



The Drake News

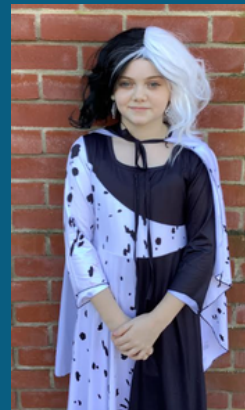
9TH MARCH 2026

Where a World of Opportunity Awaits

World Book Day!

Our children absolutely loved celebrating World Book Day again this year, and it was wonderful to see such excitement around books and stories. With national research showing that fewer children are choosing to read for pleasure, events like this play a vital role in helping children discover the joy of reading and develop lifelong habits that support their learning and future opportunities

Books are fun and inspire you to write your own stories - Emilie



Some books make you to learn new things, like new recipes for baking or cooking - Eva



I like reading because reading is fun. When you read a book, you relax and just enjoy it - Szymon

I love reading because the books I read are very interesting - Ava



We began the day with a special whole-school assembly, celebrating our favourite stories and talking about why reading matters. Each class then took part in a reading activity linked to their class author, giving children the chance to explore new books, characters and ideas. Throughout the day, pupils shared the books they had brought from home, enjoyed extra reading-for-pleasure time in class, and immersed themselves in stories in lots of creative ways.

It was a joyful, book-filled day, full of curiosity, imagination and fun. A brilliant reminder of how powerful reading can be in helping children grow, learn and thrive.



Every Day Matters



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

This week's winners are...
Tabei with 98.8%

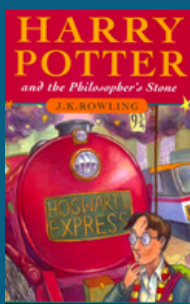
Radio Drake



Here is this week's podcast:

To celebrate World Book Day, Julian and Olive jump into the world of Harry Potter with their new show, 'Perfect Potter'. In their first episode, they explore 'The Philosopher's Stone' and whether the book is better than the film.

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1aAA7-SM8HI7JUX71JuuHZf_jJ3HWzydt/view?usp=sharing



Year 3 Working Scientifically



The foil is blocking the UV light. It's the same as the sun cream. We had to make sure the sun cream covered all the way to the edges -
William

As part of their learning about light, Year 3 investigated which materials block ultraviolet (UV) light. They used UV beads that change colour when exposed to sunlight- the darker the colour, the stronger the UV light. They tested the beads in different conditions and ensured a fair test by only changing one variable at a time. They discovered that some materials are much better at blocking UV light than others, helping them understand why sun protection is so important.



It's so cool! I like the purple beads best, they change colour when you shine the UV torch on them -
Molly

Your Voice Matters!

I liked voting as we all get to choose, we all get a say and it is fair - Lyla



I liked voting as we can run for different councils each year - Tom

Last week was an exciting one at Drake as we launched our School Council elections. We began with a special assembly where each of our councils took to the stage to share their pitch. Children heard directly about what each council does, why their work matters, and the responsibilities involved in representing their classmates.

Throughout the week, classes held their own elections and cast their votes for the candidates they felt would speak up for their class and help make our school even better.

At the end of the week, votes were counted and our new councillors were selected. We'll be announcing the full list very soon – so watch this space for the big reveal.

Lunar New Year



In Reception, we have loved celebrating and learning about Lunar New Year – a special festival that marks the start of the lunar calendar and is celebrated with family, food, decorations and wishes for good fortune. Each year is linked to a different zodiac animal, and this year is the Year of the Horse.

The children enjoyed making their own creative horses, trying to write horse in Mandarin, and forming Mandarin numbers with playdough. Outdoors, they worked together to build a giant dragon for dragon dancing and even practised using chopsticks in our small world area.

It has been wonderful to see their enthusiasm and curiosity as they embraced learning about this special celebration.



Big Discoveries With Little Explorers



Our Reception children were thrilled to receive their second big box of exciting products to test and review for Learning Resources!



I liked seeing the bugs close up -
Maeva

I was able to see a little bird on a tree. I couldn't see it with just my eyes -
Nora

This week during Forest School, the children enthusiastically explored the outdoors using Kidnoculars, Bugnoculars, a periscope and a telescope. They loved examining minibeasts up close, spotting hidden treasures among the trees and looking out for birds high in the branches. The new equipment sparked curiosity, encouraged careful observation and inspired lots of wonderful discussion about the natural world around them.

I was able to see things far away with the telescope. It would be good at night to look at the stars -
Evie

The new binoculars are better because they don't hurt your eyes and they are more comfortable -
Ava

Celebrating Our Girls' Football Team



Last week, our girls' football team headed off to the finals they had proudly qualified for, an achievement in itself.

Throughout the event, they represented our school with confidence, determination and fantastic teamwork. Their sportsmanship shone just as brightly as their football skills, and they played every match with real heart. We are incredibly proud of each and every one of them. Well done, girls! You were brilliant.

