



Weekly Newsletter: 9th May 2025

Dear Parents/Carers,

It may have only been a 4-day week, and we may have spent all week being confused about what day it is, but that hasn't stopped us.

We started our week with an assembly about VE Day and the celebrations that took place at the weekend and have continued this week.

Thankfully, all of us sharing the assembly haven't been in the position of those celebrating the end of World War 2 80 years ago and hope we never are. However, our Wolves had the opportunity to speak to a veteran, who was serving in the armed forces when peace in Europe was announced, when they visited the VE Day exhibition at the Village Hall.



I know, for the children, it was an amazing experience to talk to someone who had lived through the events which they had been learning about in the Autumn Term. Thank you to Mrs. McSweeney for inviting the children to attend as it was an experience that they will not forget.

There have also been some amazing art projects taking place this week, with both the Caterpillars and the Pandas trying their hand at mono printing. This is a tricky technique as it relies on understanding the use of negative space. I passed the Year 2 efforts on the drying rack and was amazed at the intricate designs (inspired by maps) that the children had produced.



Next week is the first of the landmarks that symbolise that the Wolf Pack are close to leaving us as they tackle 'Breakfast Week' (aka SATs Week). I know that Mrs Clow has been so very impressed with the attitude of the Wolves in the build-up, with the main concerns being 'What time do we have to be here for breakfast?' and 'Do we get a cooked breakfast?' rather than anything about the 'quizzes'.

The rest of the school will be playing their part in supporting the Wolves (paying it forward for when it is their turn) with a few timetable changes, quieter corridors and understanding that Y6 get 'Field Priority' in the afternoons.

I am not going to wish the Wolves luck, as I know they do not need it. I do know that they will do their best and enjoy the breakfasts.

I hope that you have a great weekend.

Kind regards
Jonathan Gray
Headteacher

House Points

Willow	Cedar	Oak	Lime
32	21	42	31

Summer Term Dates

- w/c Monday 12th May – KS2 Assessment Week
- w/c Monday 26th May – Half term
- Friday 6th June - TT Rockstar/Numbots Day (more details to follow)
- Monday 16th June – Class Photos
- Monday 23rd – Wednesday 25th June – Year 6 Thorpe Woodlands Residential
- Wednesday 2nd July – Sports Day (Parents welcome from 12pm)
- Friday 4th July – End of Year Reports and FOAS Summer Fayre
- Tuesday 22nd July – Last day of Summer Term

Little Oaks Wraparound



Our wraparound care is provided by Lisa, from Little Oaks. The Breakfast club runs from 7:30 to 8:30am and Afterschool club from 3:15-5:45pm every day of the week.

For more information and to book a place, please visit <https://www.littleoakskids.com/acton>.



Stars of the Week!



Class	Strive	Support	Succeed
Caterpillars	Willow	Ava	Barnaby
Leopards	Abel	Nina	Tillyanna
Pandas	Nancy	Muku and James M	Stanley
Llamas	Amelia-Rose	Lula	Corinne
Orcas	Luna	Eric	Olivia
Penguins	Bethany Cu	IvyMay	Peaches
Wolves	Dottie	Jemima	Patrick

Class News

Caterpillars

This week, Caterpillar Class have been sharing the story 'The Veg Patch Party'. They have really enjoyed this humorous story - joining in with the repeated refrain used throughout. In Drawing Club, the children have drawn some fantastic pictures linked to the story and written some fabulous sentences too. The children are becoming confident independent writers, using their phonic knowledge to write simple sentences. In Phonics this week, we have been looking at CCVC words, using an alternative version of 'The Gingerbread Man', called 'The Little Man'. Our Maths focus has been 'How many now?' and the children have used a variety of Maths resources to tell First, Then and Now number stories. We continued to look at mono printing in Art this week, using different materials to transfer paint from one material to another. Great work Caterpillars.

Leopards

This week, we sequenced and wrote Cinderella. In Maths, we learnt about arrays and how these are used for multiplication. We then created arrays to go with both repeated addition and multiplication calculations. In Science, we learnt about different animal groups. We looked at the structure of different animals before comparing and sorting them. Next week, we will turn our attention to the fairy tale of Snow White. We will consider the different adjectives we can use to describe both settings and characters. In Maths, we will extend our doubles knowledge before moving on to learn about division, and, in Science, we will learn about what different animals eat. In Phonics, we will continue to review our sounds.

Pandas

This week in Year 2, we've been reading and sharing various versions of the 'George and the Dragon' legend. We ordered and re-told the story and then compared a variety of versions. We considered the similarities and differences between each and discussed why these orally told stories change over time. We then used conjunctions such as 'because' and 'although' to express which story was our favourite and why. In Maths, we started a new unit, recognising 2D and 3D shape. We matched shapes to their names and properties and also described their features. In Art, we have enjoyed continuing our unit about maps and abstract shape. We created stained glass effect artwork using cellophane and tissue paper which we have then displayed on the window to allow the light to shine through. After that, we really enjoyed mono printing. We drew part of our map onto a polystyrene tile before printing it onto black paper. The results were incredibly effective and the Pandas were very proud of their results! Also this week, we enjoyed PE with Mr Gray and Coach Dan, working on trust and team building skills and in Science, we have kept an eye on our hydroponics experiment with a few shoots starting to grow.

Llamas

Even with the shorter week, our week in Year 3 has felt busier than ever! In English, we have been revisiting all of the writing features we've learnt about this year in preparation for writing our own Greek myth! Our mythical creatures have been designed, our Gods/Goddesses have been chosen and we've learnt about popular settings for mythical stories - the next step is to plan our

narrative. In History, we have been diving deeper into Ancient Greece. This week, we have learnt about the city states which made up Ancient Greece, Alexander the Great and his empire, daily life for the Ancient Greeks, and the rivalry between Athens and Sparta! We've shown so much interest in this topic and many of us have come prepared with lots of facts from books we've read previously about the Ancient Greeks. In Maths, we have continued with our work on pictograms, this time learning how to interpret data from them. We then moved onto bar charts, learning how to draw our own using data from tally charts and then interpreting data from them. On Tuesday with Mrs Fisher, we continued learning how to say and write different ice cream flavours in French! In RE, we learnt about more of the Humanism rules and we considered whether or not we would choose to follow their rules in our own lives. Well done for all your hard work this week Llamas.

Orcas

It may have only been a 4 day week, but we have managed to get lots done in Orca Class! In Science this week, we learnt some more about solids, liquids and gases and the particles that make them. This knowledge allowed us to conduct our first experiment - melting (but sadly not eating) chocolate. We were testing whether the cocoa/milk amount in white, milk and dark chocolate changed the speed of melting. The experiment also allowed us to learn about taking temperatures and using stopwatches. In English, we had a look at various different writing skills this week - we practised including adverbs in our sentences and trying to use conjunctions such as 'nevertheless' and 'although' to improve our writing. In Maths, we have spent this week converting fractions to decimals and vice versa. We also divided whole numbers by 10 and 100, turning them into decimals. In French, we learnt how to order food this week and, in PSHE, we discussed the choices we make and how they compare to the choices adults make. In RE this week with Mrs Fisher, the class looked at how all Sikhs are equal and shared the story about Emperor Akbar visiting Guru Amar. Then in Music, the class sang 'Oh Happy Days'. We have started a new tournament on TTRS, competing as tables against each other. Don't forget to login and compete over the weekend!

Penguins

The Penguins are feeling surprised by how quickly this half term is waddling along! We have already completed our History unit comparing Europe with Baghdad in 900AD, studying historical medical techniques, drawing artistic geometric patterns and collecting our knowledge on a hot assessment. In English, we got started on our persuasive writing unit by discussing the features and devices used in successful adverts and letters, before experimenting with altering modal verbs to change the impact of existing adverts. In Maths, we focused on converting metric to imperial measures (and vice versa) and enjoyed sharing our improving scores on our second Arithmetic Friday. In PE with Coach Dan, we played T-ball to allow everyone to get a good strike and improve their decision-making, then Coach Caragh developed our relay skills in athletics. In French with Mrs Fisher, we considered ten different Olympic sports and then, in Music, we progressed to playing "Breathe" on our glockenspiels. In PSHE with Mrs Fisher, we wrote about our dream jobs and finally, in RE, we created "triple jewels" to extend our understanding of Triple Refuge in Buddhism.

Wolves

Firstly, a reminder that PE days will be **Tuesdays and Fridays** from next week. This week, we've been cramming in some last-minute revision sessions all ready for next week. We took part in a SPAG relay race where we got into teams and raced each other to be the first team to obtain the most correct answers; we played a SPAG version of 'Who wants to be Millionaire'; and we had great fun playing an arithmetic mystery box game where we had to complete calculation questions. If we were correct, we had the chance to either open the 'mystery box' or give it to another team. Sometimes, we gained points and other times we lost but we all had a great time. On Thursday, we walked down to the village hall to look at the 80th anniversary of VE Day exhibition. As we studied WW2 back in the Autumn Term, it was really interesting to see some of the artefacts on display but most exciting was that we met a 99-year-old war veteran who was present at the D-Day landings. He answered our questions and we felt incredibly lucky to have had such a wonderful experience. With Mrs Fisher, in PSHE, we

discussed risks in situations and how to reduce them and in RE, we created our own collages of the Triple Gem to signify how Buddhists take refuge in Buddha. Have a wonderful weekend, Wolves and I'll see you on Monday for breakfast and cake week- you've got this!



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

Community Events/News



Dedham Vale
National
Landscape
& Stour Valley



Stour Valley
Education Network

Wild in the Stour Valley

Friday 30th May 2025

11:00am - 4:00pm

Friars Meadow, off Valley Walk,
Sudbury CO10 2TL

A free, fun, hands-on family event packed full with lots of outdoor nature-based activities:

- Arts & crafts
- Mini beast hunts
- Quiz trail
- Archery
- Pond dipping
- Canoeing & boat trips

Parking nearby – charges apply.
W3W: hubcaps.minority.spoon

Find out more at dedhamvale-NL.org.uk or email
emma.black@suffolkandessex-NL.org.uk



Family Adventure Day

On June 7th 2025 we are holding an open day at Thorpe Woodlands where families can come along and take part in lots of activities including high ropes, zip wires, archery, canoeing, climbing, caving and lots more. The price is £20 per person for the whole day with no extra costs.

All proceeds from the day will go towards supporting the amazing work of Keframa School in Uganda.



When: 10am-4pm on Saturday June 7th 2025

Where: Thorpe Woodlands Adventure Centre, Shadwell, Thetford, Norfolk IP24 2RX

Please bring a picnic for the day
Activities are suitable for age 8+

How to book: Please click the link below and scroll to June 7th on the timetable. You will then be able to book and pay for your places after selecting 'Family Adventure Day'.

[CLICK HERE TO BOOK](#)

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](#).

Free, Virtual NHS Parent/Carer Workshops

Norfolk and Suffolk Foundation NHS Trust are running free virtual workshops (Zoom) 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 60-75 minutes long.

Visit <http://www.nsft.uk/workshops> for more details



Child and Adolescent Mental Health Parent Workshops

Free virtual workshops:

- Anxiety
- Big Feelings
- Self-harm
- Obsessive Compulsive Disorder (OCD)
- Tourette's symptoms (TICS)



Access here: <https://www.nsft.nhs.uk/parent-workshops>





To book onto a workshop visit [nsft.uk/workshops](https://www.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/>