

SCHOOL NEWSLETTER 14

24TH APRIL 2026



‘Transforming lives through inspirational learning’ ✨

A very warm welcome back to all our children and families for the final term of this academic year...how quickly the year has flown by!

We are excited to make these last few weeks as joyful, memorable and fun-filled as possible. There is lots to look forward to this summer term, and in this newsletter you'll find a glimpse of some of the exciting things we have planned. From music on the playground during Friday lunchtimes, to a bubbly Bubble Day, and a special whole-school celebration of Sir David Attenborough, it's set to be a fantastic term.

We are also keen to welcome you into school as much as possible. Class teachers will be in touch with opportunities for you to join in with your child's learning journey and share in these special moments.

We always love to hear from you, so please do share any thoughts, ideas or feedback – you never know, your suggestion might be part of our next big event!

Engage and Empower!

Hedgehog Class - Reception

‘I wonder what is in your garden?’



We began by becoming mini-beast investigators and went on the hunt for different mini-beasts in our school grounds. We used various equipment, identification sheets and an observation sheet to record our findings. Together we thought about what makes a mini-beast, how many legs they may have, or wings.

We also made bug hotels. We collected natural materials to make our hotels and then took them home to hang in our gardens.



Squirrel Class - Year 1

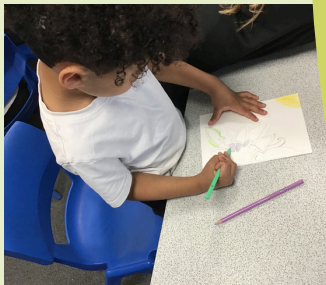
'Roots, Shoots and Muddy Boots'

The children were immersed into their new theme with a variety of different objects linked to the theme such as; soil, roots, flowers, thermometer, welly boots and weather symbols. We then wondered about what we already know and would like to find out about the theme. Throughout the day, the children connected with nature through mindful activities such as creating flowers with natural resources and planting our own flowers. We will be observing how they grow over this half term.



Rabbit Class - Year 2

'How does your garden grow?'



The children created funny face posts and planted sunflower seeds which they were able to take home to grow. We used the feeling tree to talk about all of the different emotions that we can feel and why. The children enjoyed smelling different essential oils and made classroom sensory balls using balloons, essential oils and flour - lavender was a particular favourite! We finished off our day by making flower art inspired by Georgia O'Keefe and enjoyed a Forest School session. We are really looking forward to a fun-filled half term.

Nightingale Class - Year 3

'Bloom and Buzz'



This engage and empower day was all about plants and bees. We did lots of planting: grass heads, cress, radishes and carrots. We also did flower printing with wildflowers.

We also did some exploring in forest school and looked at all the interesting flowers growing in our school community.



Fox Class - Year 4

'Why are rainforests important to us?'



Fox Class spent the day finding out about which things live in different habitats - those that live nearby and also those that come from the Amazon rainforest.



Owl Class - Year 5

'I love the mountains; I love the rolling hills'

Year 5 had an exciting Engage and Empower Day based on their learning about the Alps. The children fully immersed themselves in the topic by making delicious Alpine pretzels, designing and building their own ski lifts using string and cotton reels, and tackling a fun ski rescue assault course. It was a fantastic day of hands-on learning, creativity, and teamwork!



Stag Class - Year 6

8 Billion and Counting



The class were put into groups to simulate countries of the world and had to deal with each other to share resources and complete a drawing task. We discussed how some countries may be small but have a higher population density and the reasons for this. We also talked about why people may choose to move from one country to another.



COMMUNITY POLICE

Following some of the things discussed at our parent forum last term. Mrs Scott has been spending time with our Community Officers, Mike Harman and Hannah Rogers, preparing a plan for the term ahead. Together we have created some lessons developed by PolEd to support our children's understanding of topics such as diversity, hate crime and how to keep safe online. Part of this will involve our Community Officers talking in classrooms, joining in with our school fun events and being present at pick-up times. If you see them do say hello. They are really pleased to be working with us and looking forward to getting to know our wonderful children and parent community.

OUR UPDATED MOBILE PHONE POLICY

We'd like to share an update to our school's mobile phone policy, following the latest guidance from the Department for Education (DfE). These changes are designed to help us maintain a calm, safe and focused environment where all children can do their very best.

We understand that some older children may need a phone for their journey to and from school. Therefore, children in Years 5 and 6 who walk to school independently may bring a mobile phone - but only with prior permission from a parent or carer. The permission form must be completed before a phone is brought into school. These will be sent home today.

Please return these forms by Friday 1st May 2026.

If a phone is brought in, it must be switched off before entering the school grounds and handed to the class teacher at the start of the day (as per our current policy). Phones will be kept safe and returned at the end of the day.

We really appreciate your support in helping us create a positive, safe and distraction-free environment for all children.

If you have any questions, please feel free to get in touch

PFA NEWS



RED LODGE COMMUNITY LITTER PICK – SUNDAY 26TH APRIL

Together with the school and Red Lodge Parish Council, the PFA are proud to be hosting a community litter pick this Sunday.

This is a wonderful opportunity for families to come together, support our local environment, and help keep our village clean and tidy.

Start Time: 10:00am at The Pines Primary School

Finish Time: 1:00pm at The Sports Pavilion



Participants are kindly asked to wear sturdy shoes and bring gloves for safety.

All litter picking equipment will be provided, along with some well-deserved refreshments at the end!

We hope you and your family will be able to join us!

RED LODGE MUSIC FESTIVAL – SATURDAY 23RD MAY

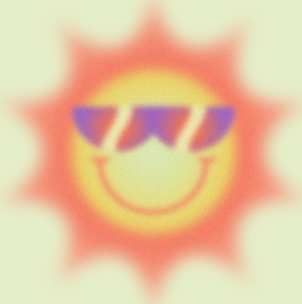
The PFA are pleased to be supporting the children's area of this brilliant community event again this year, which raises money for local organisations, and we are fortunate to be one of the beneficiaries.

We are looking for volunteers to help on the day, and if you can spare an hour or two, you will gain free entry to the rest of the festival (a saving of £15 per adult). Your children will also be able to accompany you. Please follow the link to sign up: [Red Lodge Music Festival PFA Volunteer Sign Up](#)

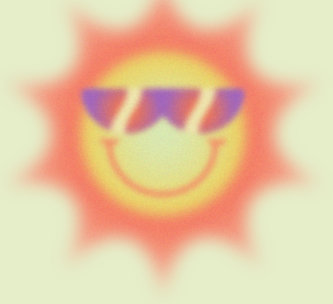
PFA NEWS



ALSO COMING UP THIS TERM!



SUMMER DISCO PARTY!



Friday 26th June - more details to follow!

TUCK SHOP!

Keep an eye out for some delicious home-made treats making an appearance alongside our regular favourites!

8th May

22nd May

12th June

3rd July

10th July

TUCK SHOP



SUMMER OF FUN....

Friday Fun Music - Every Friday lunchtime on the playground

FUN!
26th April 10am-1pm - PFA Local Litter Pick

30th April 3.30pm-4.30pm - Military Family Craft

1st May - Bubble Day

4th May - Bank Holiday

5th May - YR Trip to Wicken Fen

8th May - Sir David Attenborough Day

WC 11th May - SATs Week

18th May - Multicultural Day

20th May - Y2 Wandlebury Trip

25th-29th May - Half Term

*Hello
Summer!*

SUMMER OF FUN....

WC 8th June - Y1 Phonics Check

FUN!

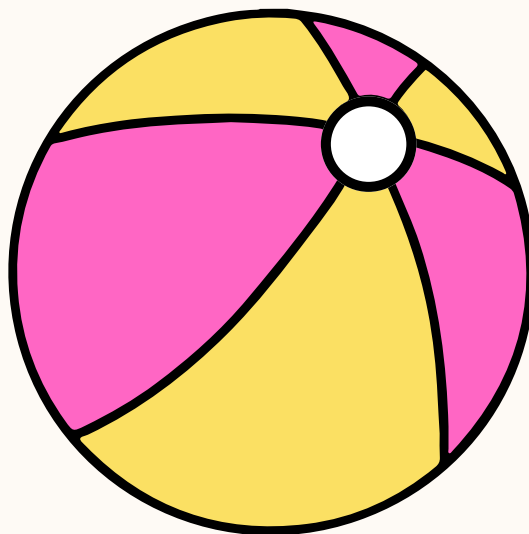
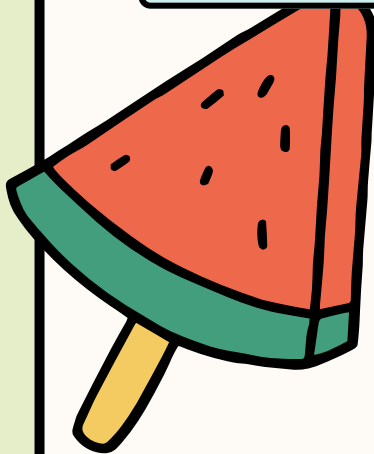
15th-17th June - Y6 Residential

26th June - Y5 Kentwell Hall Trip

26th June - 4.15pm - 6.30pm PFA Summer Disco

1st July - 9.15am-12.30pm - Sports Day and Family Picnic

The Pines Has Got Talent - details to follow



*Hello
Summer!*