

# Class Updates - 24.04.2026



## Reception Butterflies update

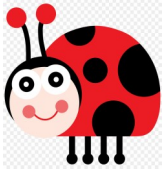
It has been a very busy week in Butterflies, everybody has been working and playing hard! We are amazed by the progress they are making with phonics and spelling and how well they apply it to their independent writing. We have introduced handwriting books this week, learning where to position the letters on the line, in readiness for Year 1! We have been looking at numbers beyond 10 in Maths, building them using blocks, numicon and ten grids.

In RE we are looking at Special Places, we have talked about a place which is special to us and looked at places in town that are important and why they are special to people. It has been lovely to take our learning outside and the children have been making the most of the good weather on the decking and exploring all the areas.

We are enjoying our Topic 'Ready, Steady, Grow!' and have been planting nasturtiums which we are hoping to take to a local care home to share with the residents.



Miss Nicholson and the Reception team



## Year 1 Ladybirds Update

Geography: On Friday we walked around town identifying human and physical features. We looked closely at the church, neighbouring statues, the castle ruins, the common, town park and more!

Forest school: We discussed nesting birds and watched areas where they were building nests. We talked about the life cycle of birds and some children had a go at making their own nests with sticks! We loved making seed balls to spread near the eco garden which will hopefully grow into beautiful wild flowers.

Art: This week we used sponges to paint an Alma Thomas inspired piece of abstract art. We thought carefully about the paint and if we wanted to create a painting with warm tones or cool tones.

### **Mrs Holmes and the Year One team**





## Year 2 Caterpillars Update

It has been another busy and successful week in Year 2, and the children have worked incredibly hard in all of their learning.

This week in **Maths**, we have been learning about **fractions**, with a focus on recognising and understanding **unit fractions** (where the numerator is 1, such as  $\frac{1}{2}$  or  $\frac{1}{4}$ ) and **non-unit fractions** (where the numerator is greater than 1, such as  $\frac{2}{3}$  or  $\frac{3}{4}$ ). We have been using practical resources and pictures to help us explore equal parts of shapes and amounts.

In **English**, we have been preparing for our next unit by revisiting key **SPaG** skills. Our main focus has been on using **-ing verbs** accurately within sentences, as well as continuing to build confidence with punctuation and sentence structure.

In **Science**, we have been learning about **plants**, with a particular focus on **bulbs**. The children have explored how bulbs grow, what plants need to survive, and observed changes over time.

In **PSHCE**, we have been thinking about **being positive about ourselves**. We have discussed our strengths, celebrated what makes us unique, and considered ways to build confidence and self-belief.

**Reminder:** Children should come to school on **Wednesday in their PE kit** for the **3 Tees Cricket Tournament**. All pupils will be required to wear their school **P.E. t-shirt, jumper, shorts, socks and trainers**. Children will also need to bring a **sun cap, waterproof jacket/coat, bottle of water and a nut-free snack** with them to this event.

Thank you for your continued support.

Have a lovely weekend,

**Mr Brown and the Year 2 team.**





## Year 3 Grasshoppers Update

It has been another busy and rewarding week in class, with lots of opportunities for learning, creativity and personal growth.

In Maths, we have been focusing on adding and subtracting fractions. The children have worked hard to develop their understanding of fractions.

In English, we have begun an exciting new unit based on *Stone Age Boy*. The class has really enjoyed exploring the story so far and we are looking forward to developing our writing through this engaging text.

Our Science lessons this week involved a hands-on investigation into the properties of rocks. The children tested and compared different samples, making observations and drawing conclusions like real scientists.

In Art, we tried our hand at spray painting cave stencils inspired by prehistoric art. Some of us needed a second attempt, but this proved to be a valuable lesson in resilience — as well as a chance to improve our technique!

We also took part in a football tournament at SWCHS. Although we didn't come away with any medals, the experience was incredibly valuable. Resilience and teamwork is a must in all sport and this is something we will continue to work on during the school day. A special mention goes to those boys and girls who had never played a football match before—you showed fantastic courage and gave it your all. We are incredibly proud of your confidence and effort.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support.

### Mrs Potter and the Year 3 team





## Year 4 Fireflies Update

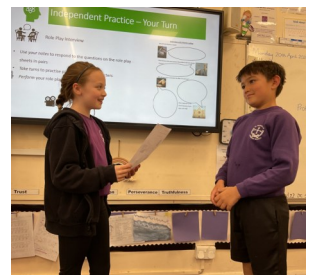
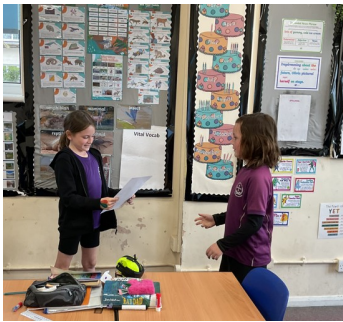
This week, Year 4 have been working with Mrs Sears, who has very much enjoyed her week with the Fireflies.

On Monday, we created bridges on our own and in pairs in our Gymnastics lesson, remembering that an excellent gymnast can hold a balance steadily for 4 seconds. We had some super results!

In RE, we considered the significance of Martin Luther, whose work resulted in the introduction of the Protestant Church. The children worked in pairs to 'interview' Martin Luther.

Fireflies have also been working hard in English, practising the use of fronted adverbials in a range of text types.

### *Mrs Tagg and the Year 4 team*





## Year 5 Busybees Update

In Maths, the class has been exploring the area of 2D shapes. The children have been learning how to measure and calculate area. They have also been developing their problem-solving skills by drawing shapes with a given area and working out the length of the sides.

In English, we have been reading *The Paperbag Prince* by Colin Thompson. The children have enjoyed discussing the story and describing its different settings, including the junk yard and the poison pool. They have been using rich vocabulary to write their own descriptions, focusing on imagery and atmosphere.

In Science, our topic has been life cycles, with a focus on insects. The children have learned about complete metamorphosis (egg, larva, pupa, adult) and incomplete metamorphosis (egg, nymph, adult). They have compared the two processes and explored examples of insects that follow each type of development.

In PE, the children have been developing their cricket skills. They have been practising batting and catching techniques as well as working on teamwork and coordination through small games.

In French, we have been learning the names of musical instruments. The children have been practising pronunciation and building their vocabulary through speaking and listening activities.

**Mr Pike, Mrs Smith, Miss Humphreys, Miss Driscoll**





## Year 6 Dragonflies update

It's been another busy week in Year 6 as we begin to gear up for SATs.

In English, we've been doing some revision, with the children completing a range of challenges to get everything ticking over before the tests in a few weeks. We also looked at how Usain Bolt dealt with pressure—can your child remember his quote? Alongside this, we've brought back our Rock 'em Sock 'em Robots revision game. The children have been working in pairs or small teams, competing against another "robot" to win points and prizes. Safe to say it's been very competitive!

In Art, we've been developing our shading techniques. The children explored styles such as stippling and cross-hatching, and looked at how light and shadow can be used to create depth in their drawings. Some really impressive effects already.

In RE, we learnt about the history of Islam and how the split between Sunni and Shia Muslims came about. The children considered both similarities and differences in how they worship. Can your child remember any of these?

In Science, we've started our new unit on living things and their habitats. The children began by classifying animals based on their characteristics, before creating their own "zoos" to group and display different types. Can your child remember the animal kingdoms?

A strong week of revision and new learning—well done, Year 6!

Have a great weekend,

Mr Clarke

