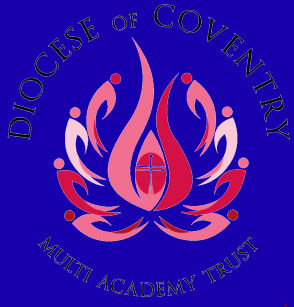


Ryton-on-Dunsmore Provost Williams

Church of England Academy

@RytonPWAcademy



## Newsletter Monday 10th November 2025

Welcome back to the new half term! It's lovely to see the school buzzing with energy once again, and a special welcome to the four new pupils who have joined us, we're delighted to have you as part of our school community.

This time of year, is always busy, and we've certainly hit the ground running... nativity rehearsals are already underway! The excitement is building, and we look forward to sharing this special celebration with you in the weeks ahead.

### Winter Weather

As the days grow colder, we kindly remind all parents to ensure children come to school with warm, waterproof coats. We aim to keep playtimes outdoors whenever possible and being dressed appropriately helps pupils stay comfortable and enjoy their time outside. Thank you for your continued support as we embrace the season and all the joyful learning it brings.



### School Improvement – Strengthening Foundations for Learning

This week, we were pleased to welcome Mrs Baddeley back to Ryton for the afternoon. As our School Improvement Partner for the year, Mrs Baddeley brings a deep understanding of our school and a wealth of insight. Her development points are always valued as we continue our shared commitment to improvement—because we believe that we can always grow, both collectively and individually.



One key focus this term is strengthening pupils' foundational skills. Across the school, we will be revisiting:

- Number bonds and key times table facts
- Handwriting fluency
- Basic sentence structure, including correct use of capital letters and full stops

To support independent learning, we've introduced a visual prompt system using Communication in Print, helping children recall key elements and apply them confidently in their work. We look forward to seeing the progress pupils make this term as we embed these essential skills and continue to raise standards across the curriculum.

Miss Cullen, Head Teacher



Our Eco Council has been in full swing this term, taking proactive steps to make our school more sustainable. One of their first initiatives has been monitoring energy use—specifically identifying where lights are being left on during break and lunchtime.

In a recent assembly, they shared their findings and highlighted key areas such as the hall and library, where lights are often left on unnecessarily. As a result, pupils and staff will now focus on ensuring these spaces are powered down when not in use.

This small but meaningful change will begin to reduce our carbon footprint, and it's a powerful reminder that when we all play our part, we can make a big difference. Thank you to our Eco Council for leading with purpose and inspiring us all to be more mindful of our environment.

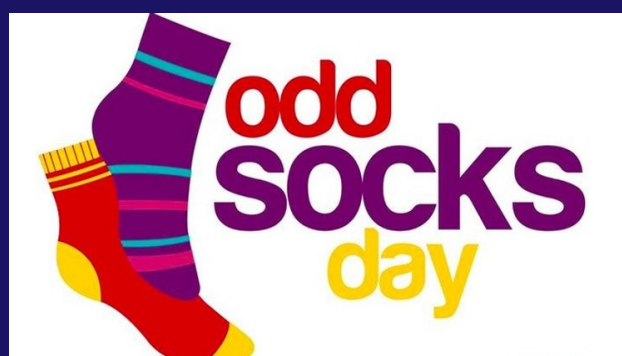


### Anti-Bullying Week – Power for Good

Starting Monday, we will be proudly celebrating Anti-Bullying Week with this year's inspiring theme: 'Power for Good'. The theme encourages everyone to use their voice, actions, and influence to stand up against bullying and promote kindness, respect, and forgiveness.

Throughout the week, pupils will take part in a range of classroom activities and reflections designed to deepen understanding and build empathy. These moments help reinforce our shared commitment to creating a safe, inclusive, and caring school environment.

To kick off the week, we invite all pupils to take part in Odd Socks Day on Monday—a fun and symbolic way to celebrate individuality and show that it's okay to be different. Thank you for supporting this important initiative and helping us nurture a culture of compassion and courage.



## Staffing Update – Welcoming New Faces and Sharing Plans

We're delighted to welcome Maxine Bryan to our school team this week, working alongside Mr Harris . We know that Mrs Bryan will be a fantastic addition to our school community, and we're happy to have her on board.

We're also pleased to share that Miss Fearn is recovering well following her recent operation. She's very much missing her class and school life and is hoping to pop in over the coming weeks to gradually build up her time in school before the Christmas break. We wish her continued rest and recovery.

## Carle Class Staffing – Weekly Overview

| Day       | Teaching Staff            |
|-----------|---------------------------|
| Monday    | Miss Cullen / Mrs Lambeth |
| Tuesday   | Mrs Craddick              |
| Wednesday | Mrs Craddick              |
| Thursday  | Miss Cullen / Mrs Lambeth |
| Friday    | Mrs Craddick              |

Each day, the class will be supported by our wonderful team of Teaching Assistants: Mrs Firth, Mrs Tombs, and Miss Ramsey. Their care and dedication continue to make a huge difference in the children's learning and wellbeing.

## Pupil Support Payments – Helping Every Child Thrive

You may have noticed a new item available on the MCAS shop called 'Pupil Support Payments'. This initiative was introduced following discussions at our recent Governors' meetings, with the aim of supporting families in accessing wider curriculum opportunities—such as school trips, enrichment activities, and special events.

In addition to helping pupils participate fully in school life, the fund will also be used to enhance our resources, including the purchase of specialised or additional books to support learning across the school.

If you feel able to contribute, you can do so by selecting 'Pupil Support Payments' in the MCAS shop. Every donation, no matter the size, helps us ensure that all pupils have access to the rich and inclusive education they deserve.

Thank you for your continued generosity and support.

## Wider Curriculum Offer – Enriching Learning Beyond the Classroom

We're thrilled to share some of the exciting opportunities planned as part of our wider curriculum offer—designed to enrich pupils' learning experiences and bring the curriculum to life beyond the classroom.

### Year 6 Bikeability – First Week of December

Year 6 pupils will be taking part in Bikeability training during the first week of December. This programme helps children develop the skills and confidence to cycle safely and responsibly.



### Whole School Pantomime Trip – 3rd December

We're delighted that the whole school will be attending the pantomime at the Belgrade Theatre on Tuesday 3rd December. It promises to be a joyful and memorable experience for all. Payment is now open via the MCAS app.

### British Museum Visit – Early Spring Term

Looking ahead, pupils in Years 1–6 will have the opportunity to visit the British Museum in London in the early spring term. This trip will support learning across history, art, and culture. Please keep an eye on the MCAS app for further details and payment information.



## Being Our Best – Assembly Reflections and School Values

During Wednesday's assembly, pupils were invited to reflect on what it truly means to fulfil their potential and strive to be their very best. We explored the idea that no one is perfect all the time—but when we consistently try our hardest, whether it's putting more effort into our learning, managing our emotions, or simply remembering to walk calmly in the corridor, we take important steps on our journey toward becoming the best version of ourselves.



Our behaviour system is designed to support every pupil in achieving their best. When children find it difficult to meet expectations, we use targeted interventions to ensure the safety, wellbeing, and success of all pupils and staff.

One of our core school values is forgiveness. We believe that every day is a fresh start, offering each child the chance to learn, grow, and continue their journey with confidence and support. Thank you for reinforcing these values at home and helping us nurture a culture of kindness, resilience, and aspiration.



## Remembrance Day - Honouring and Remembering

On Tuesday, our school will observe a two-minute silence to honour those who lost their lives in the World Wars and in conflicts around the world.

This moment of reflection allows us to pause, remember, and show gratitude for the sacrifices made in the pursuit of peace and freedom.

### Let Us Not Forget

In silence now, we bow our heads,  
For lives once lived, for tears once shed.

The poppies bloom in crimson red,  
A symbol of the brave who fled.

They marched through fear, through mud and rain,  
With hope and courage, love and pain.

Their stories echo, soft and deep,  
In hearts we hold, in dreams we keep.

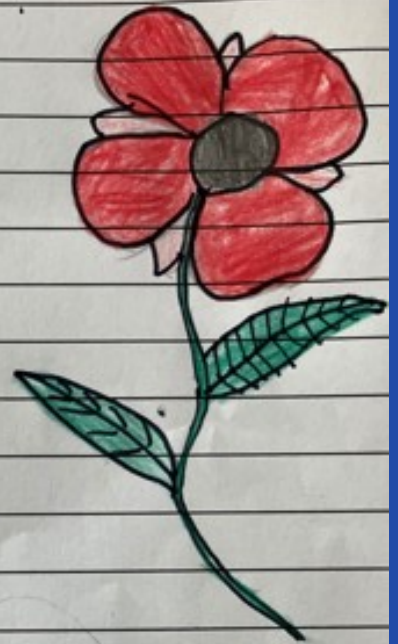
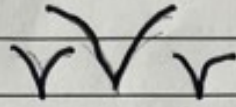
So let us stand, both young and old,  
With kindness fierce and spirits bold.

For peace they fought, for peace we strive -  
Their memory keeps our hope alive.

*Let us not forget.*



Red as an apple  
bright as the sun  
important as peace  
Special as war  
Significant as a medal  
proud as battle  
Symbolic as a peaceful dove  
respectful as poppies.



By Lily



# SPOTLIGHT ON ROWLING CLASS

Year 5 and 6 have been reading 'Wolves in the Walls' by Neil Gaiman, which is a great picture book for older readers. We practised noun phrases for description, making sure speech shows what the characters are like and using longer sentences for action.

Finally, we wrote our own versions in the same style.

Tired and cold, they huddled next to the shed at the bottom of the garden.

What shall we do now?" asked Leah.

I think we should go and live at the top of the Eiffel tower where the clouds will be our pillows and the birds will feed us macaroons for ever," exclaimed Leah's mum with much excitement.

There were giraffes eating all mum's homemade pizza and getting tomato paste all over the walls.

The oldest giraffe was reading all Mia's books and nibbling the paper. The youngest giraffe played with all of Michael's cars and accidentally sat on some of them.

And most of the giraffes were blasting music and dancing, making all the ornaments fall over.

Musaad

Inside the house everything was quiet.

Mum was baking for the neighbours as usual.

Dad was lifting weights in the basement as normal.

Amy was just scrolling on Tiktok until Luke came in and started jumping on the bed.

In the middle of the night when everything was still he could hear alligators plotting their wicked plans and squealing, hissing, banging and clattering.

Luke knew what made noises like that!

"Alligators?" said Mum, clueless.

Luke couldn't go to sleep because the tapping sounded much quieter. It kept getting quieter and quieter - Luke put the bedsheets over his head...


Then he heard squealing...then banging...

Before Luke could take another breath, the gators came out of the walls!

"The alligators have come out of the walls!" screamed Mum.

"Grab the weights!" exclaimed Dad.

"My phone!" yelled Amy.



"There are lions in the walls!" cried Lucy, "I know there are!"

"Don't be silly! Go to bed!" said her dad, tiredly.

Lucy went up to bed that night wondering when her family would believe her. Her mum tucked her in, then closing her eyes tightly, she finally got to sleep.

During the night she woke up. She hid under the duvet listening hard. She heard a THUMP. She held her breath then BAM.

The lions came out of the walls!

"My daughter!" shouted her dad, rushing into the room to grab her.

"Hurry up, the lions will eat you for their midnight snack!"

Each of them flew down the stairs, bare-footed and cold as a winter's night but alive.

Sprinting outside, they huddled behind the shed at the bottom of the garden.

"I think we should go and live in a golden, deserted island where dark blue sharks surround us so no one can disturb us," whispered Dad, hoping the lions couldn't hear him.

"Or maybe an island where smart monkeys with big brains will bring us bananas whenever we want," said Mum.

Meanwhile, the lions had got hold of Max's phone and were having a disco, blasting music, jumping on the sofa and swinging off the chandelier. Two of the lions were filling bottles of coke with mentos and shaking them until they exploded. Little did they know, they were stuffing jam in their mouths but more ended up on the walls. Max's high score was being smashed by the slowest, oldest lion.

Imogen

Emily walked around the house. Everything was quiet. Mum was making honey – twenty jars.

Brother was playing his video games and eating popcorn.

Dad was marking his class's homework.

Emily heard noises. They were growling noises and scratching noises.

They were roaring noises and snarling noises.

Emily walked to her mum.

"Mum, there's bears in the floor, I can feel them in my feet."

"No, I don't think so, sweetie, it's probably the washing machine shaking the floor. Besides, when the bears come out of the floor, it's all over," Mum said, making her honey.

"Well, Mollie Mouse thinks it is too."

"Well, Molly Mouse is just a teddy so I don't think so, Emily."

Emily went to her dad who was buried in books.

"Dad, there's bears in the floor, I can hear them,"

"I don't think so, honey, it is probably just the builder's men moving in the new furniture. Anyway, when they bears come out of the floor it's all over," Dad said, writing his lessons.

"What's all over?"

"Stuff. You know – everything."

Late that night, Emily tucked herself into her bed, squeezing her mouse teddy and hiding under the covers crying and shaking.

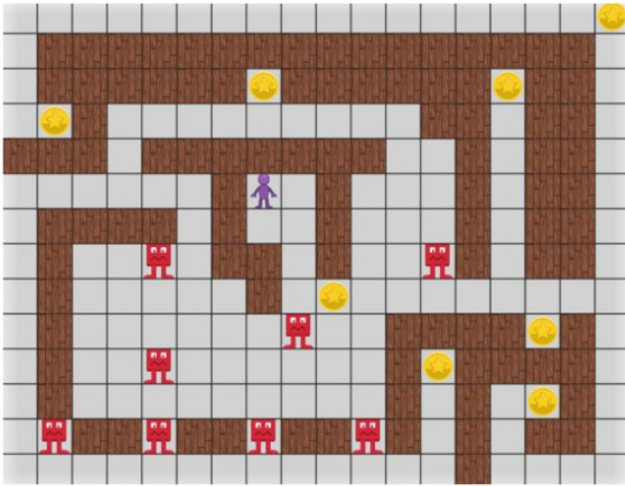
That night the noises got louder and louder until...

BOOM!

In a cloud of dust the bears came out of the floor.



Year 5 and 6 have also been using a program from Purple Mash called 2DIY3D to start designing our own video games based on mazes.



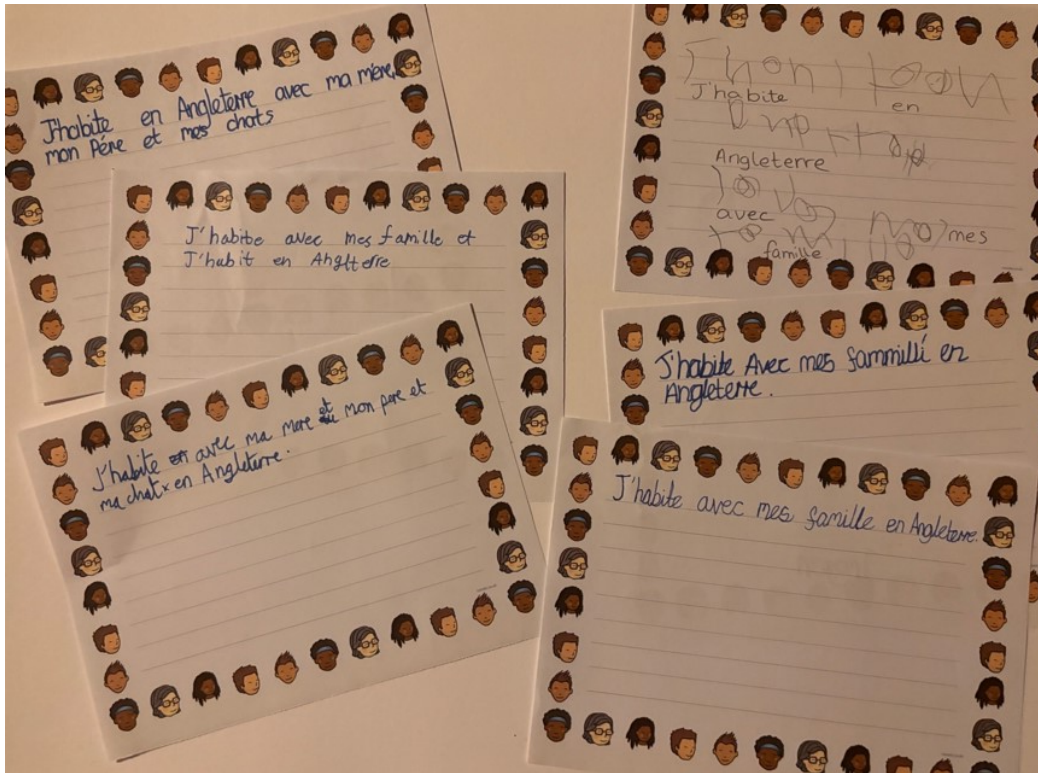
Joey



Imogen

In RE we have started thinking about how beliefs about land affects our customs and actions. The children have drawn a place that is special to them.





In French, Mrs Lambeth reports that Year 5 and 6 have been learning to say 'Où habite...  
They have looked at names of countries, family members etc.

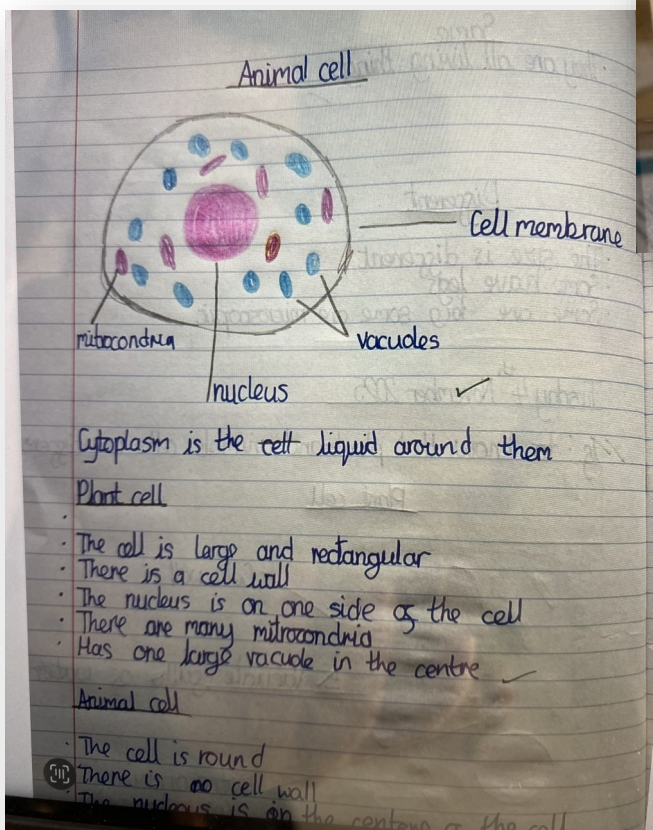
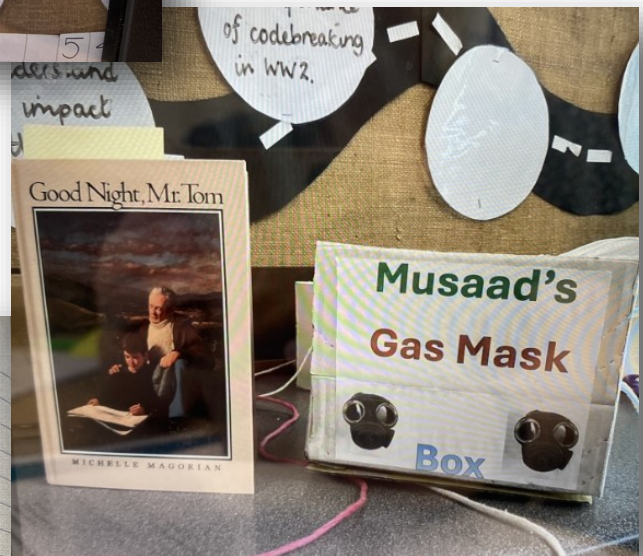
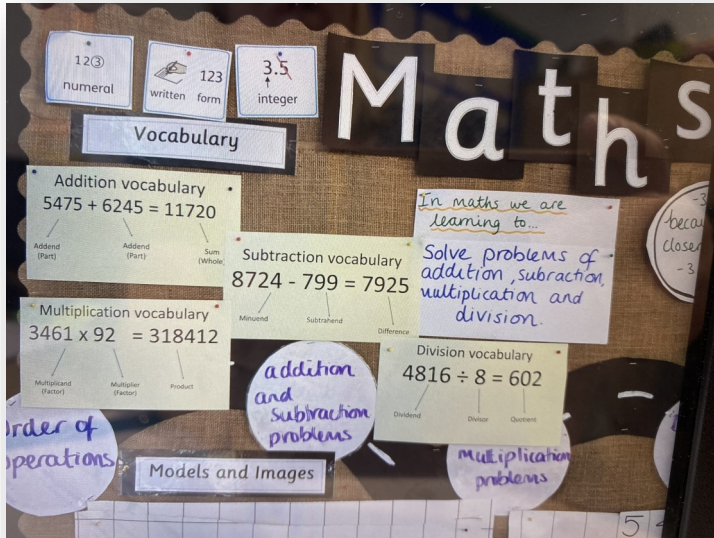
**Core Vocabulary**

Où habites-tu ? [Where do you live?]  
 J'habite en/au/aux... [I live in...]  
 J'habite avec... [I live with ...]  
 J'aimerais habiter en/au/aux... [I would like to live in...]  
 J'aimerais habiter avec... [I would like to live with...]

Et toi ? [And you?]  
 et [and]  
 mais [but]

PE this half term Health Related Exercise and gymnastics, putting together sequences of movement and balances, matching and mirroring, and practising control and excellence in every movement - not as easy as it sounds!

Mrs Gayler and Miss Bright



# VALUES AWARD

This is awarded to pupils who have shown our school values of:

Love

Honesty

Fairness

Respect

Hope

Forgiveness

The latest recipients of our  
Values Award are:-

Ivy Grace in Year 3 and  
Kylah in Year 2

Well done to you both!

# STAR LEARNERS

Star Learner has been awarded to:-

Early Years

Evalyn and Rosie

Year 1

Arla and Jayden

Year 2

Sawyer

Year 3

Bella and Eddie

Year 4

Veerun, Jacob and Artemel

Year 5

Jaxson and Kai

Year 6

Sophie and Felicity



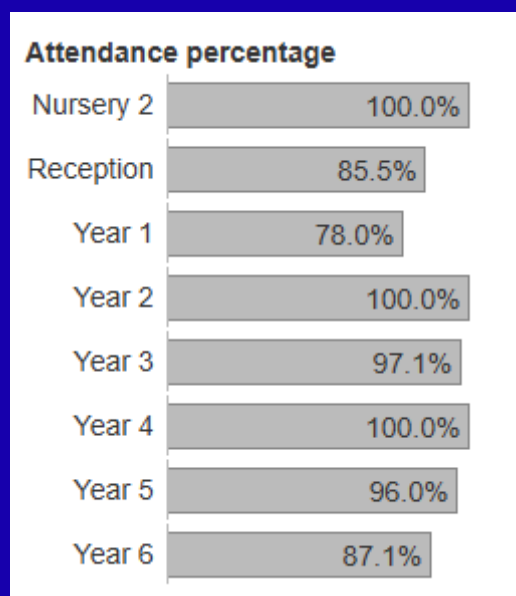
# Diary Dates

|  |  |
|--|--|
| Mon 10th November 2.45pm   | Year 6 Parent Meeting for SATS   |
| Tues 11th November 11.00am   | Act of Remembrance   |
| Wed 17th-21st November   | Assessment Week  |
| Tues 25th November 4.00pm to 6.00pm  | Parent Consultation Meetings   |
| Wed 26th November 3.30pm to 5.30pm   | Parent Consultation Meetings   |
| Fri 28th November  | Flu vaccine by nasal spray for Rec-Y6<br>(for children who have consent) |
| 1st, 2nd, 4th, 5th December  | Bikeability for Year 5/6<br>(limited spaces, priority to Y6 pupils)      |
| Wed 3rd December 10.15am performance   | Whole school trip to Belgrade Theatre for<br>Pantomime.                  |
| (Menu change for panto day, we will swap Friday and Wednesday) Wednesday will be fish, Friday will be roast. |  |
| Thurs 4th December 2.45pm  | Time to Shine! Wilde Class   |
| Wed 10th December 10.00am  | Christingle Service at St Leonards Church                                |
| Tues 16th December   | Attendance Reward Event  |
| Wed 17th December 10am   | Early Years/KS1 Nativity   |
| Thurs 18th December 10am   | Early Years/KS1 Nativity   |
| Fri 19th December  | Our Christmas Day at RODA, including<br>Christmas Dinner                 |
| Menu change for last week of term, Friday Fish will be served on Wednesday.                                  |  |
|  | Break up   |
| Mon 5th January  | Back to School   |
| Mon 26th January   | Young Voices event in Birmingham   |



# Attendance Update

Attendance % for last week



## Attendance Matters – Celebrating Punctuality and Supporting Progress

Well done to all the children who arrived on time last week! Your commitment to punctuality is recognised and celebrated—your Early Bird reward will be a special treat of cake and a drink with Miss Cullen, taking place across the afternoons this week.

In school, we aim for all pupils to achieve 96% or higher attendance. This benchmark ensures that children receive their full entitlement to education and have the best chance to reach their potential. When attendance falls below this level, it can increase the risk of pupils falling behind their peers and becoming disengaged from learning.

→ **96% or higher**

## Attendance Letters & Support Meetings

This week, letters will be sent to families where attendance is a concern. Miss Cullen would like to invite parents in for a supportive conversation about how we can work together to improve attendance. We know our pupils well and understand that there can be genuine barriers—but by working in partnership, we can reduce these and create positive change.

WEDNESDAY 3<sup>RD</sup> DECEMBER

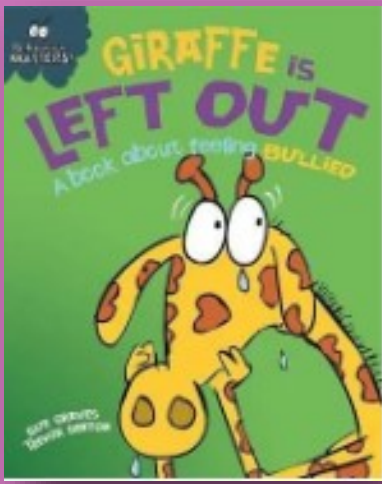


*Whole school*

# PANTOMIME TRIP

Thanks for all the payments so far!

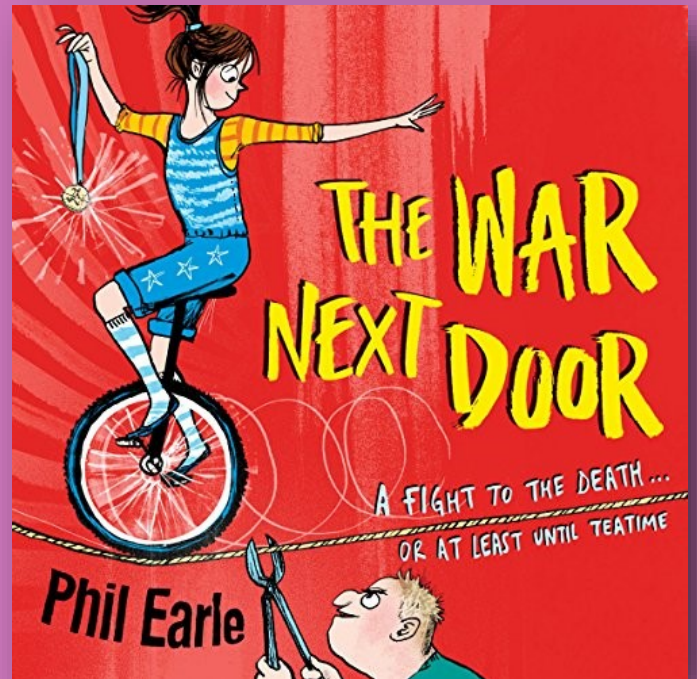
Please let the office know if you need to activate your My Child at School app to make a payment.



This simple, engaging story is the perfect way to introduce young children to what bullying is, and help them become aware of how their behaviour can impact on other children. There are even suggestions for activities and ideas to talk through together to help children understand.

When Leopard arrives at Jungle School, Giraffe doesn't want to include him and tries to exclude him from joining in. So when Leopard has a birthday party he doesn't invite Giraffe, even though he has invited all his friends. Slowly Giraffe begins to understand how Leopard must have felt when he started school. Can the two of them learn to become friends after all?

## Miss Cullen's Recommended Reads



Masher is the bully of Storey Street. No one ever dares stand up to him and that's the way he likes it. But then Jemima and her family move into the plot of land next door. Jemima isn't afraid of him at all, and she's making him look like a bit of a wimp. To Masher, that just means one thing: war. (At least until teatime...)

## BOOK WORM

