

Class Updates - 09.01.2026

Reception Butterflies update



Welcome back to the Spring Term Butterflies! It's been a cold and snowy start to the term but we have worked hard and kept warm!

We have really enjoyed sharing our news about the holidays and lots of the children have spoken confidently in front of their friends for Show and Tell.

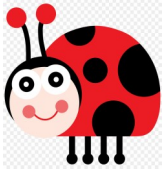
This week we have started straight back with Phonics, learning some tricky Phase 3 digraphs 'ai, ee, igh, ow', reading them in words and segmenting and spelling words which include them.

We have begun our new topic 'Zoom to the Moon', all about space. We are reading the book 'Whatever Next' by Jill Murphy and have been writing lists about what we would pack in our rockets to take to the moon.

We had lots of fun in Forest School, braving the cold and exploring the signs of Winter.



Miss Nicholson, Miss Hunter and Miss Murnane



Year 1 Ladybirds Update

A chilly start back, we hope you had a wonderful Christmas.

English

This week we have started our new topic, non-chronological reports writing. This half term we are focusing on London and reading 'Katie in London' by James Mayhew.

Maths

We have been investigating different representations of numbers to 20 and learning how to write them in words.

Art

We are learning about Piet Mondrian this half term. This week we had a go at drawing different types of lines using pencil and charcoal and ensuring our rules were straight before drawing.

Forest school

We had lots of fun learning about different animal tracks and playing run around games like Squirrels and sticky fingers!

We enjoyed going outside in the snow for a short period, having snowball fights with our friends and attempting to build snowmen.

Mrs Holmes and the Year One team





Year 2 Caterpillars Update

Welcome back and Happy New Year! We hope you all had a restful and enjoyable break. The children have returned to school wonderfully and have settled straight back into their learning routines.

In Maths this week, we have been focusing on solving missing number problems. The children have been developing their reasoning skills and showing great confidence when explaining how they find their answers.

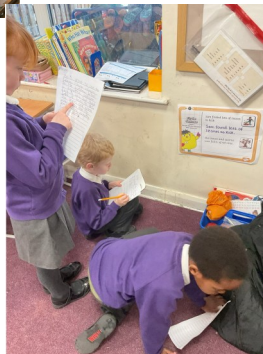
In English, we have been exploring how we can expand and improve our sentences. The children have been learning how to add more detail using adjectives and conjunctions to make their writing more interesting and engaging.

We have also started our new Science unit, where we are learning about our diet and how our bodies need different types of nutrition to stay healthy. The children have been very enthusiastic and enjoyed discussing different foods and why they are important for us.

In PSHE, our focus has been on emotional literacy. We have been learning new vocabulary linked to our feelings, and the children were given different scenarios to think about how they might feel in each situation. They showed great thoughtfulness and maturity during these discussions.

Well done on a fantastic first week back, Year 2! Finally, thank you very much for the lovely gifts we received before Christmas — they were very much appreciated.

Mr Brown & the Year 2 Team





Year 3 Grasshoppers Update

Welcome back after the Christmas break and Happy New Year! We hope you all had a lovely holiday and are feeling refreshed for the term ahead.

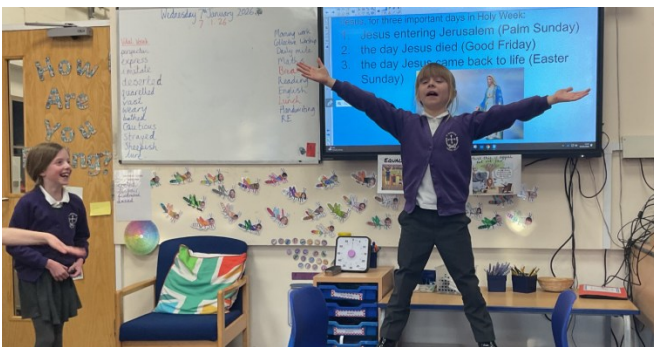
Year 3 have had a fantastic first week back. In Maths, the children have been working on fact families and learning how to divide a 2-digit number by a 1-digit number. In English, we have been practising a range of grammatical skills, including using apostrophes for contractions and adding detail to our sentences with adverbs.

In Science, we have started an exciting new unit on Light, where we explored and identified natural and artificial sources of light. Our RE learning this term will focus on the key question: *Why do Christians refer to the day Jesus died as Good Friday?* This has already prompted some thoughtful discussions. The children also enjoyed acting out the different days in Holy Week — some more enthusiastically than others!

In Geography, we have begun a new topic all about volcanoes, which the children are very enthusiastic about learning more about.

A great first week back - well done, Year 3! We are looking forward to another busy and enjoyable term.

Mrs Potter and the Year 3 team





Year 4 Fireflies Update

Welcome back and Happy New Year!

I hope you all enjoyed the break and feel well rested. The children have returned to school full of enthusiasm and it has been so lovely to see them all again.

We have begun to explore our new topic for this term, all about water.

In **Geography**, we have begun to recap previous learning about the water cycle and the class thought of some wonderful questions for us to explore and answer over the coming weeks.

In **Science**, we have begun to use observable characteristics to classify animals in different ways. Going forward, we will also explore plants, habitats and environmental changes impacting living things.

In **PSHCE**, we recapped the school's behaviour curriculum and discussed what SAFE, EFFORT and RESPECT mean to us, and how this looks in school. The children worked in groups to read a scenario, decide which behaviours were not being shown and discuss suggestions for how the behaviours could be improved. It was lovely to see them discussing their ideas and thinking of ways they could support each other in school.

Wishing you a wonderful weekend, well done on a great first week back Fireflies!

Mrs Tagg and the Year 4 team.





Year 5 Busybees Update

Year 5 attended their residential trip this week, taking part in a range of fun and engaging activities, both indoors and outdoors. The children were an absolute delight to take away and fully threw themselves into every activity with enthusiasm and positive attitudes. It was wonderful to see their teamwork, resilience and confidence grow throughout the week. We look forward to returning to Burwell House next year for another memorable experience.

Day 1



After arriving, the children were given a tour of the amazing house and its beautiful grounds, which they were very excited to explore. Throughout the day, they took part in a range of activities including team-building challenges, creating nature sculptures, and a "snail trail" facts activity to learn more about the history of the house. Everyone enjoyed lunch, which was pizza, followed by a busy afternoon of activities. Dinner this evening was chicken nuggets and chips, which went down very well! This evening, the children took part in games, watched a movie, and enjoyed a visit to the Burwell House shop. They have settled in brilliantly and are in great spirits.



Day 2

We've had a wonderful second day on our Year 5 residential. The children slept very well considering it was their first night away, and we enjoyed a huge breakfast to set us up for the day.

We split into groups for our activities, creating fantastic Green Man sculptures out of clay and then working together to build giant catapults. After another lovely lunch, the afternoon was spent designing batik wax bags and making enamel key rings. Dinner was pasta and garlic bread, followed by games around the campfire, marshmallows and hot chocolate. We finished the day with some relaxed card games before heading off to bed. Everyone was happy, engaged and had a brilliant time.

Mr Pike, Mrs Smith, Miss Driscoll





Year 6 Dragonflies update

Welcome back and Happy New Year! Hopefully you all had a lovely winter break.

For our first week in English, we picked up where we left off before the break and finished our Through the Portal stories, set in magical fantasy markets. The children jumped straight back into their writing and produced some brilliant work—packed with description, creative ideas and just the right amount of magic. Well done to everyone for coming back and working so hard!

In maths, we've been interpreting pie charts. The children used their fraction skills to figure out how many people had voted for different categories, working with all sorts of totals, including those split into sixteenths! It was tricky at times, but they did really well and showed great resilience throughout.

In history, we were visited by a mysterious plague doctor, who gave us a whistle-stop tour of medieval medicine. The children compared what they learned to earlier periods we've studied, and considered whether medicine in the Middle Ages was advancing or regressing. Can your child remember who was responsible for performing surgeries in this period?

In DT, we finally finished our pop-up Christmas cards and books! The children added their V-folds and sliders to complete their designs. They came out brilliantly—even if a little late for Christmas—and it was lovely to see all the mechanisms working so well.

And to top it all off, we had a bit of fun out in the snow! It may have waited until after the Christmas holidays to arrive, but that didn't stop Year 6 enjoying some frosty, Christmassy fun (although sadly the snow was a bit powdery for good snowballs!).

Hopefully the storm holds off over the weekend—stay safe!

Mr Clarke

