



# The Drake News

2ND MAY 2025

Where a World of Opportunity Awaits



## VE Day!

To commemorate VE Day, this Thursday 8th May we are asking the children to come to school wearing red, white and blue.

We will be marking this important event with a special assembly followed by a VE Day lunch. We are serving our regular school menu but creating a festival atmosphere with a school-wide VE Day party. We will be playing 1940s music, our halls will be decorated and our tables will be set up like a street party.



## Every Day Matters

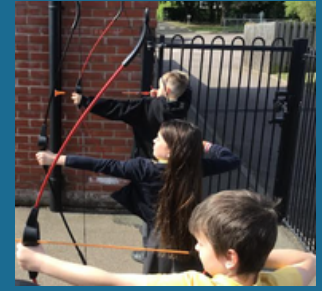


It is a statutory requirement for children to attend school every day.

This week's winners are...

Hadid with 98.67%

## Year 5 Greek Experience Day



Year 5 had a visitor this week from Ancient Sparta. He taught us about how to become a warrior. We practised formations with shields and found out about ancient Greek weapons. We also learned about the symbolism on shields and created medallions to honour the gods.

He was a great actor, it was like we were in Sparta!



I think wearing the body armour was the best. I learned that bronze was a valuable metal to the Spartans.



I loved this day. We did lots of fun things like archery and trying on Ancient Greek armour.



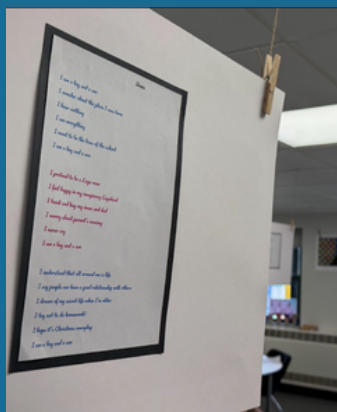
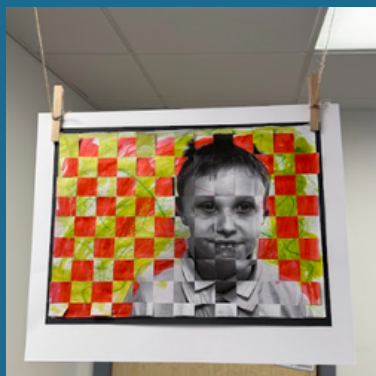
This experience allowed the children to deepen their learning on their theme of Legacy in a way that immersed them in the life of an ancient Spartan warrior.

I really liked making the defence from shields all together to protect ourselves from a monster attack.



Everything was so fun, especially going around school and into classes in costume.

## Art Exhibition



The SRB exhibited their wonderful artwork this week. They produced fabulous portraits exploring their identity. The children accompanied their artwork with poems that expressed their interests, likes and dislikes, character, feelings, personality and their hopes and dreams. It will be proudly displayed at the Royal Norfolk Show this year, so do please pay us a visit! Thank you to parents for joining us in celebrating the children's hard work at the exhibition this week.

## Swimming



We would like to congratulate our very youngest children on successfully completing their first swimming lessons. Swimming is an important life skill and it all starts with gaining confidence in the water.

Our Reception children should be very proud. Well done on starting your journey to learn to swim.

*Well done!*



## Sports Day

Please note our timings for sports day. Please ensure your child has plenty of water, sun cream applied and wearing a sunhat. If you are able to help us with creating shade on the field, please contact the school office.

KS2 - 9.20 - 12.00 pm  
EYFS & KS1 - 1.00 - 3.00 pm

## Colchester Castle

Last week Year 3 had an exciting Roman themed day, visiting Colchester Castle, the site of Boudica's rebellion! We explored how Colchester changed from an Iron Age settlement to a prosperous Roman town. We worked as a team to construct a model of an Iron Age roundhouse and a Roman villa.

My favourite part was going underground- we got to see the actual stones Romans used to build their temple! Helena.



I enjoyed it when we dressed up as Romans - Millie.



My favourite part was when we learnt and acted out how Romans attacked Celts and their towns - Vanessa.

Boudica fought against the Romans. She had lots of loyal Celts following her. They did not like the Romans taking away their land and making them slaves - Samuel J.

I liked when we went underground and learnt about the Boudica - Noah.



There is a layer of ash under the ground in Colchester where Boudica and her army burnt the buildings - Lucas.



Year 3 journeyed back 2000 years and descended into the Roman vaults under the Castle. An interactive story was presented about the Roman invasion and Boudica's revolt. We explored what life was like in Roman Britain, handled real Roman pottery and investigated its uses.

# Sustainability



We have a rainwater planter in the red playground. On Wednesday, Mia Witham, a local landscape designer, ran a workshop with Year 3, all about the water cycle. We talked about how our climate is getting hotter in the summer and how our rainwater planter stores water. Rainwater planters provide habitats for insects and wildlife and capture excess rainwater to help prevent flooding. The planter is connected to the downpipe and plants are watered with runoff from the roof.

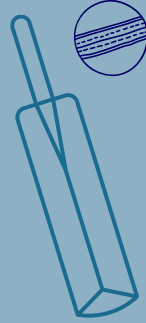
"The roots anchor the plant and take up water." Harlo



"The rainwater planter saves rain from going into the drain." Martynas



## Thetford Cricket Club Festival!



Turing Class had a fantastic day out taking part in a fun-filled cricket event. The children enjoyed rotating through three activities: Kwik Cricket, Crazy Cricket, and Multi-Skills. Despite the very hot weather, everyone gave it their all and showed great enthusiasm and teamwork throughout the day. We were proud to come 3rd in both the Kwik Cricket and Multi-Skills events.



Kamkwamba class had an amazing day out at the cricket festival. Children had great opportunities to participate in different activities with other Thetford schools and to learn new skills. Drake school came 1st at multi skills task and 3rd at crazy cricket.

"I liked crazy cricket because it was fun and I learnt new skills" Adam

"I liked cricket because we took lots of tries and we got better" Delia

All children were great ambassadors, represented Drake school and demonstrated our school values.

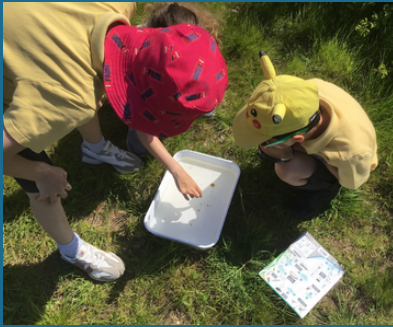
## Pond Dipping!

I found a pond skater - Eleanor

We found lots of algae and pond weed! Berwin



I had the best day even though we didn't go on the trip, this was even better. Jenson



Despite the disappointment of the Year 2 trip being postponed at last minute, Year 2 had a wonderful time pond dipping in our wetland area at Drake. They found a wide variety of life which they enjoyed classifying and learning about. Due to the grants we applied for, we now have all the equipment needed for pond dipping and we are excited about our whole school using this fabulous resource.



Year 3 visited the Carnegie Rooms for an event run by the British Trust for Ornithology (BTO). Year 3 watched a performance by Neal Layton and Helen Stephens - reading their award winning picture books and drawing live!



After the performance Neal and Helen came into our classrooms and ran some creative crafting workshops. The work the children produced will be displayed in an exhibition at Thetford Library. As an added bonus, every child received a free copy of Neal Layton's book 'The Tree' or Helen Stephens' book 'Saving Mr Hoot' to take home and keep!