



NEWSLETTER

February 2025

Dear Parents and Carers

As we move into February, and the days begin to lengthen, I hope this newsletter finds you and your families well. It's been a busy and productive start to the spring term, and I've been so impressed with the resilience and enthusiasm shown by all our pupils. It is always lovely to hear about children's efforts and achievements in their learning during our weekly celebration assemblies and how they are following our Chesterfield Values of Kindness, Respect, Resilience and Responsibility.

We have already enjoyed many events in school this half term, including Child Mental Health Week, Safer Internet Day, as well as a visit to the Enfield Recycling Centre and a Year 1 local walk. We have also had ukulele lessons in Year 4 and cricket sessions in Year 3 and Year 6 delivered by specialist teachers and coaches. We have lots more exciting events planned for next half term, and you can find details of all of these in the 'diary dates' section.

I want to take this opportunity to thank you for your continued support. Your involvement in your children's education is invaluable, and we greatly appreciate your partnership in helping them to thrive. Whether it is attending parent meetings and workshops, helping with school events, or simply reading with your child at home, your contributions make a real difference.

We are always striving to create the best possible learning environment for our children, and your feedback is important to us. Please don't hesitate to get in touch with your child's class teacher or myself if you have any questions, concerns, or ideas you'd like to share. Our weekly parent coffee mornings take place every Wednesday at 9am, please do pop along and have a chat!

Finally, I'd like to thank our amazing staff team for their dedication and commitment to our pupils.

I wish you all a restful half term break and I look forward to seeing you all again when school starts back on **Monday 24 February at 8:45am.**

Sarah Roberts
Headteacher





Walk, do not ride or scoot on the playground

**We do not allow bikes or
scooters to be ridden on site**

**Children and adults should dismount at the
school gate, park bikes and scooters and walk
into school**

**At the end of the day, scooters should not be
ridden until you leave the school premises**



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NEWS FROM EARLY YEARS

NURSERY

This term in Nursery, our home corner transformed into a hospital. The children enjoyed exploring the different medical equipment and demonstrating their prior knowledge and understanding of what doctors and nurses do. They took very good care of their patients!

We have been reading "We're Going on a Bear Hunt" and the children have loved acting out the story in different ways. We created a cave in the classroom where they could sit and retell the story and they even found a huge bear in there yesterday!



RECEPTION

In Reception we have been learning about Chinese New Year. We used different materials to create our own dragon model. We then had our own celebrations in the hall with lanterns, musical instruments and a dragon dance and parade which everyone enjoyed!



YEAR 1 HISTORY

For history in year 1 this half term, we have been learning about Motte and Bailey Castles. For one of our lessons, we created a motte and Bailey castle altogether. We created a motte with a keep on top, a Bailey for the workers, a drawbridge to guard and a moat to go around the castle. The children had different roles in the castle such as being soldiers, cooks, farmers, cleaners, blacksmiths and most importantly a queen to protect and serve! We also had some visitors and pulled down the drawbridge once the queen said it was okay to do so. The children really enjoyed this and were able to enhance their learning through experience.



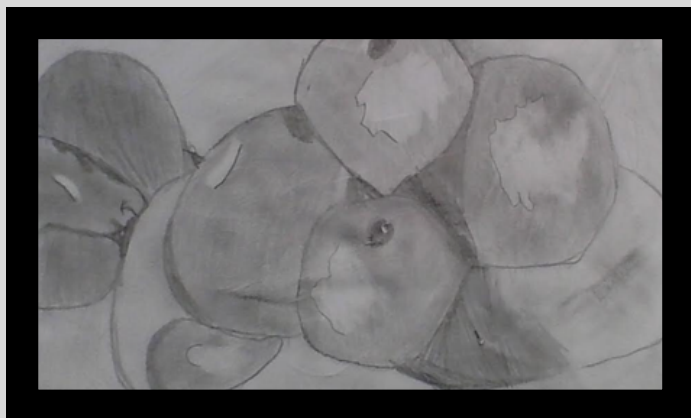
SCIENCE IN YEAR 2

In science, children compared the bounciness of different materials. We rolled different balls down a ramp to compare how bouncy they were when they bounced off the wall. We made a prediction and then tested our ideas to see if we were correct.



ART IN YEAR 4

Year 4 have been looking at the work of post impressionist artist Paul Cezanne. They used pencil techniques to give tone and depth to their still life drawing. Next they explored the medium of water colour paints, creating their own still life piece in the style of Cezanne.



GARDENING IN THUNBERG CLASS

This half term Thunberg have been excited to start using our edible garden. As it is still quite cold we have begun to grow runner beans Inside. We put the seeds in a seed tray and left them in the classroom, where it is nice and warm. They have started to grow really well. We are excited to put them in the edible garden when it gets a little warmer and taste the beans we have grown. Each day a different child gets the opportunity to be the gardener and tend to the beans making sure they are watered.



NEWS FROM YEAR 5



In science we have been learning about materials, making solutions and working out if we can spilt the materials back out by evaporation or filtering.



We have been learning about Spencer Silver, who invented the glue that he then used to make Post it notes. We experimented to make our own glues and use them for different purposes.



YEAR 5 ART AND DESIGN

In Art and Design, we are using Modroc to create our vases using one of the following shapes:



Once it is dry, we will paint it using a mixture of paint and glue and then we will decorate it using patterns we will design ourselves.

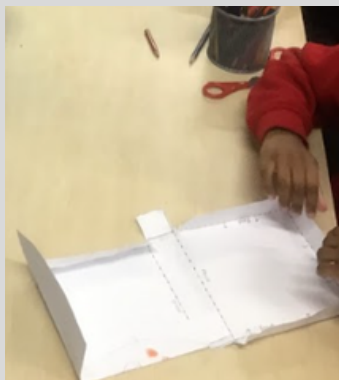


PE, SCIENCE AND DT IN YEAR 3

This half term, Year 3 have had an external coach come in to teach the children how to play cricket in their P.E sessions. They have worked very hard on throwing, catching and working as part of a team to support and cheer each other on during cricket games. Year 3 have really enjoyed this experience and they have worked so hard to improve week on week.

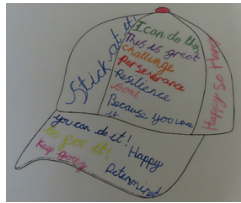


In Science this term, we have been learning about forces. During a science experiment the children used tennis balls to identify when a force is a push, pull or twist. The children found this very exciting and were able to demonstrate to each other the three different forces, while also explaining what made them different.

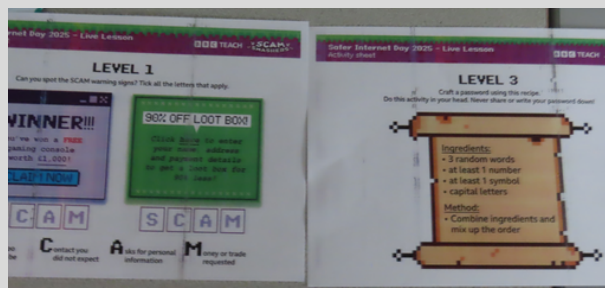


In DT this term, we have been focusing on what a package is and why it is so important. They were able to identify the key features of packaging and explain the importance of it being attractive and interesting to look at. Following on from this, Year 3 were able to design and make their own pizza boxes. The children were amazing at following each carefully given instruction and they were extremely proud of themselves when their final product came together. They are very excited to bring their designs home to share with you!

We all had a special assembly from Sheena, Claire and Liz, our fantastic Learning Mentors, and took part in a variety of activities during Place2Be's Children's Mental Health Week. We explored the importance of self-awareness and expressing emotions. Children designed their own positive thinking caps!

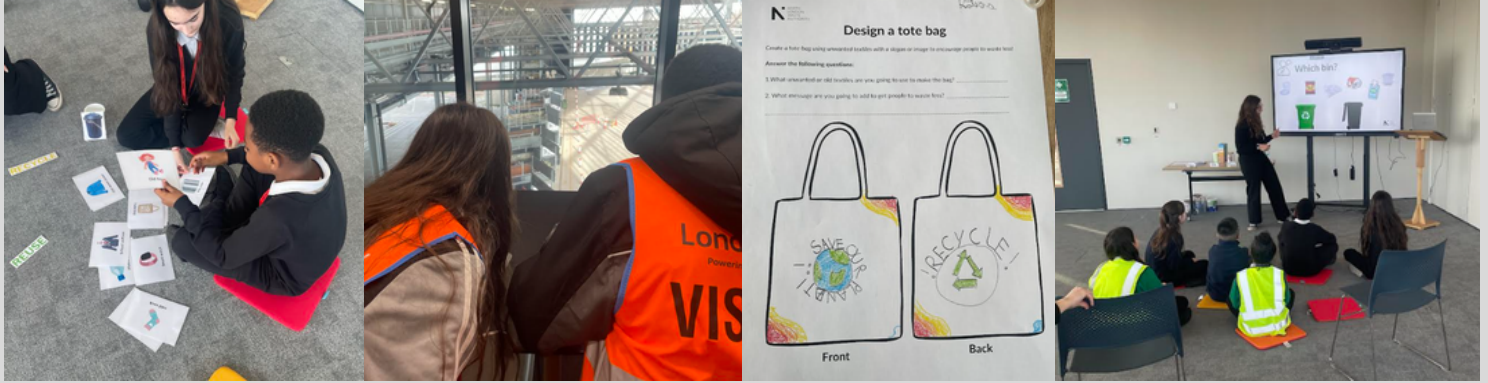


Tuesday 11 February was Safer Internet Day – the UK’s biggest celebration of online safety. Each year we cover an online issue or theme that speaks about the things young people are seeing and experiencing online. The theme for this year was on the issue of scams online, how young people can protect themselves and others, as well as what support is available to them. Children completed a range of activities throughout the day, and even took part in a BBC live lesson. Parents and carers were also invited to a drop-in session to discuss keeping children safer online.



YEAR 6 HEAD STUDENTS ECO PARK VISIT

Recently, our Head Students visited the Ecopark in Edmonton to learn about sustainability and recycling. They were able to take a look behind the scenes to see exactly what happens to our general waste as well as the waste that we recycle. It was an enlightening experience for the students because they discovered what items in particular could be recycled and the things that couldn't. Following their experience and participation in the workshop, they were able to design a tote bag of their own. They have developed a new appreciation of recycling, repairing and reusing and are now eager to find different ways to make our school more sustainable.



YEAR 6 CRICKET

Year 6 have been working with the cricket coach to improve their skills in cricket and learn to cooperate, collaborate and compete with each other.

Thank you to Dogukan and Kevin for taking the photographs.



A MESSAGE TO YEAR 6...

You have all been working so hard this term, we just wanted to say that we are very proud of you and the efforts you are putting into all of your work!

From The Year 6 Team and the Senior Leadership Team

NEW SIGNAGE AROUND THE SCHOOL

Have you noticed something new and exciting around school lately? We've got fantastic new signs, but these aren't for finding your way – they're all about making our school look even more amazing! These colourful signs add a splash of creativity to our walls. They feature our school values, our favourite books, the subjects we study in class and even our local area! The idea behind the new signage is to make our school a more inspiring and vibrant place to learn and play. We hope you love the new look!



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

FEBRUARY 2025

Monday 17 – Friday 21 February 2025

Half Term break

School finishes usual time (3:15pm) on Friday 14 February

Monday 24 – Wednesday 26 February

Book Fair in main school hall

Wednesday 26 February

London Fire Brigade visit to EYFS in school

MARCH 2025

Monday 3 March – Friday 7 March

Book Week (see separate letter for details of activities)

Monday 3 March

Author visit and story time session for children

Wednesday 5 March

Year 5 Simmonds class trip to V&A museum

Friday 7 March

World Book Day – children may come to school dressed as their favourite book character

Wednesday 12 March

Year 5 Farah class trip to V&A museum

Friday 14 March

Year 5 Ennis class trip to V&A museum

Friday 21 March

Comic Relief (Red Nose) Day

Wednesday 26 and Thursday 27 March

Parent/Carer Consultation Meetings with Class Teacher 3:30pm – 6:00pm

More information about booking your slot will be sent out nearer the time

APRIL 2025

Wednesday 2 April

Class poetry performances

More details will be sent out nearer the time

Friday 4 April

End of Spring Term 1:30pm finish

Monday 7 April – Monday 21 April

Easter break – no school for children

Tuesday 22 April

Start of Summer Term 8:45am start

Attendance

Attendance so far this academic year:

YN	90.9%
YR	88%
Y1	93.1%
Y2	89.9%
Y3	94.2%
Y4	94.8%
Y5	94.2%
Y6	94.4%

Our Whole-School Attendance Target is 96%



Attendance Matters

We are committed to working with children and parents/carers to achieve our overall attendance target of 96%. As set out in our attendance policy, we will work with families to identify the reasons for poor attendance and try to resolve any difficulties. Early intervention will be a priority moving forward. Every school day counts. Unfortunately we are unable to authorise holidays during term time. We understand that emergency situations may arise and if you wish to request a Leave of Absence due to an exceptional circumstance you should make a request to the Headteacher using the 'Request for leave during term time' form. The local authority may choose to issue a fine for unauthorised holidays taken during term time.

Term Dates

2024/2025

Autumn Term 2024	
Inset Day	Monday 2 September 2024
Inset Day	Tuesday 3 September 2024
First Day of Term	Wednesday 4 September 2024
Half Term	Monday 28 October to Friday 1 November 2024
Inset Day	Monday 4 November 2024
Start of second half term	Tuesday 5 November
Last Day of Term	Friday 20 December 2024
Spring Term 2025	
First Day of Term	Monday 6 January 2025
Half Term	Monday 17 to Friday 21 February 2025
Start of second half term	Monday 24 February 2025
Last Day of Term	Friday 4 April 2025
Summer Term 2025	
First Day of Term	Tuesday 22 April 2025
Bank Holiday	Monday 5 May 2025
Half Term	Monday 26 May to Friday 30 May 2025
Inset Day	Monday 2 June 2025
Start of second half term	Tuesday 3 June 2025
Last Day of Term	Friday 18 July 2025

2025/2026

Autumn Term 2025	
INSET DAY	Monday 1st September 2025
INSET DAY	Tuesday 2nd September 2025
First Day of Term	Wednesday 3rd September 2025
Half Term	Monday 27th – Friday 31st October 2025
Start of Second Half Term	Monday 3rd November 2025
Last Day of Term	Friday 19th December 2025 Finish at 1.30pm
Spring Term 2026	
INSET DAY	Monday 5th January 2026
First Day of Term	Tuesday 6th January 2026
Half Term	Monday 16th – Friday 20th February 2026
Start of Second Half Term	Monday 20th February 2026
Last Day of Term	Friday 27th March 2026 Finish at 1.30pm
Summer Term 2026	
INSET DAY	Monday 13th April 2026
First Day of Term	Tuesday 14th April 2026
Bank Holiday	Monday 4th May 2026
Half Term	Monday 25th – Friday 29th May 2026
Start of Second Half Term	Monday 1st June 2026
Last Day of Term	Friday 17th July 2026

Keep Your Child Safe Online



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TALK

Talk to your child about their internet use and safety

Have meaningful conversations about how they use the internet

Praise your child for safe online behaviours

Welcome your child if they want to ask you a question or tell you about a problem, even if they've done something unwise themselves

EDUCATE

Learn as much as you can about games, platforms, parental controls and the benefits and risks of online activity

Teach your child about specific issues and concerns

Teach your child about safe and unsafe relationships and how to repair friendships following disagreements online

CO-VIEW

Co-view your child's online activity at least 1x/week

Interact with your child online

Model appropriate online behaviour

Co-operate with each other to promote the well-being of all



HOUSE RULES

Set clear routines, rules and boundaries ("house rules")

Keep to age ratings and guidance for apps, games and devices

Restrict online activity to daytime and communal areas

Use filters and parental controls

Spend regular screen-free time with your child



AGE
11+

for a basic phone or highly restricted smart phone without internet access or social media

AGE
14+

for a smart phone with parental controls

*Agree a contract with your child to encourage responsible phone use