



NEWSLETTER

Friday 7th February 2025

WEEKLY CLASS FOCUS



Maracas have been enjoying this half term's topic – 'Land, Sea and Sky'.



In literacy, they have been engaging with a topic themed sensory story. All the children are full of anticipation and giggles when the water spray comes out the box. Jojo particularly likes the feel of the feathers. They have also been enjoying their weekly topic TAC PAC. Chloe's favourite is flapping the rubber gloves and Ajax likes the wooden spoon tapping up and down his legs.





In numeracy the children have been exploring animals in a sensory Tuff tray with bowls and containers and exploring putting the animals 'in', 'on' and 'under'. Frankie likes exploring the sensory material and particularly enjoys taking the animals 'out' of the bowls when they have been put in. They have also engaged with animal number songs at their workstations.



In topic sessions, the children have joined in with exploring 'land, sea and sky' soft toy animals, sorting pictures of animals to the correct habitat and exploring toy animals in a sensory tray habitat. Matthew's favourite is the soft toy animals and shows great interest in engaging with these for a long period. Zachary has started to point to the body parts on the animals upon hearing the body part name. James particularly enjoyed the 'sea' week as this meant water trays were back!

The Maracas class looks forward to their Hampshire Music Service lessons every week, particularly banging on the resonance boards. They have also really enjoyed cooking sessions, making animal-shaped puff pastry with their choice of topping— the class favourite has been tomato purée and cheese!

Finally, in art they have been decorating boxes to look like land, sea and sky and making clay animals to go inside. Zachary loved getting messy with the paint.

THEME DAY

We held a theme week last week in which every class held lessons involving TV and Film association.



In the Upper School they made popcorn with different flavour toppings in Cooking; learnt about the different roles and jobs involved in film-making in RSHE, had a film-based bucket and listened to different famous film theme tunes in Music. On Tuesday afternoon they were treated to a cinema experience. They queued up for popcorn and handed in their tickets to the teacher usherettes to watch the film of their choice—‘Tiddles’, ‘Toy Story: That Time Forgot’ or ‘Lost and Found’.

The Lower School were also treated to a screening in the school cinema (hall) at the start of the week. The children watched the Smeds and Smoos film after handing over their tickets and receiving some popcorn.

Throughout the week they carried on with their learning and made their own Smeds and Smoos film with special thanks to Shelby and Gustavo for their narration. They made tickets, popcorn cones and alien head boppers as their costumes and starred as either a Smed or a Smoo on a green screen which was then imported into the film production.



Towards end the week they got back together to watch themselves as the film stars whilst munching on popcorn.



COFFEE AFTERNOON

Sharon (Family Support Practitioner) will be holding another Parents' afternoon next Wednesday, 12th February at 1.30pm in school.



A representative from CAMHS (Child and Adolescent Mental Health Service) will be present to explain their referral service and answer any questions you have about this. This is an area which affects many of our families and everyone is welcome. If you wish to attend, please let the school office or Sharon know.

DONATE WHILE SHOPPING

We recently signed up for the ASDA Cashpot For Schools Campaign and are very pleased to inform you that ASDA have been in touch to let us know £121.42 has been raised for our school so far.



So how do you get involved?

Simply opt into Cashpot for Schools in the app and select the school of choice (ICKNIELD!) Please try to get your friends and families involved too

ZOOLAB

Lottie from ZooLab came along this week to show us some of the amazing animals she has. These included, Daffodil (corn snake), Harefield (tortoise), Pickle (gecko); Bella (tarantula) Cocoa and Cinnamon (gerbils), Phillip and Fillop (Madagascan cockroaches).

As usual, the students were enthralled with the creatures and most of them were very keen to touch them. They were excited to learn about the different types of natural habitats they came from as well as preferred diets. This annual visit is definitely one of our favourites!







WELCOME

We have recently had the pleasure of welcoming one new student and three new members of lunchtime staff (LTAs).

Firstly we would like to introduce you to Sam, a year 1 student who has come to us from Roman Way Primary School. He has already made some new friends in Drum Class and settled in quickly.

Sam



Say 'hello' to Carla, Kim and Benjamin who will be helping at lunchtimes outside on the playground and in the classrooms. They are beginning to get to know some of the students and it won't be long until they feel right at home and part of our team.



Carla



Kim



Benjamin

BIRTHDAYS CELEBRATED THIS WEEK WERE....

Carter, Drum

6 yrs old

Ben, Banjo

12 yrs old

MANY HAPPY RETURNS



SIGNS AND SYMBOLS OF THE WEEK



pudding	lunch	a drink	chair	tidy up	help

DIARY DATES — SPRING TERM (1) 2025

FEBRUARY

- 11th Marwell Zoo trip no.1 (Lower School)
- 12th Marwell Zoo trip no.2 (Lower School)
- 12th Parents' Coffee Group meeting—CAMHS (1.30pm)
- 14th INSET DAY (FE only)
- 26th Mercury House Trip (*moved from 11.02.25*)
- 28th INSET DAY (Whole school)

MARCH

- 6th Hants Fire Brigade visit (FE)
- 7th World Book Day
- 10th Class Group Photos
- 17th Theme Week (3 of 3) - Holi
- 18th Governors' Curriculum Meeting (09.30am)
- 18th Hamlet performance, The Lights (7pm) - ticket only
- 21st Down Syndrome Awareness Day
- 21st Comic Relief
- 24th Wiltshire Air Ambulance visit (FE)
- 15th Full Governors Meeting (4pm)



SUPERSTAR OF THE WEEK

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

Chimes - Phoebe
Drum - Ayla
Maracas - Zachary
Tambourine - Tiger
Triangle - Neil
Trumpet - Tinashe
Oboe - Chris
Banjo - Fergus
Cello - Jaycob



The School Superstar of the Week is ...NEIL!!

Neil is a wonderful character – he always has a big smile and hug for his class staff and peers. If anyone is upset or poorly, he offers a cuddle, a kind pat or one of his favourite toys. He has started to seek interaction with his friends and is beginning to share.

He loves digging holes at forest school, tying knots, dressing up, and anything musical – especially the visits from Music Mark! He is also enthusiastic about cooking sessions, and even more so about taste-testing! Neil loves to joke with his adults and has a wicked and cheeky sense of humour that never fails to make us all laugh.

FE PPICC CHAMPIONS

(Personal, Physical, Independence, Cognitive, Communication)

CHAMPIONS



Talia and Ed

