and how much we've raised after the Easter break.

We are going to hold our annual **Easter Egg Decorating Competition** this week. We invite all children to decorate a hard-boiled egg with materials in your home. Some children may be inspired by Spring/Easter, a favourite book character, a topic they've enjoyed learning about, a hobby—be creative! This is, of course, an **optional** activity. The eggs will be **judged** on the last day of term, **Thursday, 28th March 2024**.

Easter and Eid al-Fitr Celebrations

We hope that all of our families and staff who will be celebrating Easter or celebrating Eid after the holiday are looking forward to their celebrations and wish all of our pupils and their parents and carers a Happy Easter and blessed Eid al-Fitr.

We look forward to seeing you on **Monday, 15th April!**

Mrs E Bramley and Mrs S Osborne

Snappy Spring Music Hub Event Last Thursday, Y2 pupils performed 5 short songs with a number of schools across Stockton as part of a Tees Valley Music Service event. The children sang with great enthusiasm and really enjoyed the experience.

It was wonderful to hear from teachers, parents and carers how proud our children made them feel.



Dates For Your Diary - Spring Term

W/c 25th March	Consultation Evenings for Parent/Carers
Tues 26th March	AM - Y1 Visit Stockton Fire Station AM - SCBY Author Event with Bethany Walker PM - Library Reward Ceremony
Wed 27th March	Y5/Y6 Hockey Event Easter Raffle
Thurs 28th March	9.10am Open Morning for Parents/Carers of Nursery Pupils Children break up for Easter

EASTER HOLIDAYS

Friday 29th March - Friday 12th April

Mon 15th April	Summer Term commences—children return to school
Mon 15th April	World Art Day
Mon 22nd April—Fri 3rd May	Swimming Block 3 for Y5 pupils
Mon 22nd April	Earth Day

Wed 1st May 9.10am Open Morning for Parents/Carers of Y4 Pupils (rearranged)

Mon 6th May **BANK HOLIDAY**

Tues 7th May Reception & Y6 Height & Weight Check

Mon 13th May -Thurs 16th May Key Stage 2 SATs are Timetabled

Half-term holiday runs from Monday, 27 May to Friday, 7 June 2024 inclusive (two weeks). The children will break up on Friday, 24 May and will return to school on Monday, 10 June 2024.

2-week period commencing 10th June: **Y4 Multiplication Tables Check**

Week commencing 10th June: **Y1 Phonics Screening Check & Y2 Resits**

Mon 17th-Wed 19th June Y6 Residential

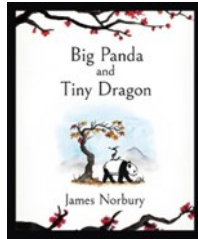


Last week we held another exciting **Open Morning** for the Parents & Carers of Year 5 pupils. The theme of the activities was based on **STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths)** and activities included: **Science** - understanding the difference between acid and alkali, **Technology** - cracking coding with micro-bits, **Mathematics** - to celebrate World Maths Day, Y5 created Fibonacci spirals and the Escape Room problem solving activity. An enormous **thank you** to Erika Titlestad and Tamzin Steele for kindly baking delicious Easter treats and delicious cookies for the parents and Carers to enjoy at the end of the morning.



Recommended Read

This week's recommended read is from
Eliza-Grace Mack in Y3
'Big Panda & Tiny Dragon'
By James Norbury



On Saturday it was four years since the first National Lockdown in 2020. Eliza's Mam bought this beautiful book to read during lock-down.

This is a story about two friends who journey through the seasons of the year together. It shows you how to be a good friend and the hardships & happiness that connect us all. Eliza especially likes p.40 in Spring,

'You must discover your own path.'

Y5 enjoyed the suspense of their class novel - **Room 13**, written by the acclaimed award-winning children's author Robert Swindells. Published in 1989, it centres around a group of friends on a school trip, who stay in a creepy guest house on Whitby's West Cliff. Studying Whitby has also supported the **geography curriculum**. The children visited Whitby and used their **orienteering skills** to navigate their way through this seaside town. A highlight of the day was the obligatory fish and chips.



Y2 visit the **Washington Wetlands** each year to prepare a **launchpad** for their **science** topic in the Summer Term. During this school visit, children met characters from a **digital storybook** – including Ava in life-size puppet form at her giant nest. She challenged them to discover the secrets of her story from the animals on site and designed magical listening devices that enabled the children to hear what they were saying. The children eagerly carried out **nature connection** activities to show that they care about nature. To reward them, the animals revealed their secrets. This memorable visit culminated with the children helping Ava to fly. She disappeared into the distance as she began her long journey to West Africa where she hoped to be re-united with her family. There, she will also have the chance to present to the **Guardians of the Wild**, a council of animals that protect nature.

Children, teachers and family members were provided with logins on return to school. They can access a specially designed website where Ava's story continues through a series of updates from her journey. Children are encouraged to complete nature activities in school and with their families to collect virtual badges. The Guardians have promised that any child who demonstrates they are willing to **reconnect** with nature can themselves become **Guardians of the Wild**, an honour not bestowed on humans for thousands of years. Will they do enough to be welcomed as a Guardian and receive their Guardian certificate and membership badge?



Nursery pupil, **Nathaniel Jeffries** and his brother **Caleb Jeffries** (Reception) enjoy staying active.

They recently took part in the **Sedgefield Junior Parkrun**. This was Nathaniel's first junior park run and he will try to improve on his **personal best** next time.

Caleb has already completed his 9th junior park run.

Their reward was playing in the park afterwards. We are so proud of you!



Velocity is an excellent resource on our doorstep and it's so great to hear about how well our children are working their way through the British Gymnastics **Trampoline Award Schemes**.

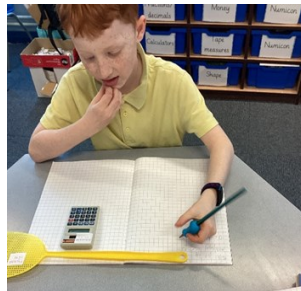
Y1 pupil **Niamh Bellew** has been awarded her Stage 1 certificate, we are sure this will be the first of many. **Lily Scott-Mullin (Y3)** and **Kayci Scott-Mullin (Y4)** received their Stage 4 certificates with great pride.

Well done for your terrific trampolining!



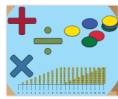



World Maths Day is a national event that took place in schools across the globe on Friday, 22nd March 2024 to celebrate maths. Little Sycamores learnt the song 'Five little Monkeys', whilst nursery learnt '5 Little Men in a Flying Saucer'. Y1 looked at length whilst Y2 had fun with fractions. Y3 and Y4 solved money problems. Y6, decided to take part in a traditional game of logic. This game was created in Kenya and linked well with their African topic.

We have just received a maths enquiry report and this will be uploaded on to the website - it makes great reading!



Week Ending 22nd March 2024
Stars of the Week at Oakdene Primary Academy

Class	Star of the Week 	Star Reader 	Star Writer 	Star Mathematician 
Early Years Unit Mrs Guest	Mabel Dodds-Day	Annie Tunney	Emmie Marshall	Coen Beadle
YR Miss Dixon	Thomasin Scotland	Lucas Milne	Olivia Curry	Dylan Allon
Y1 Mrs Brown	Jacob Matthews	Issac McCarthy	Amani Mohammad	Jacob Jackson
Y2 Mrs Durham	Malachi Worth	Oakley Purvis	Olivia Wilkinson	Feddie McQuilling
Y3 Mr Horkan & Mr Brown	Evie Richardson	Scarlett Allon	Edward Gardiner-Jukes	Joseph Cooper
Y4R Miss Robinson	Harry Laws	Brooke Carse	Amez Ali	Piper Noon
Y4S Miss Smith	Finley Orley	Lily Daniel	Florence Bruce	Leighton Harvey
Y5 Mrs Wilson & Mrs Smith	Thea Birch	Holly Stapleton	Zia Kelly-Bostock	Indi Chesworth
Y6M Mr McConnell	Kaci-Leigh Moody-Blackburn	Monica Dobson	Jake Cody	Rocco Garthwaite
Y6B Miss Bestwick	Emily Daniel	James Luker	Connor Bateman	Kiera Ibbotson

	YR & KSI Lilly Dixon	Y3 & Y4 Charlie Kibbler	Y5 & Y6 Daniel Young
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