



Roots to grow,  
Wings to soar

# Newsletter

Spring Term

13<sup>th</sup> March 2026

## FROM THE HEADTEACHER

### Value: Forgiveness

Dear Parents and Carers,

#### **British Science Week**

We have enjoyed lots of science and STEM activities across the school this week to celebrate British Science Week. The children have enjoyed hands on investigations, live lessons and Whole Class Reading sessions linked to scientists. Please do ask your child what they have enjoyed and learnt this week.

#### **Parents Information Sessions**

It was lovely to see many of you on Tuesday at the Parents Information Session. On Tuesday this coming week, the focus is on Reading and as this is one of the most important areas of learning in school, we would welcome parents from Early Years through to Year 6 as the session is not just aimed at the younger year groups. The Hall will be open after picking up so please drop in once you have collected your child. Mrs Newman is teaming up with Tea Timers that evening, so your child / children is welcome to join them during the session.

#### **Comic Relief – Message from the School Council**

Next Friday, 20th March, is Red Nose Day for Comic Relief. The School Council are organising a few fundraising events for the day and would like to invite the children to take part in the following:

- Wear something red to school and make a donation via our fundraising page [Furneux Pelham School is fundraising for Comic Relief](#)
- Have fun posing for photos wearing red accessories at our breaktime Photo Booth.
- Come and buy something from our after-school Bake Sale.

If you would like to donate anything to be sold at our bake sale that would be very much appreciated! Cakes can be dropped into the school hall on the morning of the event. As usual, no nuts and please can a note of the ingredients be with the cakes.

Thank you so much for your support,  
The School Council and Ms Todd

#### **Reports**

Your child will be bringing home their mid-year report today. There is an acknowledgement slip in there which we would be grateful if you can return to their class teacher.

Wishing everyone a lovely weekend,

Sarah Cook  
Headteacher

## Events – save the dates!

**Maths Homework Workshops** after school on Mondays are fully up and running! Led by Ms Todd and myself, **from 3:20–4:00pm in the school hall**, these sessions are designed to support families with maths strategies and homework approaches with an opportunity for you to ask how we teach maths, as for many of us the way in which we were taught at school is very different to how we teach your children today. Please do come along with your child and their homework book to work together – we look forward to seeing you there.

### Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> March

Our second information session for parents this half term will be on **Reading**. As one of the most important areas of learning, this session will look at the importance of early reading, Little Wandle Phonics, how reading is taught across KS2 and the importance of parental involvement alongside school and strategies for home to support your child on their reading journey across the school. This session is a **'must'** for parents of children in **all** year groups and we would welcome as many of you to attend as possible.

### Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> April

**Writing** and all the many elements within the teaching of this subject will be the focus for a Parents Information Session to be held in the school hall at 3.30pm on Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> April. The session will explain how writing is taught across the school, highlight the national curriculum requirements across the year groups, look at how it is assessed by teaching staff and talk you through what an English writing unit looks like, and the scheme we use. Alongside reading, writing is a key life skill, and we would like to support you in ways in which activities at home can help support your child in writing at school.

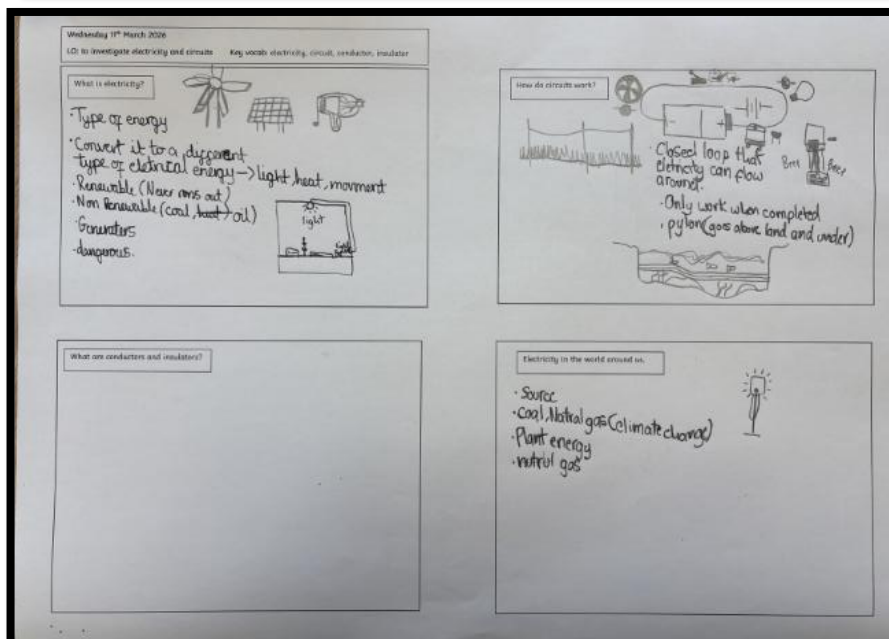
**Woodpecker Class** This week, the children enjoyed using nature to create art. They worked in small groups to collect natural materials and create one picture together. It was wonderful to see them sharing ideas, cooperating, and using their creativity. For PSHE, we also spent time outside doing a spring clean. The children helped tidy and clean different areas of our outdoor space, so it is ready for the warmer weather, when it arrives! In Science, as part of our learning about animals, the children took part in an activity where they put animal faces back together, matching different features and talking about the animals they recognised. We also had great fun building habitats for animals, thinking about where different creatures might live and what they need to survive. To finish the week, we went on an exciting bug hunt around our outdoor area. The children looked carefully for insects and talked about the bugs they found and where they were hiding.



**Kingfisher Class** have been really enjoying Science Week. On Monday we learnt about the Moon and the solar system, and it was great to hear some facts about space from Astronaut Tim Peake. Can you believe it has been 10 years since his mission to the International Space Station? And then it was back to Earth on Tuesday when we joined a Blue Cross webinar called Curious Pets: Investigating how pets survive and thrive through habitats, adaptations and welfare needs. Some interesting facts we learned...dogs smell in 3D!. When cats scratch, they're not just sharpening claws, they're also leaving their scent behind by signing their name and a horse's teeth never stop growing.

**Nightingale Class** this week have been working on creating settings, developing character and narrative plots in their English writing lessons. They have focused on using adjectives and prepositional phrases to support the readers visualisation.

**Robin Class** This week, we began writing our own narratives about travelling through a portal into a magical land. The children have been thinking carefully about using their senses in their writing, which has helped them add rich detail and bring their story settings to life. In RE, the children learned about Guru Nanak and the origins of Sikhism. They discovered how Nanah taught that everyone should be treated equally, no matter what labels or differences people may have. In Geography, we discovered what it is like to visit Antarctica as a researcher, including the incredible sights they see, the work they do and how they adapt to life in a polar climate. The children wrote postcards explaining what life is like and we decided that maybe seeing the penguins would be worth the harsh, cold weather! For Science week, in Reading, we learnt about Jane Cooke Wright, a pioneering African American doctor and cancer researcher whose grandfather was born into slavery. With Mrs Cook, we were learning about electricity and circuits and joined a live lesson to understand that light travels in a straight line and that objects can be seen because they emit or reflect light into the eye and use knowledge of the properties of light to show how it can be used in a creative way through the use of mirrors.



**Skylark Class** We have been very busy in Skylark celebrating British Science Week, with lots of fun activities and learning. The children have taken part in a STEM challenge to see who could make the longest paper chain with just one sheet of A4 paper. The children showed amazing focus and perseverance, and the results were very impressive! We also took part in a couple of science investigations into the properties of different materials. The children enjoyed Rainbow colour mixing with milk, food colours and washing-up liquid, observing the way that the washing-up liquid bonded with the fat in the milk to push the colours out. They also had fun mixing cornflour and water to make slime. They were fascinated to see the way that this non-Newtonian liquid behaved, getting thicker when it was pushed or pressed down on, and then reverting to a liquid again. Earlier in the week the children continued working on their DT projects with Mrs Kennard, investigating and making gears and mechanisms. They refined their initial designs and produced some fantastic examples of working gears.



## WHOLE SCHOOL ATTENDANCE

**Attendance this week**  
**94.19%**

**Whole School Target Set – 96%**

Please contact school **every day** of any absence. This can be done by calling **01279 777344** and leaving a message on the absence line.

If you are going to be late and will need to order a school lunch, you can either make your own selection on Arbor before 8.15 am or ring the school office before 9.15 am. Orders placed after this time may not be able to be accepted.

## BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK



**Woodpecker**  
Sienna

**Kingfisher**  
Sky



## ABOVE AND BEYOND AWARDS

### Woodpecker

**Nora** for fantastic sharing and turn taking.  
**Freddie** for working extremely hard with his letter formation.

### Nightingale

**Evie A** for her consistent level of attention and effort across all lessons.

### Kingfisher

**Hadley** for working hard on his blending in phonics  
**Finley** for his focus and effort in Maths.

### Robin

**Oliver G** for showing great independence in maths and excellent place value understanding.

### Skylark

**Isabella** for being such a kind and helpful member of Skylark class.

**Alexa** for her hard work and perseverance with her Times Tables.

## HEADTEACHER AWARDS

**Penny** for perseverance and hard work in her lessons - especially maths and English writing.

**Daphne** for always being ready to learn, kind to others and listening to instructions.

**Benji** for enthusiastic contributions and fantastic knowledge of Geography topic work.

## READING AWARDS

### Woodpecker

Ollie H

### Nightingale

Beatrice

### Kingfisher

Rosie

### Robin

Jack

### Skylark

Sam

## TIMES TABLES ROCKSTAR AWARD

**George** for his unwavering dedication and enthusiasm for learning his times tables.

MENU w/c 16th March 2026		DATES FOR YOUR DIARIES	
Day	Menu		
Monday	Beef Burger (Red) Potato Frittata (v) (Green) Baked Potato with Cheese & Beans (v) (Blue)	Every Monday	Maths Homework Club 3.20 – 4.00pm
		Thursday 12 <sup>th</sup> March	Collective Worship St. Mary's Church 1pm – parents welcome to join
		Friday 13 <sup>th</sup> March	Y6 Health Questionnaires
Tuesday	Chicken Pie & Gravy (Red) Swedish Style Plant Based Meatballs (v) (Green) Baked Potato with Tuna Mayo (Blue)	Tuesday 17 <sup>th</sup> March	Parents Information Session 3.30pm Hall: <b>Reading</b>
		Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> March	Red Nose Day – Comic Relief Event Donate and wear something red After school cake bake sale
		Thursday 26 <sup>th</sup> March	Easter Service St. Mary's Church
Wednesday	Roast Chicken with Stuffing & Gravy (Red) Plant Based Shepherds Pie (Ve) (Green) Baked Potato with Grated Cheese (v) (Blue)	Thursday 26 <sup>th</sup> March	FPSA Easter Disco
		Friday 27 <sup>th</sup> March	<b>End of Term</b>
		Monday 13 <sup>th</sup> April	<b>INSET DAY</b>
		Tuesday 14 <sup>th</sup> April	Term starts for pupils
		Tuesday 21 <sup>st</sup> April	Parents Information Session 3.30pm Hall: <b>Writing</b>
Thursday	Quorn Dipper Taco with Sweet Chilli Sauce (Ve) (Red) Mac n Cheese (v) (Green) Baked potato with Baked Beans (Ve) (Blue)	Monday 27 <sup>th</sup> April	School Photos
		Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> May	Bank Holiday
		Monday 11 <sup>th</sup> May	SATs Week Year 6
		Monday 18 <sup>th</sup> May	Skylark Activity Week
		Tuesday 19 <sup>th</sup> May	Crucial Crew
		Mon 25 <sup>th</sup> – Fri 29 <sup>th</sup> May	Half Term
		Wednesday 3 <sup>rd</sup> June	Bags2 School Collection
		Wednesday 24 <sup>th</sup> June	Sports Day
Friday	Fish Fillet Fingers (Red) Margherita Pizza (v) (Green) Baked Potato with Grated Cheese (v) (Blue)	Wednesday 1 <sup>st</sup> July	Reserve Sports Day
		Tuesday 7 <sup>th</sup> July	KS2 Faith Tour
		Monday 20 <sup>th</sup> July	FPSA Summer Disco
		Tuesday 21 <sup>st</sup> July	Leavers Service 2pm Church
		Wednesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> July	<b>END of TERM</b>
		Thursday 23 <sup>rd</sup> July	<b>INSET DAY</b>

NOTICES AND INFORMATION



CAFÉ CHURCH

**ST MARY'S, FURNEUX PELHAM**  
**ON SUNDAY 15<sup>th</sup> MARCH AT 9:30am**  
 Come and join us for our monthly café church. A warm welcome awaits you.

**FREE BIKE REPAIRS**

DROP IN OR BOOK A SLOT AT  
[WWW.DR-BIKE.CO.UK/BOOK-A-SERVICE-CONTACT/](http://WWW.DR-BIKE.CO.UK/BOOK-A-SERVICE-CONTACT/)

- STEVENAGE - SAT 28 MARCH 10-5
- WARE - SAT 25 APRIL 10-5
- WGC - SAT 23 MAY 10-5
- WARE - SAT 27 JUNE 10-5
- STEVENAGE - SAT 25 JULY 10-5
- WGC - SAT 8 AUG 10-5



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**easter at church farm**  
 28th March – 12th April

Visit Church Farm Ardeley  
*A real working farm!*

<p><b>Easter Farm Day Pass</b>                  Includes:                  Easter Themed Activity Book                  Woodland Play Area                  Easter Bunny Riddle Trail                  Farm Bingo &amp; spot the Easter Bunny                  See the Lambs, Rabbits &amp; Farm animals                  Walk around the farm</p>	<p><b>Additional Activities</b>                  Meet the Easter Bunny                  Easter Egg Hunt                  Lamb Bottle Feeding                  Goat Walking                  Tractor &amp; Trailer Rides                  Fairy Trail</p>
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Book online [www.churchfarmardeley.co.uk](http://www.churchfarmardeley.co.uk)

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✉ [aspects@allsaints.herts.sch.uk](mailto:aspects@allsaints.herts.sch.uk)

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