



The Drake News

15TH JUNE 2026

Where a World of Opportunity Awaits

Radio Drake



Last week, Millie did a phenomenal job interviewing our guest poet Lewis Buxton on the radio. Millie asked all about Lewis' influences, inspirations and creative processes. The show was produced brilliantly by Alfie

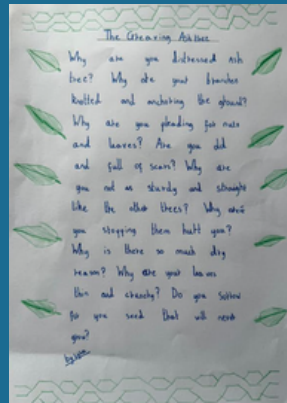
Follow the link to listen -

<https://drive.google.com/file/d/1yP2bFV65p2DYihZO5RZEKS6i8iETe59l/view?usp=sharing>



Celebrating Our Arts Week Poetry

We are thrilled to share some of the fabulous poems created during Arts Week. The children were thoroughly inspired by poet Lewis Buxton's visit, and it has been wonderful to see how confidently they experimented with language and ideas after his workshops.



This poetry work also links beautifully with our Year of the Tree project. Throughout the year, each class has been completing a longitudinal study of their own class tree, observing it across the seasons, sketching it, writing about it, and noticing the changes over time. The poems the children have produced are inspired directly by these class trees, drawing on their observations, emotions and creative responses.

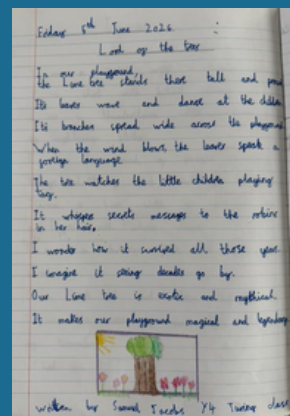
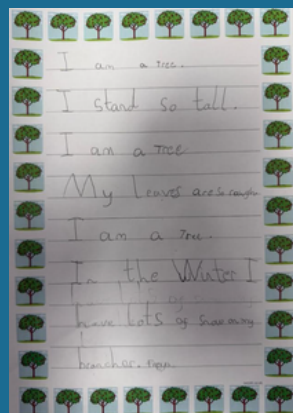
Every Day Matters



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

This week's winners are...

Malala and Kahlo with 96.6%



Every class has worked incredibly hard to edit, refine and beautifully illustrate their poems, showing real pride in their creativity. We will be exhibiting all of this wonderful work at the Summer Fayre, where we look forward to sharing and celebrating it with all our Drake families.

Reception's Wonderful Day at South Angle Farm



Reception had the most incredible time on their visit to South Angle Farm! The children represented our school beautifully with their fantastic manners and behaviour throughout the day.

They met a wide range of animals, learned how to feed them and even had the chance to do so themselves. The children were especially excited to hold some of the animals, including a snake! It was wonderful to see the excitement on their faces as they explored the farm and learned so much.

The coach journey there was full of chatting, singing and laughter, while the journey home was beautifully quiet as many of the children drifted off to sleep after such a busy and exciting day. A fantastic trip with lots of special memories made!



Science Club Takes Curiosity to New Heights

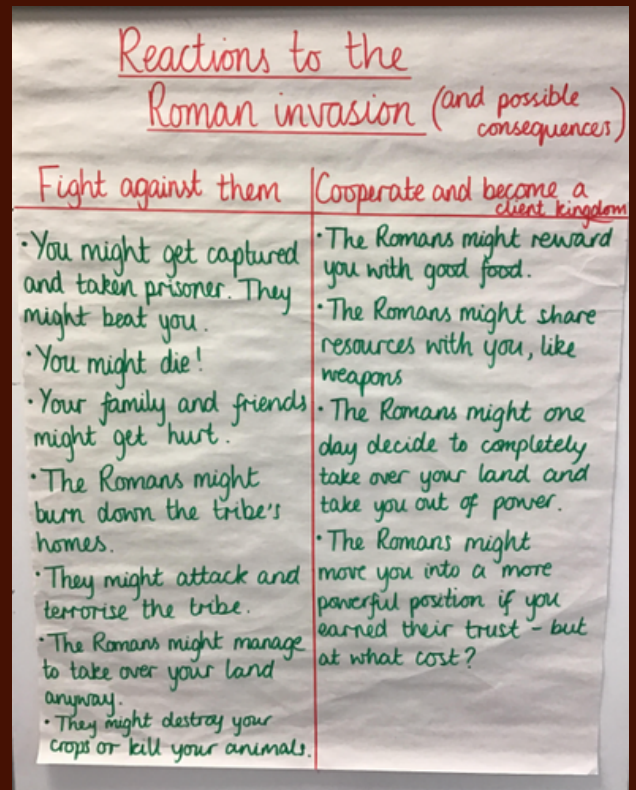


Science Club has continued to ask questions and show great curiosity! This term, they have explored how the heart works and investigated how exercise affects our bodies by measuring their pulse rates before and after physical activity.

The children also looked at sycamore seeds and designed their own spinners to model how the seeds fall to the ground. They tested both card and paper spinners and discovered that the card spinner reached the ground first. It was a fantastic opportunity to make predictions, carry out investigations and discuss their findings.



Year 3 Step Into the Shoes of Britain's Tribal Leaders



Year 3 enjoyed an in-depth discussion about the events following the Roman invasion of Britain in our History lesson this week. We learned that the indigenous tribes really only had two choices of how to respond to the invasion: fight against the Romans, or cooperate and become a client kingdom (which meant the current king/queen of each tribe could continue to rule, but would do so under the Romans). The majority of the children said that if they had been in charge of a tribe, they would have chosen to fight! We then looked more closely at what the possible consequences of each decision could be and recorded our ideas. Having considered the potential consequences, some children changed their minds about what they would have done!

Following this, we used secondary sources to learn about Boudica, queen of the Iceni tribe, who led a rebellion against the Romans, and Cartimandua, queen of the Brigantes tribe, who chose to cooperate with them. The children realised that their ideas about what may have happened in each situation were rather accurate!

An excellent lesson filled with curiosity - we look forward to continuing our learning next week!



TEACHING

WALKTHRUS



As part of our ongoing work to ensure consistent teaching and learning across the school, we are excited to share that we are now using Teaching WalkThrus, a nationally recognised professional development approach created by education expert Tom Sherrington. Last week, Mrs Langley attended a national conference led by Tom himself, which was both inspiring and affirming. The strategies explored will play a key role in driving our school improvement over the coming year.

Teaching WalkThrus provide clear, evidence-based steps for high-quality classroom practice. They break down effective teaching into simple, practical routines that can be used consistently across the school. This ensures pupils experience consistent high-quality teaching every day, and helps us build a shared, coherent approach to learning.

This work directly supports our three key school priorities:

- Improving writing across all phases through high-quality teaching, precise assessment and targeted support.
- Raising attainment and progress in maths through consistent mastery-aligned teaching and effective use of assessment.
- Strengthening teaching and learning overall by embedding evidence-based practice and improving instructional consistency so that all pupils make strong progress.

We look forward to sharing more about this work as it develops. Our aim remains the same: to provide the very best education for every child at Drake, every day.



Summer Concerts

FEATURING

Thursday 18th June 1.30 & 6pm Year 6 play

Thursday 25th June 2.45pm Year 1

Monday 29th June 2.40pm Year 2

Tuesday 30th June 2.45pm Reception

Thursday 2nd July 2.30 pm Year 3

Hansel and Gretel Performance

Thursday 9th July 2.15pm Year 4 & Year 5

+Y6 string ensemble group

June & July 2026



Food

Summer Festival

Games

Music

Thursday 16th July

Performances