



Weekly Newsletter: 6th March 2026

Dear Parents/Carers,

There has been one standout day of the week, which I'm sure you will be able to guess! Yesterday, we celebrated World Book Day at school in style.

Thank you for all of the efforts that went into the preparation of the costumes – the children looked amazing and it was great fun guessing which characters had turned up to school.



Throughout the day, including at playtime, we carried out our now-traditional ringing of the Reading Bell. Whenever the bell was rung, everyone (adults included) had to sit and read a book for 5 minutes. A particular highlight of the day for me was looking across the playground to see a horde of Minions (which is the correct collective noun according to Google!) reading together in the sunshine.

During our morning assembly, each class paraded around the hall so we could all see the fantastic costumes. I also talked to the children about the concept of 'fun', what it means and how reading could be a fun hobby. We also talked about how reading is not just for story books, it can also be recipes, comics or instructions for a new game.

We finished the assembly by celebrating the winners of the Design a Plate competition. On Wednesday, the School Council voted for their favourite entry (under a strict set of rules) from the many amazingly designed plates.

Congratulations to our winners.

Class	Winner	Plate Design
Caterpillars	Zachary Argent	Clifford Big Red Dog
Leopards	Noah Griffiths	Mr. Happy
Pandas	Abel Arbon	Stickman
Llamas	Patrick Irwin	The Tiger that came to tea
Orcas	Zara Gudgin	Owl Diaries
Penguins	Luna Logan-Edwards	Harry Potter
Wolves	Sophia Ashby	Shrek



We were also visited by Chris Harman (dad of Dexter in Year 4), who, in November, self-published his own book 'Dexter and the Blue Ammonite'. Chris spent time talking to each of the classes about the process behind writing the books, including the 15 versions he wrote before he was happy, how he got his best friend to help with the illustrations and how he got the books published. I was present during the Y6 talk and it was wonderful for the children to see how the writing process works and that anyone can become an author and share their ideas with the wider world. Chris also mentioned that there are another couple of books in the pipeline! 'Dexter and the Blue Ammonite' can be purchased [here](#).



After lunch, we enjoyed some shared reading as the children visited different classes to share a book together. It is always lovely to see the children mixing with each other and hearing the older children reading to the younger ones.

Overall, it was a brilliant day which I know will be a highlight of the year.

I hope that you have a fantastic weekend!

Kind regards
Jonathan Gray
Headteacher

House Points

Willow	Cedar	Oak	Lime
151	155	178	177

PE Days for Spring 2

This half term, there will be a change to some of the PE days as three new classes work with Hannah and the coaches, from Rivers Gymnastics. Please see the table below for any changes (highlighted):

Class	PE Days
Reception (Caterpillars)	Tuesday and Friday
Year 1 (Leopards)	Monday and Friday
Year 2 (Pandas)	Wednesday and Friday
Year 3 (Llamas)	Tuesday and Thursday
Year 4 (Orcas)	Wednesday and Thursday
Year 5 (Penguins)	Monday and Tuesday
Year 6 (Wolves)	Tuesday and Wednesday

Spring Term Dates

- FOAS Easter Bake Off: Friday 20th March
- Easter Service at All Saints Church: 9:30am 25th March
- Rocksteady Concert: 2:30pm Thursday 26th March
- Last day of Spring Term: Friday 27th March
- Easter Holidays: Monday 30th March to Friday 10th April

Details about events and trips to be shared nearer the time.



Stars of the Week!



Class	Strive	Support	Succeed
Caterpillars	Maeva	Kai	Jack
Leopards	Mollie TB	Kaiya	Elsie
Pandas	Harishva	Abel	Kole
Llamas	Jacob	Hunter and George	Rishaani
Orcas	Isla	Ruby	Lilly
Penguins	Poppy	Luna and Albert	Miguel
Wolves	Freya	Isabella	IvyMay

Class News

Caterpillars

What a busy week we have had! The week started with our whole school No-Outsiders morning, where the children shared the story 'The Family Book'. We then talked about our own families, and how all families are different. This week, we have also enjoyed sharing the story 'Gordon's Great Escape' as part of our literacy work. As it was World Book Day on Thursday, we decided to share some other stories that had been written by the same author, Sue Hendra. These included 'Keith the Cat with the Magic Hat', 'No-Bot', 'Barry the Fish with Fingers' and 'Norman the Slug with the Silly Shell'. The children have looked at the characters and settings from each story and, on Friday, thought about a new adventure for 'Gordon the Balloon'. In Phonics, we have learnt the digraphs oo, ar and or, along with the tricky word they. On Thursday, there was

more excitement as we celebrated World Book Day - the children all looked fantastic in their costumes.

Leopards

This week, we retold the story 'Bringing the Rain to Kapiti Plain'. We enjoyed using key words, phrases and rhymes in our writing. In Maths, we developed our addition and subtraction skills by adding and subtracting within 20 before moving on to finding related facts. We enjoyed challenging ourselves to solve a number of addition and subtraction calculations. In Science, we named a range of common animals. We then looked at the structure of different animals before comparing and sorting them. In Geography, we named a number of weathers and discussed both the seasonal and daily weather patterns in the UK. On Thursday, there was lots of excitement as we celebrated World Book Day. We enjoyed sharing our books with each other, making bookmarks and teaming up with Year 4 to read. Next week, we will begin learning about information texts. In Maths, we will begin our Place Value to 50 unit by learning to count from 20 to 50 and, in Geography, we will begin to learn about different types of extreme weather. In Phonics, we will continue to learn new sounds.

Pandas

This week in Year 2, we have been super busy learning about sensational scientists! We learnt all about Mae Jemison, David Attenborough, Amelia Earhart and then Marie Curie. Each of these scientists have a legacy in the world of science which we discussed and remembered. We wrote a letter to David Attenborough explaining what we'd learnt and also how we will care for the planet, we wrote a fact file all about Amelia Earhart and learnt some amazing facts. Most recently, our lesson about Marie Curie involved us looking at light and x-rays as we found out about radioactivity. On Monday, we will find out about Katherine Johnson, another famous woman in science. Also this week, we completed our 'Diary of a Killer Cat' unit, before starting our new unit 'Diary of a Wombat'. We are practising letter and diary writing and the relevant skills involved. In Maths, we have continued with our times table practise, concentrating on how it matches to repeated addition. We then had a fantastic World Book Day, with some amazing costumes! We discussed and wrote about our character, made personalised bookmarks, and enjoyed shared reading with Y5. In PE this week, we practised jumping skills; in Music, we used the glockenspiels with Mrs Fisher; and, in PSHE, we thought about how we have calming strategies we can use when we feel like we might erupt like a volcano! Next week looks a busy one! It's Science week, so we will be doing lots more science and asking and answering some big questions, and also we have a special visit from the SCARF tent and Gerald the giraffe. Lots to look forward to!

Llamas

We've completed yet another week of super work in Llama Class this week. In English, we have been working on our oracy skills by reciting a poem in pairs, paying particular attention to our voice projection and expression. We also learnt about metaphors to go with our simile learning, then we created a mixture of both about an animal or pet of our choice. In Maths, we have become short division geniuses - even with worded problems! In Geography, we learnt about the seas and rivers around or in the UK and we even used atlases to find out where the rivers are. In PSHE, we discussed who keeps us safe in different scenarios and what we can do to keep ourselves safe. On Tuesday, we had our No Outsiders morning during which we read 'The Truth about Old People'; this helped us to discuss the idea of stereotypes. We then created posters which challenged some common stereotypes about different groups of people e.g. boys don't play with dolls, girls can't do sports etc. Well done for all your hard work this week, Llamas!

Orcas

We have had another wonderful week in Year 4. We have continued with our exciting Restless Earth topic in Geography, covering tsunamis and volcanoes this week. On Monday, we researched the Boxing Day tsunami of 2004 and looked at how it affected many people around the world. Then, on Tuesday, we learnt about what is inside a volcano before discovering their primary and secondary effects. We learnt that volcanoes can shoot out giant, flaming rocks called lava bombs and that countries can generate geothermal energy from them! In English this week, we used word wheels to help us improve our descriptive writing. For example, instead of

describing the sea as blue, we used words such as sapphire or cobalt. We also recapped how to use speech punctuation, which is an important skill for a Year 4 writer. In Maths, we have been converting fractions to decimals and showing our understanding of decimal place value (tenths and hundredths). In PSHE this week, we discussed who keeps us safe, such as the emergency services, and what it means to have a 'duty'. For World Book Day, aside from dressing up as fantastic book characters, we took part in the BBC live lesson. We also created a character profile about who we came as. Additionally, it was wonderful to have the opportunity to welcome one of our very own class members' dads to discuss the book that he has written. Well done for another great week, Year 4!

Penguins

Another exciting week in Penguin Class, complete with No Outsiders and World Book Day this week. In Geography, we started our unit on rivers by collecting our prior knowledge on a cold assessment, responding to a concept cartoon and labelling the different parts of a river on diagrams. We then developed our understanding about rivers by writing about erosion and deposition and used our map skills to solve location questions using four figure grid references. In English, we read and enjoyed "The Listeners" by Walter de la Mare, using it to write our own electrifying descriptions before comparing the poem with "A Smuggler's Song" by Rudyard Kipling. In Maths, we used our place value grids to round, compare and order decimal numbers. In PE, we enjoyed starting work on our Toprock dance moves, as well as developing our handstand skills using apparatus with Coach Hannah for gymnastics. In PSHE with Mrs Fisher, we contrasted facts and opinions, especially when finding out about the world and, in Music, we explored "Me, Myself and I" by De la Soul. In French with Mrs Fisher, we developed our vocabulary around sports and the ten modern Olympic games and, in DT, we "enjoyed" our taste test of different bolognese sauces. For No Outsiders, we picked out the values in "How to mend a broken wing". Finally, we all enjoyed the festivities of World Book Day, particularly going to read with the Pandas.

Wolves

We have enjoyed a few different, exciting activities this week including No Outsiders and of course, World Book Day. On Tuesday, in our No Outsiders session, we read the book 'The Island' and discussed the topics of racism and prejudice. We summarised the main points of the story before creating a storyboard to showcase our learning. In English, we finished our Wild Boy mystery stories and we really enjoyed the ending where we could leave it on a cliff hanger. In Maths, we continued to work on algebra which also tied in nicely to our afternoon Maths session, where we calculated missing angles in triangles and quadrilaterals as well as missing angles on a straight line. With Mrs Fielder, in RE we started our new unit on the Eucharist, learning about how Buzz Aldrin took communion on the moon; in French, we were learning how to tell the time using French language; and in Maths, we continued interpreting the mean of a set of data. In Gymnastics, we worked with the coaches to do handstands, skipping and forward and backwards rolls and with Coach Dan, we continued learning the skills for handball. Finally, for World Book Day, we enjoyed spending time reading, discussing books and completing book related activities, and the day culminated in us sharing a story with younger children. Overall, a wonderful week!



[@actonprimary](https://www.instagram.com/actonprimary)

Community News



LONG MELFORD YOUTH FC
UNDER 6s

🕒 Training: Saturdays, 9:00am – 10:00am
📍 Location: Long Melford Football Club
📅 First session: **Saturday 21st February 2026**



All abilities welcome –
come along and
give it a try!

For more information,
please message Ash on:

 **07930 829808**

to be added to the WhatsApp group.

Cornard Dynamos Girls are RECRUITING!



🏆 WHAT WE OFFER 🏆

- FA Qualified coaches
- Fun, confidence building training
- Match day opportunities
- Friendly team atmosphere
- Building new friendships

🏆 AVAILABLE AGE GROUPS 🏆

- U8 – Year 3
- U11 – Year 6
- U12 – Year 7
- U14 – Year 9

Contact: Lisa MacDonald, Girls Coach 07938 512849

Support and Advice

School's Early Help Webpage

A range of websites and sources of advice on Emotional Wellbeing, Health, Sleep and Parenting Support can be found [here](#).



Child and Adolescent Mental Health Parent Workshops

Free virtual workshops:

- Anxiety
- Emetophobia
- Tourette's Symptoms/Tics
- Obsessive Compulsive Disorder (OCD)

Access here: <https://nsft.uk/Workshops>




Free NHS Virtual workshops – Supporting Young People's Mental Health

These free virtual workshops (Zoom) are designed to provide up to date advice and guidance on how parents and carers can support the young people in their life. The workshops are 60 minutes long.

To book onto a workshop visit nsft.uk/workshops or scan the QR code




There are also a number of NHS podcasts and webinars available on YouTube, these can be accessed anytime via <https://www.youtube.com/@NSFT>



Sudbury & District Citizens Advice

is here to help.

We give free, up-to-date advice to everyone. You don't need to be a British Citizen. If you need help with benefits, work, money worries, rising energy costs, housing or anything else please get in touch.



Click the image or visit <https://www.sudburycab.org.uk/>