

Message From Miss Budden



As we reach the end of our first half term, I would like to take this opportunity to reflect on what has been a wonderful start to the academic year.

There is so much to celebrate. Our children have returned to school with enthusiasm, positivity and a real willingness to learn. We have been incredibly proud of how well they have settled into their new classes, routines and learning environments. New friendships have been formed, confidence has grown, and it has been fantastic to see children embracing the many opportunities that school life offers.

Across the school, children have demonstrated excellent attitudes to learning. Classrooms have been buzzing with excitement, curiosity and engagement as pupils have worked hard and shown great determination in their learning. We are delighted with the progress that has already been made and look forward to seeing this continue throughout the year.

A key part of a successful school experience is the strong partnership between home and school. Thank you to all the parents and carers who have attended our parent information evenings, phonics workshops and Zones of Regulation sessions this half term. Your support and engagement are invaluable. By working together, we can ensure that every child receives the encouragement, consistency and guidance they need to flourish both academically and personally.

As well as some magnificent learning happening, it has also been incredibly busy in other areas of school life. School Councillors have been voted in and their first task was to help sort through all of the donations from Harvest. We have also had the opportunity to invite you in to school to join in with our learning. Some of you have had the opportunity to watch some brilliant dances, see some excellent playground structures and reception have been tour guides to their grown-ups, proudly showing off their classroom.

This half term has also been enriched by a range of exciting educational visits and experiences. Our Year 3 children enjoyed their visit to the farm, where they learned more about animals and life in the countryside. Year 4 pupils developed their observational skills during a fascinating bird-watching trip, while Year 2 enjoyed exploring and learning outdoors at Springdale Park.

Children in Years 1 and 3 have particularly enjoyed taking part in Forest School sessions. These opportunities have encouraged teamwork, resilience, creativity and a deeper appreciation of the natural world. It has been wonderful to see the enthusiasm and confidence that these sessions have fostered.

We also welcomed visitors from United Reform Church and they celebrated Harvest with us. Thank you so much for your generosity when donating food to Corfe Mullen Food Bank. I know that many families will benefit from the donations given.

As we break up for the half-term holiday, I would like to thank all of our staff, parents and carers for their continued support. Most importantly, I would like to congratulate our children for their hard work,

kindness and excellent conduct. They have represented our school brilliantly and should feel very proud of all they have achieved so far.

We hope you all enjoy a restful and enjoyable half-term break, and we look forward to welcoming everyone back for another exciting and successful term.

As always, my door is open. Please don't hesitate to get in touch if you have any questions, ideas or feedback.

Thank you for your continued support.

Miss Budden

Sad Goodbyes

This half term also marks the end of an era as we say goodbye to Mrs Jeffery, who is leaving us to spend more time with her family. As the friendly face at the front of the school office, Mrs Jeffery has been at the heart of school life, dealing with everything from lost shoes and forgotten lunches to supporting parents, children and staff with countless daily queries. Behind the scenes, she has provided tremendous support to the school and has always gone above and beyond to help wherever needed. Her kindness, dedication and willingness to support others have made a lasting impact on our school community. We are incredibly grateful for everything she has done and know that she will be greatly missed by everyone at Springdale. We wish Mrs Jeffery and her family every happiness for the future.

Halloween Safety



Trick or treating this October?

Dorset Police advice: -

- Children should always be accompanied by an adult when they are trick-or-treating.
- Only go to houses of people you know and who are happy for you to call.
- Stay safe, keep to places that you know and are well lit. Do not take short cuts through gardens, alleyways or parks.
- Watch out for traffic - drivers might not see you.
- The adult should have a torch and a fully charged mobile phone.
- Take care of lit candles, especially if children have long hair.

But what if you don't want trick or treaters this year? Many families have babies or you might know of an elderly neighbour who really doesn't want anyone to call at their home during the evening. Dorset police have a poster that can be displayed on the front door which can be accessed on the following link. [Halloween | Dorset Police](https://www.dorset.police.uk/halloween). Perhaps you could be kind and offer to print a poster for someone who doesn't have access to the internet link.

Year 2 DT

This term, we have designed, built and evaluated our own playground structures for a Lego person.

As part of the enquiry process in this unit, we went to Springdale Park to examine the playground equipment. Whilst we were there, we were looking for wide bases, narrow tops, triangles and overlapping as these are the features that would make a structure strong and sturdy.



We then designed and made our playground equipment. Whilst doing this the children showed drive and determination but also a huge amount of resilience as some of the flange joints were a bit tricky!



Some of the children have also made their own playground equipment at home with their grown-ups. These models are amazing and it is brilliant to see them include wide bases, narrow tops, triangles and overlapping to make sure they are strong and sturdy.



Year 3 Launceston Farm

As part of our Geography unit—From Food to Fork, the children in Year 3 visited Launceston Farm. First, they learned about the farm and that it reared cows and pigs and grew wheat and barley. Next, they went out to see the cows. The cows were quite interested in the children- making their presence known with very loud mooing, the cows and some children! Then, they went into the fields and dug for worms! The children learned that the more worms there were, the healthier the soil. The soil needs to be full of nutrients for the crops to grow. This was a great time as the children were amazed at the number of worms and other insects they counted! After this, the children learned how wheat is ground into flour by a mill and they each made a bread roll with wheat from the farm. With all these experiences, the children understood the concept of ‘food to fork’ as they experienced it first-hand.



Year 4 Poole Harbour Boat Trip

Year 4 had a wonderful adventure on their boat trip around Poole Harbour! With binoculars at the ready, the children enjoyed spotting different birds and putting their science skills to good use by identifying and classifying them. A fantastic day of learning, exploring and enjoying our beautiful local environment!



Year 4 Roman Day

Year 4 had a fantastic time stepping back in time for their Roman Day! The children enjoyed creating colourful mosaics, learning about Roman numerals and discovering more about life in Roman times.

The day ended with the children proudly performing their Roman soldier dance to parents, who then joined us in the classrooms to look at the wonderful history learning the children have been completing.



Year 4 Castle Court

Twelve of our Year 4 children had a fantastic day taking part in a Performing Arts Day at Castle Court. Throughout the day, they learnt a song, dance and piece of drama from *Matilda the Musical*, before bringing everything together for a wonderful performance to parents.

The children embraced the experience with enthusiasm and confidence, and we were very proud of them all!

BCP Summer Reading Challenge

This year's BCP Summer Reading Challenge, was Read to the Beat. To complete the challenge, children needed to read 6 books over the summer holidays. They were encouraged to read books that they enjoy and they would get rewards along the way and a medal and certificate when they have completed the challenge!

Well done to all of our pupils that completed the challenge, it's a great achievement! Ava completed the challenge and entered the prize draw and won! She won several fun prizes a certificate and a medal, well done!



School Council News

Years 2, 3 and 4 have elected their school councilors for 2026/27.

Year 2 Elodie, Rosie, Theo and Austin

Year 3 Poppy, Max, Mayla and William

Year 4 Evie, Georgie, Leighton and Archie

Year 4 will work with our reception classes and year 3 will work with year 1 to make sure they have a say about upcoming events.



The school councilors helped to collect our donations during our harvest assembly for presentation to the Corfe Mullen Food bank, once again thank you for your generosity.



To support Friends of Springdale and the PTA our councilors collected donations on our most recent non-uniform day.



Upcoming Events

The annual RBL poppy appeal will be underway this November and our school councilors will be selling poppies at morning drop off in the bottom school playground on Friday 6th, Monday 9th, Tuesday 10th and 11th November.



This year Children in Need is Friday 20th November look out for more details to follow on how Springdale will be supporting this worthwhile cause.





Term Dates

2026-2027 Academic Year

Autumn Term

Tuesday 1st September to Friday 18th December 2026

Autumn Half Term Break: Monday 26th October to Friday 30th October 2026

Christmas Holiday: Monday 21st December 2026 to Friday 1st January 2027

Spring Term

Monday 4th January to Thursday 25th March 2027

Spring Half Term Break: Monday 15th February to Friday 19th February 2027

Easter Holiday: Friday 26th March to Friday 9th April 2027

Summer Term

Monday 12th April to Wednesday 21st July 2027

Summer Half Term Break: Monday 31st May to Friday 4th June 2027

Inset Days

Tuesday 1st September 2026

Wednesday 2nd September 2026

Monday 2nd November 2026

Monday 7th December 2026 *Extra Hamwic Inset Day*

Monday 4th January 2027

Thursday 25th March 2027 *Extra Inset Day*

June 2027 Inset Day TBC

A Huge Thank you!

We would like to extend a **massive thank you** to everyone at **Barclays** for your generous donation of both time and money in helping to transform a previously unused area of our school grounds into a wonderful vegetable garden for our children.

A special thank you goes to **Mrs Coyne**, whose organisation and dedication made this project possible, as well as to the other parents who generously volunteered their time and efforts. Your support has helped turn the space into a welcoming and productive environment where pupils can learn valuable skills, including how to grow and care for their own vegetables.

The garden is already looking fantastic, and we know it will provide exciting learning opportunities and enjoyment for our children for many years to come. We are incredibly grateful to everyone involved for helping to create such a special space for our school community. 🌱🥕🍅🌻



Big Draw

Big Draw Day Brings Colour to the Playground

Our school playground was transformed into a giant piece of artwork during our exciting Big Draw Day! Using masking tape, staff created a large geometric pattern across the playground. Armed with brightly coloured chalk, the children eagerly set to work filling each section with vibrant colours and creative designs. As the day progressed, the playground became a stunning patchwork of colour, showcasing the imagination and artistic talents of our pupils.

The project was about much more than creating beautiful art. Throughout the activity, children demonstrated excellent teamwork, cooperation and determination, working together to ensure every section was completed to a high standard. It was wonderful to see pupils encouraging one another, sharing resources and taking pride in their collective achievement.

The finished artwork was truly spectacular and transformed the playground into a colourful masterpiece. We are incredibly proud of all the children for their creativity, perseverance and collaborative spirit, which made the day such a success. Well done, everyone!



Black History Month

Celebrating Inspirational People from the Past and Present

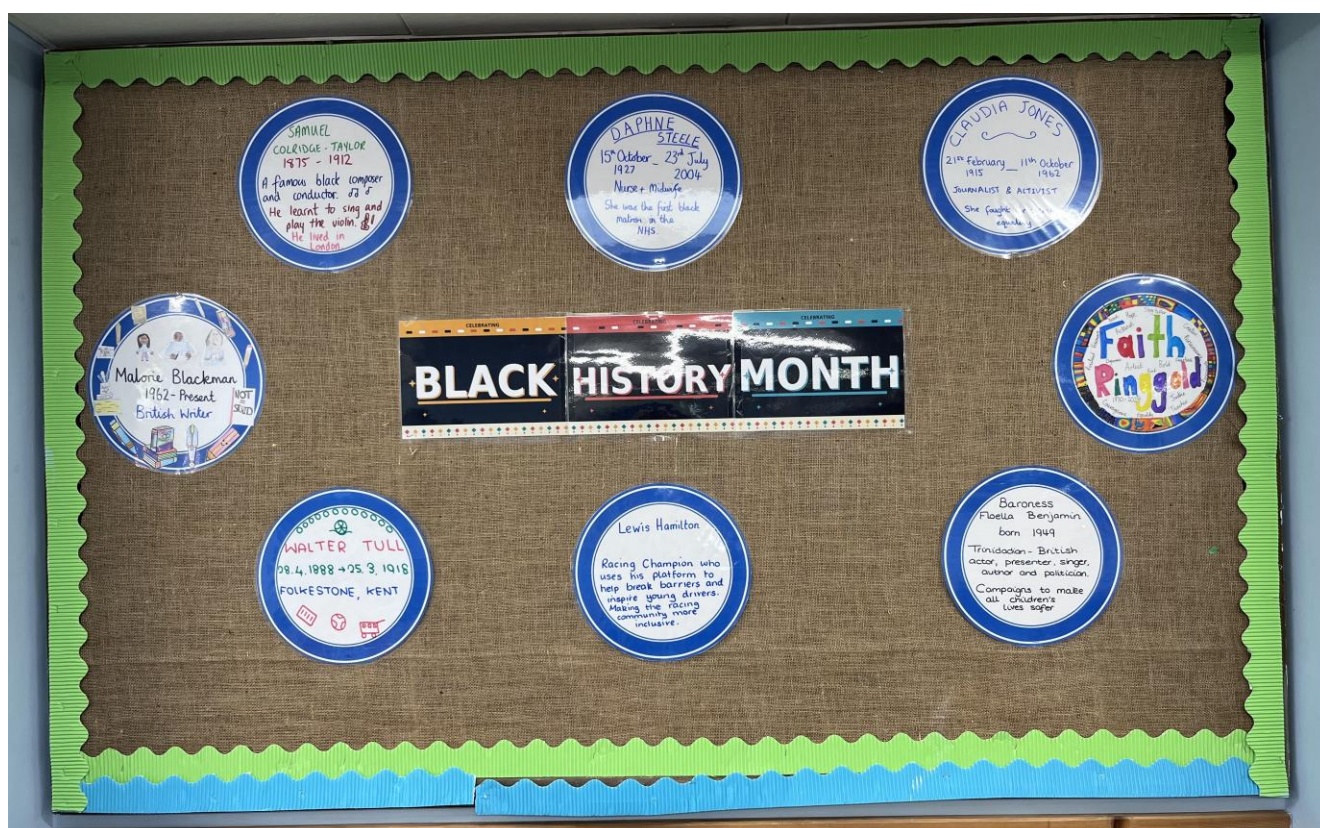
As part of Black History Month, children across the school took part in a special assembly to learn why it is important to celebrate the achievements, contributions and experiences of Black people throughout history and today.

During the assembly, pupils discovered the significance of blue plaques and how they are placed on buildings and places of importance to commemorate people who have made a difference to society. The children explored how these plaques help us remember where remarkable individuals lived, worked or made their contributions to the world.

Following the assembly, classes learned about several inspiring figures, including Lewis Hamilton, the Formula 1 World Champion; Walter Tull, one of the first Black professional footballers and a pioneering officer in the British Army; and Floella Benjamin, the much-loved broadcaster, author and member of the House of Lords.

The children were fascinated by the stories of determination, courage and success shown by these individuals. They then used their learning to create their own blue plaques, celebrating the achievements and legacy of each person. The plaques showcased some fantastic research, creativity and thoughtful reflection on why these people deserve to be remembered.

It was wonderful to see the children engaging so enthusiastically with Black History Month, developing their understanding of the importance of equality, diversity and celebrating the contributions of people from all backgrounds. We are incredibly proud of their work and look forward to continuing these important conversations throughout the year.





School Lottery

Enter our
Super Draw

Win an iPhone 18 Pro Max 512GB!

OR CASH ALTERNATIVE



YOUR
SCHOOL
LOTTERY

