

I am delighted to be able to share with you all the amazing things that have been happening across our school. These are just snap shots of days in school. Every day I see the children showing strong motivation and a curiosity to learn new things. In the last few weeks, I have been in classes watching the children's writing lessons. I have been so impressed with the high standards of writing in classes.

Thank you for your continued support.
Mrs Vyas

RECEPTION

This half term, Reception Class have continued to work really hard! We have been focussing a lot more on becoming independent around the school which includes using a knife and fork, putting coats on themselves and being able to put on shoes and socks after dance lessons! Please encourage your child to keep trying these things at home as well.

In English, we read 'Walking Through the Jungle' and learnt all about animals! Our mini topic has been Amazing Animals; Reception class have made houses for different kinds of animals out of Duplo and blocks, cared for teddy animals in the home corner and even been on a Winter Bird hunt during our Outdoor Explorers lessons. Lots of the class saw a robin for the first time ever!

We learnt about Chinese New Year and tried some tasty food related to the celebration. Lots of children made a dragon mask as we got to watch a Dragon Parade on the board! In

Maths, Reception Class has continued to strengthen their understanding of numbers up to 10 and learn about capacity. We are learning about instructions in English, to prepare us to make our own pizzas in the final week of term! Everybody has continued to grow in confidence! The progress that everybody has made at this point in the year is fantastic!



In Spring 2, Reception Class will be learning all about Easter and Eid! They will go to Smithills Farm in March to experience life on a working farm, feed animals, ride a donkey and get to pet some spring animals! They will learn about spring in our outdoor explorer lessons. Spring 2 brings exciting stories to read and learn about – we will start with The Three Billy Goats Gruff to kick start our mini topic: 'Once Upon a Time'. Reception Class have made progress with their Phonics and reading and we are now going to learn to read and write bigger words – these are called CVCC words! We will also get to explore junk modelling and construct bridges for the Billy Goats to cross!



YEAR 1

This half term, Year 1 have been looking at Manchester in Geography, we have looked at maps of the city and at the city on Google Earth. We have learned all about North, South, East and West. We went on a walk in our local area and looked at important buildings in our community like the Mosque, the Church and Arcadia. We visited the bee statue and had a sneaky trip to Cringle Park at the end! We have been looking at the work of artist Sheila Hicks and making our own weaving in the same style as her. We had a fun time reading Where the wild things are by Maurice Sendak and loved doing some drama and writing all about wild things! In maths, we are getting really good at counting in twos and have been looking at addition and subtraction. We had fun in Science learning all about our senses – we went on a senses walk around school and had a taste test and a sound quiz. In PSHE we have done lots about our emotions and we have done some work around zones of regulation.



Next half term, we will be learning about numbers up to 50 and learning to measure things! We will read a story called Dave and the tooth fairy and do some non-fiction writing as well. We are going to be learning about the Egyptians and as part of this we will go on a visit to the Manchester Museum. There will be so much to see there! We are also looking forward to another trip to Arcadia library and to choosing a new book to borrow. We are going to be learning about hinges in DT and making an Egyptian treasure box!

YEAR 2

We have had a very busy start to 2025 in Year 2! We are enjoying our history topic about the Golden Age of Baghdad and were lucky enough to go on a school trip to the British Muslim heritage centre to learn more about this fascinating period. In art, the children have been learning about Katsushuki Hokusai and have been practising different printing techniques using paint and printing ink. It has been lots of fun! The children have also been working hard to develop their music skills this half term. We have been looking at music notation and learning to recognise crotchets, quavers and rests and create our own rhythms using these.



Next term is going to be just as jam-packed with new learning and activities! We will be continuing to learn our times tables in maths, focusing on our 10 x table and in science we will introduce the topic of electricity. We have another trip to the local library and in DT we will be learning how to do a running stitch and creating our own puppets based on the story 'Supertato'! In English we will continue to develop our fiction writing skills and write our own mystery story based on 'The Witching Hour', an extract from Roald Dahl's BFG.



YEAR 3

This half term we enjoyed a lovely trip to the Arcadia library again. The children loved being in the calm space and being able to pick out any book that they wanted to take home! They also had the delight of hearing a story being read to them by the librarian. We have also learnt about Henri Matisse in art and all the children worked extremely hard on mimicking his style to create a collage of their own!

Next half term in Year 3 we will be creating flapjacks in our food technology lessons! The children will have the opportunity to try some flapjacks, think of improvements for them and then create their own. We are also all looking forward to learning about Islam in our RE lessons and creating databases to sort information in ICT!



YEAR 4

In year 4, we have been looking at a Japanese artist called Kazuhtio Takadoi. He is known for creating natural art, using leaves, sticks and stones. To him, shadows are an important part of his work. Year 4 were investigating his art and used different materials to create a shadowy effect. Once they explored the different materials, we went on a hunt to find natural things from outside to use to create our own piece.



Year 4 love music. Next half term they have an opportunity to visit the Bridgewater Hall to watch the Halle Youth Concert. This consists of watching a live performance of an orchestra and having a sing along too.



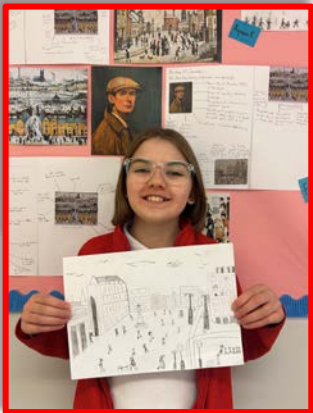
YEAR 5

Year 5 has had an action-packed half term, filled with creativity, imagination, and hands-on learning! In English, we embarked on an incredible journey into the world of myths, crafting our own legendary tales filled with heroes, monsters, and magical adventures. Our creative writing skills soared as we built suspense, described fantastical settings, and brought our characters to life! Meanwhile, our eco-project with Mr. Troop continued to make a real impact. We explored ways to help the environment, taking action to make our school a greener place and learning how small changes can make a big difference.

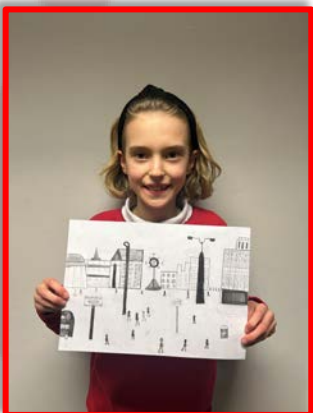


Next half term in Year 5 is set to be full of excitement, discovery, and creativity! We're kicking things off with a fascinating trip to the mosque for our RE topic, where we'll deepen our understanding of Islamic beliefs and practices through real-life experience. It's a fantastic opportunity to explore a place of worship and ask questions about different faiths. Meanwhile, in DT, we'll be putting our design skills to the test as we create our very own pillowcases! From sketching out ideas to working with textiles, we'll be learning new techniques and bringing our unique designs to life.

YEAR 6



In Art this half term, we have been focusing on landscape artwork composed by L.S. Lowry, the renowned Manchester artist. The children have been refining their skills of being able to draw buildings and people from photographs, focusing on famous landmarks and spaces around Manchester. The end outcome for the project was to draw a detailed pencil composition demonstrating movement and perspective. The children have loved this art unit and have produced some incredible pieces of work, which we are show casing on our art display in the classroom – feel free to come and take a look!



In writing we have been focusing on Macbeth by William Shakespeare. We honed in on an extract from the text where Macbeth finds out that he will not be the King's successor. The distraught Macbeth leaves the banquet and returns to his quarters, where his wife convinces him that drastic measures must be taken in order to seize the throne! For the final piece of writing, the children wrote some exceptional pieces, focusing on Macbeth's emotions and motives through speech, action and personification. They were an absolute delight to read!

Next half term, we will be focusing on construction in design and technology. They will be designing and creating their own theme park rides using a range of materials and equipment.



Attendance & Punctuality

Class	Attendance Spring 1 – as of 12 Feb
Reception	85.9%
Year 1	93.3%
Year 2	94.0%
Year 3	95.4%
Year 4	96.1%
Year 5	95.6%
Year 6	95.8%

Days off school add up to lost learning

175 NON SCHOOL DAYS A YEAR
175 days to spend on family time, visits, holidays, shopping, household jobs and other appointments

0
DAYS ABSENCE
(190 school days)

100%

EXCELLENT
ATTENDANCE
Best chance of success

6
DAYS ABSENCE OR
MORE

96%

SATISFACTORY
ATTENDANCE
Harder to make good
progress

15
DAYS ABSENCE OR
MORE

92%

REQUIRES
IMPROVEMENT
Less chance of progress

19
DAYS ABSENCE OR
MORE

**Below
90%**

CAUSE FOR
CONCERN
Serious concern, possible
court action



Being late for school disrupts the class.	If your child is 5 minutes late every day, they miss over 16 hours of education. This equates to 3 DAYS LOST.	Being late for school embarrasses your child.	Be prepared. Set the alarm early
Be prepared. Leave plenty of time to get to school.	Be prepared. Make sure you know what your child needs for school. E.g P.E Kit.	Being late for school interrupts the class teacher from teaching.	Be prepared. Get your child's things ready the night before.
Being late for school means being late for, or missing assembly.	Being late for school means missing out on the chance to talk to the teacher before lessons.	If your child is 10 minutes late every week, they miss over 6 hours of learning. This equates to 3 Maths lessons and 3 Literacy lessons.	Missing education means your child will not achieve their full potential.
Punctuality is a life skill.	In later life, being late can mean losing a job.	Every minute counts, don't lose learning time.	Its good to be on time.

Please help us improve our attendance and hit our target of **96%** We can only achieve this target if we work together.

Attendance this half term is **94.0%**

Our attendance for our year to date is **95.1%**



Please bear in mind that occasionally trips or clubs may be arranged or cancelled last minute. Where possible we will give as much notice as we can.

Out of Hours Learning – Spring 2

Club name	Day of club	Staff member	Available to	Spaces available	Start date
Spanish Club	Monday	Mrs Chowdhury	Year 5&6	25	24 th Feb
Street Dance Club	Monday	Miss Foster (External)	Year 2, 3, 4	20	24 th Feb
Basketball Club	Tuesday	Ryan	Year 4, 5 & 6	10	25 th Feb
Lego Club	Wednesday	Miss Gardner	Year 3 & 4	16	26 th Feb
Girls Cricket	Wednesday	Mrs Smith	KS2	16	26 th Feb
Disney Club	Thursday	Miss Beecher	Year 1 & 2	12	27 th Feb
Mindfulness Club	Thursday	Miss Johnson	Year 3 & 4	14	27 th Feb
Multisports	Friday	Ryan	Year 3, 4 & 5	16	28 th Feb
Art Club	Friday	Mrs Hachemi	Year 6	14	28 th Feb
Yoga Club	Friday	Miss Kerry (External)	Year 1 & 2	14	28 th Feb

Dates to Remember – Spring 2

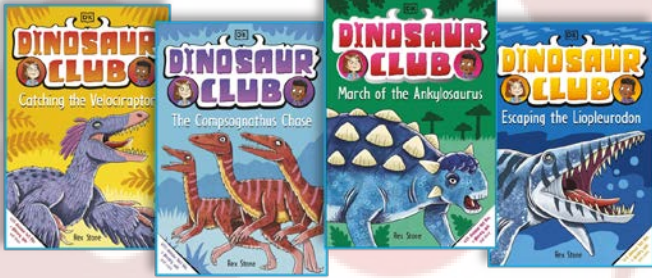
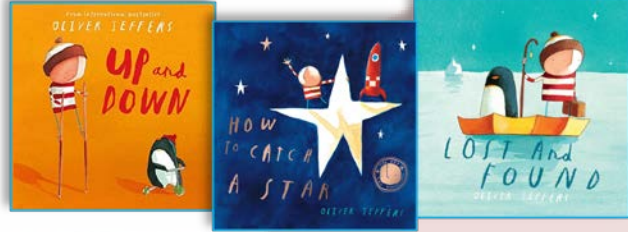
Whole School	School opens for Spring 2	Monday 24 February
Year 5	Visit Manchester Mosque	Wednesday 26 February
Year 3	Trip to the library	Monday 3 March
Year 4	Trip to see the Halle Orchestra	Tuesday 4 March
Whole School	World Book day (no dress up)	Thursday 6 March
Year 2	Class assembly	Thursday 13 March
Year 1	Trip to Manchester Museum	Thursday 13 March
Whole School	Comic Relief day	Friday 15 March
Reception	Trip to Smithills Farm	Thursday 20 March
Whole School	Litter picking event	Friday 21 st March
Year 5	Class Assembly	Wednesday 26 March
Whole School	STEM super learning day	Friday 28 March
Whole School	Eid celebration afternoon 3.15pm – 4.15pm	Wednesday 2 April
Whole School	School closes – end of Spring 2	Friday 4 April
Whole School	School opens – Summer 1	Tuesday 22 April



Recommended Authors

Year 1 - Oliver Jeffers

Our author of the half term is Oliver Jeffers. We love his beautifully illustrated and heartwarming stories about adventure and friendship. All his books have meaning and they are great for using as talking points with your child.



Year 2 – Rex Stone

Year 2 have been reading a book called Dinosaur Cove from the collection and really enjoying the excitement of the adventure stories. These books are excellent for inspiring a world of imagination.

Year 3 – Chris Riddell

Our author of the Half Term is Chris Riddell. We love his unique illustrations and the funny twists in his stories. All his books have interesting characters and are an excellent talking point for you and your child.

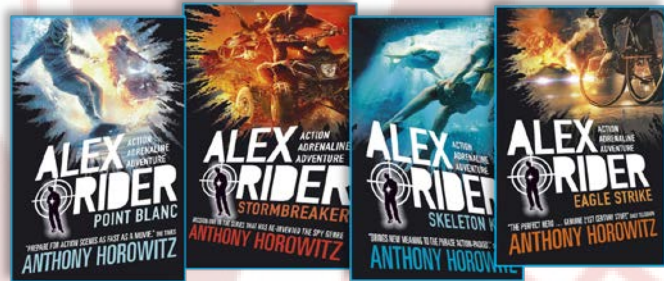


Year 4 – Jamie Littler

Jamie Littler is an author/illustrator and the creator of the best-selling award winning Frostheart series, published by Puffin Books. He writes fast paced fantasy books and as we use chapter 1 of the first Frostheart book in our English work, reading the Frostheart series will really support this work.

Year 5 – Anthony Horowitz

Anthony Horowitz is an author and screenwriter and the creator of the best-selling Alex Rider series. He writes thrilling and action-packed books, and we have Alex Rider: Stormbreaker as one of our Year 5 recommended reads. We recommend reading the rest of the Alex Rider series if you loved this book!



Year 6 – Maloria Blackman

Malorie Blackman is the author of over 60 books, including a range of short stories and novels. She writes captivating, thought-provoking literature that often draws on societal issues in a way accessible for children. 'Pig Heart Boy' is a part of our Year 6 recommended reads and 'Cloudbusting' is a part of our reading curriculum.

Half term Kids eat 'free' or for '£1'

Fridays kids eat 'free'

Via Stripes Rewards app, when an adult buys a main



Harvester kids eat for '£1'

When an adult purchases a main meal. Get voucher via the Harvester app



Hungry Horse kids eat from £1

When an adult buys a main meal. Mondays only



Las Iguanas kids eat 'free'

Via Las Iguanas app, when an adult buys a main



Marco Pierre White kids eat 'free'

When an adult buys a main meal



Morrisons Café kids eat 'free'

When an adult buys a main meal. Valid every day



Prezzo kids eat 'free'

When an adult buys a main



Premier Inn kids eat 'free'

When an adult purchases a meal and drink



Sizzling Pubs kids eat for '£1'

When an adult buys a main meal



Table Table 'free' kids' breakfast

When adult buys a cooked breakfast. Valid every day



The Real Greek kids eat 'free' on Sundays

When an adult spends £10



Travelodge 'free' kids' breakfast

Or for £1 in some locations. When an adult buys an unlimited breakfast



Half term Kids eat 'free' or for '£1'

Kids eat 'free' or for '£1'

Asda Cafés kids eat for £1

No minimum spend required



Banana Tree kids eat 'free' on Sundays

When an adult buys a main meal



Beefeater 'free' kids' breakfast

When adult buys a cooked breakfast. Valid every day



Bella Italia kids eat for 'free' on Thursdays

And for '£1' on Sun-Wed, 4pm-6pm. When adult buys a main meal



Bill's kids eat 'free'

When an adult buys a main meal. Weekdays only



Brewers Fayre feed a family of four for £15

Weekdays during February half term, 12pm-6pm



Brewers Fayre 'free' kids' breakfast

When adult buys a cooked breakfast. Valid every day



Burger King kids eat 'free'

Via Burger King app. When adult buys a burger meal



Dobbies kids eat for 'free'

When an adult buys a main meal



Dunelm Pausa Café kids eat 'free'

When an adult spends £4 in café

