



# NEWSLETTER

## Friday 21st March 2025

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# Shakespeare for Schools Festival 2025



On Tuesday we had 14 intrepid thespians depart our school, onwards to a huge adventure. They had been rehearsing for months and now it was time to show their parents and other participating schools what they were made of. The cues had been practised, the lines had been rehearsed and the background music had been cleverly chosen. Finally all the hard work came to fruition in front of a packed audience at The Lights Theatre.

They all wanted to do their best and make the night a success. But, was it “to be, or not to be? That is the question”. Well we can say that it wasn’t just a success ... it was a triumph! Wow! They were tremendous and we are so very proud of what they achieved. There was not a dry eye in the house from parents and staff (which has become the norm at these events) and each performer took themselves to the limit, proving what they can do if given the chance.

Many thanks go to the staff who supported the students on stage; to Pete Hallman (camera man) for offering his services again to film the performance and especially to Jazz for her determination to give this opportunity to our students.



You are all stars in our eyes



Shakespeare Schools Festival is a charity. If you would like to make a donation, no matter how small, it would be appreciated. Their work brings great opportunities, joy and a feeling of achievement to students all over the country and is a well-worthy cause.

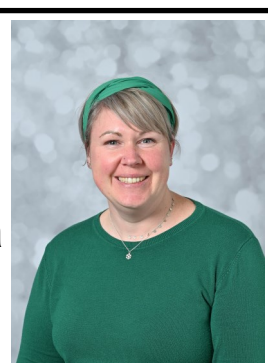
To donate, type in the following link into your browser, or use the QR code:

<https://www.shakespeareschools.org/pages/fundraising>



### STAFF CHANGES

At the end of this term we will sadly be saying goodbye to Andrew Mecrow, our Trumpet class teacher. He is going to be replaced by Laura Searle who currently teaches part-time in our Triangle class.



## DANCE!

On Saturday 15th March, some of our after-school dance students joined several other schools, and took to the stage at Queen Mary College Hall, Basingstoke. Ben, Summer, Ruby & Sofiia had been working hard on their dance routines for many weeks and this event allowed them to show off and indulge their fantastic talents.

After some 'first night' nervous niggles, our performing stars exceeded all expectations, strutting their S-Club and Village People moves and revelling in the moment, buoyed by the enthusiastic cheers & applause from the audience.

By the second appearance Summer had overcome her initial anxieties and took to the stage full of smiles and new found confidence; cool Ben knew the assignment and just went with the flow; Ruby added a few unexpected street dance 'worm' moves (much to everyone's amusement!); and smiling Sofiia almost laughed and danced out of her wheelchair!! They should all be immensely proud of themselves and their achievements. We certainly are!

Special thanks to Kayleigh of EDCD for all her wonderful hard work and enthusiasm, and without whom our students would not have had the opportunity to participate in, and experience, this showcase event.



## TOPIC WEEK — HOLI FESTIVAL

The spring festival of Holi symbolises the victory of good over evil and marks the end of winter.

On the first night of Holi, people light bonfires and throw roasting grains, popcorn, coconut and chickpeas onto them. The next day, people of all ages go into the streets for fun and paint-throwing. Everyone gets involved! Hindus have fun by smearing each other with paint and throwing coloured water.

In the Lower School they had three activities to celebrate colour— sprinkling powder paint onto black paper, choosing colours to make their own colourful handprint and using spray bottles to paint a flower. In cooking they made cardamon biscuits and Lassi (a mango smoothie). In Tambourine the biscuits were the favourite with all children enjoying them. They also learnt a dance with scarves, making movement that represent flowers growing, spring, colours and throwing paint.

In Upper School the students mixed together to take part in four different Holi themed activities. They made Barfi which is an Indian sweet snack made from coconut and smelt delicious! They enjoyed some dancing, where they learnt some Bollywood moves using colourful pom poms. Holi is about the new life seen in Spring and so the pupils coloured in plant pots and planted marigold seeds to grow into a burst of gold! In an art activity, they used powder paint to throw onto paper and flicked paint using brushes as well.





**BIRTHDAYS CELEBRATED THIS WEEK WERE...**

Coulson, Drum	6 yrs old
Jakey, Triangle	10 yrs old
Jojo, Maracas	10 yrs old
Chris, Oboe	12 yrs old



**BIRTHDAYS BEING CELEBRATED THIS WEEKEND ARE...**

William, Cello	15 yrs old
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Happy birthday everyone!

# SIGNS AND SYMBOLS OF THE WEEK



start	finish	think	know

## DIARY DATES — SPRING TERM (2) 2025

### MARCH

- 24th Wiltshire Air Ambulance visit (FE)
- 25th Full Governors Meeting (4pm)



### APRIL

- 1st Hants Music Service Special Event
- 2nd World Autism Day
- 2nd Yr 10 & Yr 11 Parents' Information Evening @ FE
- 4th **INSET DAY (FE only)**
- 7th-21st **Spring Holiday**

### SUMMER TERM (1)

- 22nd **INSET DAY (Whole school)**
- 23rd Return to School (Whole school)
- 23rd Mercury House Trip—new date
- 25th HPV Immunisations (Yrs 8 + outstanding)

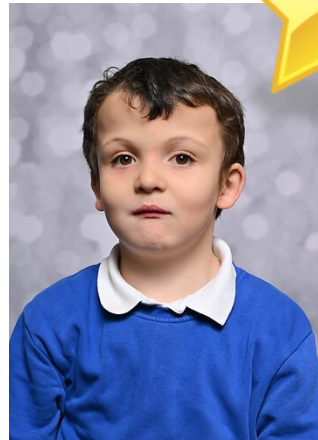
### MAY

- 13th Sports Morning—Charlton Running Track
- 20th Earth House Trip

## SUPERSTAR OF THE WEEK

The following students have been awarded the Class Star of the Week Award

Chimes - Missy  
Drum - Sam  
Maracas - Zachary  
Tambourine - Shelby  
Triangle - Alfie  
Trumpet - Mabel  
Oboe - Shristi  
Banjo - Destiny  
Cello - Luci



**The School Superstar of the Week is ...Alfie!!**

Alfie is a wonderful member of Triangle class with a super sense of humour and an infectious giggle. He loves having two bricks to twiddle and bang together and interacting with familiar adults. Recently, Alfie has been having some lovely interactions with his friends and has been really persevering with communicating what he wants to the adults in class. Alfie discovered this week that he also loves new potatoes! We are so proud of Alfie.

## FE PPICC CHAMPIONS

*(Personal, Physical, Independence, Cognitive, Communication)*

CHAMPIONS

A hand holding a blue marker, positioned as if it has just finished writing the word 'CHAMPIONS' on a whiteboard.

Clifford and Ed

