



Weekly Newsletter: 18th September 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

Next Thursday, at 7pm at school, is the Friends Of Acton School (FOAS) AGM. For those of you who are new to our school community, FOAS play a huge role in making sure our children get the best experiences while they are at Acton by ensuring we have the 'shiny' bits such as new books for the library, supporting with the cost of school trips and resources for the classrooms.

As you will be aware from the stories in the media, school budgets are expected to cover everything that goes on in the building (and be spent on the building too). For this reason, the fundraising that FOAS do each year enables us to enhance what we can provide for the children.

FOAS is a very small, but mighty, group of volunteers who, in the past couple of years, have organised cake sales, Frozen Fridays, school discos, Wonka Bar sales, our Christmas Hamper raffle and two very successful Colour Runs.

The Colour Runs have been real highlights of the past two summers with over £7000 being raising for the school, which has been used to buy a class set of tablets.

Over the past couple of years, you may have noticed a change in the type of fundraising events which FOAS have organised. All of these changes have been to make the process of organising and running the events a little easier for the committee.

The reason I am really promoting the FOAS AGM this year is that there are a number of the committee stepping down and if they are not replaced with new members then there is a very real possibility that FOAS would be no more. This would be a real shame for the children and the experiences which live long in their memories of their time at Acton.

I know that everyone lives very busy lives and that there are an infinite number of pressures on family time (and life in general). However, if you are able to spare a couple of hours each term to support with some fundraising or have some different ideas for events, then it would be lovely to see some new faces at the AGM on Thursday. Even if you just want to



come along, find out a little more and have a biscuit then you are very welcome – no one will be forced into joining!

I hope that you have a fantastic weekend (and don't forget 7pm Thursday at school!).

Kind regards

Jonathan Gray
Headteacher

House Captains and House Points

Today, we announced our House Captains for this year. All of the staff took part in the vote, which came down to 1 or 2 votes in lots of cases. Our House Captains will take on many different roles throughout the year and be responsible for the all-important House Point count each week.



Willow	Cedar	Oak	Lime
103	118	149	97

Autumn 2026 Term Dates

- FOAS AGM: Thursday 24th September, 7pm
- U11 Boys Football Tournament: Friday 9th October
- U11 Girls Football Tournament: Friday 16th October
- Parents Evenings: Wednesday 21st October and Thursday 22nd October, 3:30-6:30pm
- PD Day: Friday 23rd October
- Half Term: w/c Monday 26th October
- Children Return: Monday 2nd November
- Individual Photos: Monday 16th November
- Last Day of Autumn Term: Friday 18th December

More dates to be added as the term goes on. All term and holiday dates can be found [here](#). Details about events and trips to be shared nearer the time.



Stars of the Week!



Class	Strive	Support	Succeed
Caterpillars	Toby	Emily	Max
Leopards	Mati	Florence and Aiden	Jack
Pandas	Isabella	Nora	Noah G
Llamas	Jacob	Phoebe	Elodie
Orcas	Nancy	Kira	Phoenix
Penguins	Dexter (nominated by Miss Sparkes)	Zara	Lula
Wolves	Olivia	Oscar K	Freddie T

Class News

Caterpillars

This week in Caterpillar class we have continued working on our topic 'Marvellous Me', sharing our interests, drawing some fantastic self-portraits and writing our names. Our story focus this week has been 'You Choose'. The children enjoyed listening to the story, and choosing their favourite things. In Phonics, we have started to introduce the Phase 2 sounds - this week's sounds were s, a, t, p. We have played lots of games using these sounds and have encouraged the children to have a go at writing them as well. This week, the children will be bringing home a folder with the sounds they have learnt in class, so they can practise them at home. Our Maths teaching has been focused on counting accurately, using one to one correspondence. Another super week Caterpillars, well done.

Leopards

This week, we started our 'Stories with Familiar Settings' unit by looking at the story 'Five Minutes' Peace' by Jill Murphy. The story is set in the home of the Large family and tells the story of Mrs Large, who would like five minutes peace. Before listening to the story, we predicted what we thought the story could be about. We then sequenced the events in the story and used adjectives to describe Mrs Large. In Maths, we learnt to represent objects using counters and tens frames. We also learnt to write numbers in both numerals and words. In Science, we learnt to recognise and name a range of everyday materials and, in Art, we practised drawing different lines using music as a stimulus. Next week, we will retell the story of 'Five Minutes' Peace'. In Maths, we will count forwards and backwards within 10 and in History, we will consider how the materials used to make toys have changed over time. Our Phonics will focus on blending words with two or more digraphs.

Pandas

This week in Year 2, we have been writing explanation texts about the Great Fire of London. We have structured our writing into each day and retold the story in parts. Alongside this, we have tried to use conjunctions and questions to add interest for the reader. In Maths, we have been continuing our work on place value. We have used bead strings to count in tens and ones, as well as using tens frames to reinforce whether a number is a ten or a one. Also this week, we created menus in D.T., trying to achieve a menu which included a balance of food groups and appealed to a wide audience; used the glockenspiels in Music; and practised joining l and i in handwriting. In R.E. this week, we took part in a live lesson run by the Jewish Museum all about the Jewish New Year and Rosh Hashana. We learnt about the key features, sights and sounds of the festival, and took part in an online quiz. Then as part of our R.E. lesson that afternoon, we looked step by step through the days of the festival and enjoyed sampling apples with honey, pomegranate seeds and bread to remind us to have a sweet new year.

Llamas

It's been another fantastic week in Year 3! In English, we have been reading more of 'Tilly and the Time Machine' and answering comprehension questions about the story. We also stole

some vocabulary from the book to practise using a dictionary! In Maths, we have continued working on place value by comparing and ordering numbers. In Computing, we continued our e-safety learning by creating an online profile using information we'd been given about a fictional person, carefully considering what information is safe to share online. In History, we learnt about how the Stone Age is split into three different eras and the differences in technology between them. After History, we spent our PSHE lesson discussing the special people in our lives and then we interviewed a friend about our friendship.

Orcas

We have had a lovely week of learning in Orca Class. We started the week by learning about the different organs and their functions within the digestive system. We then created giant posters in pairs, testing our knowledge of the location of each organ and adding any extra facts that we could remember. On Tuesday, we learnt about carnivores, omnivores and herbivores before researching three animals of our choice and finding out more about their diets. All sorts of different animals were researched, including pythons, axolotls and bears. In English this week, we have read several more chapters of 'The Butterfly Lion' and have reached the point where Bertie has gone to war. We wrote some very heartfelt letters to Millie, written from Bertie's perspective, describing what had happened to him. In Maths, we have been using number lines to count in different multiples, including 10s, 100s and 1,000s. This has helped us with our understanding of different place values. In PE this week, we built on our 'bridges' gymnastics lesson from last week by performing our balances and then critiquing another group's work. In French, we learnt how to ask someone's name, while in Computing, we talked about online relationships with friends and how to stay safe when communicating online. We have also been working hard on our times tables this week — as always! Don't forget that our first TTRS tournament starts tonight and ends next Thursday! Well done for working so hard, Orcas!

Penguins

Our second full week has been absolutely packed with learning - the Penguins have coped admirably, of course! In History, we focused keenly on two key kings: Alfred the Great and Ethelred the Unready. We also compared our curriculum knowledge of Vikings with an entertaining story called "How to be a Viking" by Cressida Cowell, reflecting on our previous studies of "How to train your Dragon" in Year Four too. Finally we recorded our answers to the key questions on our hot assessments. In English, we have compared poems by Michael Rosen, used relative clauses to improve our own sentences and performed poems by Allan Ahlberg while focusing on our pace, tone and volume. In Maths, we have deepened our place value knowledge by rounding numbers up to the millions, comparing and ordering numbers and using inequalities signs correctly. In PE, we have progressed through our netball unit with Coach Gray by improving pivoting and positioning, while Mr Newcombe began our Tag Rugby unit by taking us through some passing and movement drills. In Music with Mrs Fisher, we learned to sing and play along to 'Livin' On a Prayer' to start our rock unit and - in PSHE with Mrs Fisher - we worked on finding compromises. In RE with Mrs Fisher, we continued our study of Tawhid and lastly in French, we practised discussing our pets.

Wolves

The Wolf Pack have continued to work hard this week and, as a result, a lot of learning has taken place. On Monday with Mrs Fielder, we worked on addition and subtraction in Maths; worked on time in French; began our group samba dances in PE; and discussed how to get help both online and offline in Computing. With Mrs Clow, in English, we are really enjoying 'The Explorer' and this week in particular have been focusing on the skill of personification. This is where we attribute a human characteristic to something non-human. In Maths, we continued to learn about place value, this time working on rounding numbers to 10 million and finding the difference between positive and negative numbers. On Tuesday, we enjoyed our first No Outsiders session of the year. We read a book called 'King of the Sky', which is all about immigration and wrote diary entries to imagine how the main character would have felt arriving in a new country. In Geography, we continued learning about Brazil and the Amazon Rainforest. We focused particularly on the climate and used Excel to create our own line graphs displaying data. Finally, with Mrs Fisher, in PSHE we looked at how to be assertive in situations with friends

when we want to make our feelings clear and in RE, we looked at how Muslims remember Allah using the 5 pillars and how this is could be relevant to our lives.



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

Community Events

ACTON PLAYGROUP COMMITTEE
CHARITY NUMBER: 1027943

LATE RISERS CAR BOOT SALE

SUNDAY
27TH SEPTEMBER
11 A.M. – 2 P.M.
(SET UP FROM 10 A.M.)

£10 PER PITCH

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FROM **£104**
13 WEEKS

- 4:30pm–5:15pm 6–9yrs old
- 5:15pm–6:00pm 10–15yrs
- Friday 11th September – Friday 11th December

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Aged 5-11

COMETS

ENGLAND FOOTBALL




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>