

Drake Primary School Newsletter

14th June 2024



Reception's farm trip

Dear Families,

This week has been the assessment of phonics in Year 1 and multiplications in Year 4. The children have been working incredibly hard and have shone brightly this week. Well done to everyone for trying their best and showing how much progress they have made over the year.

On Tuesday and Wednesday, Year 3 welcomed Ursula Juta from the Norfolk Rivers Trust, for a workshop all about eels! This linked back to our rivers theme from Spring term. Year 3 learnt about the European Eel life cycle, eel migration from the Sargasso Sea to the Little Ouse river and the part eels play in the river food chain.



Year 3 also visited the Guildhall to take part in history workshops. We learnt about the Iceni tribe reaction to the Roman invasion, freeze framed the events and we met Boudica! They put themselves in the role of an Iceni tribe member and decided whether to follow Roman commands or join Boudica's army.

Reception children went on their first coach trip to South Angle Farm. They enjoyed learning about a variety of animals including snakes, rabbits and pigs. Lots of children also challenged themselves to feed goats, sheep and alpacas.

As part of their DT Healthy Eating project, Year 4 were fortunate to have a Polish cooking demonstration by Mr. Adamek. During the sessions, the children were introduced to the delectation of Pierogi and a dill and cucumber salad. The session was kindly sponsored by Good Food by Kriz.

Year 2 were visited by Scientist Rob. Rob provided a workshop for each class all about healthy skin. We looked at how to look after our skin and made our very own skin care cream using water, oil and soap.

Every Day Matters

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

The class with highest attendance this week is

**Earhart
100%**



Congratulations!

**Whole school attendance is
94.2%**

Secret Student

Named secret students this week are:

Reception: Anthony, Halle, River, Matilda P, Malakai, Armandas, Grace, Poppy, Olivia G

Year 1: Winnie, Freya, Carter, Berwin, Ralph, Scarlett, Aria, Teddy

Year 2: George, Oskar, Olivia, Matas, Isla, Benny, Helen, Harrison

Year 3: Aaraa, Virujan, Jaxon, Ace, Max, Oscar, Billy, Caleb

Year 4: Spencer M, Maddie, Amanda, Seren, Teddy, Leo, David, Jacob

Year 5: Alicia, Chloe, Jack K, Ida, Brendan, Jessica, Amelia

Year 6: Martha, Alfie E, Viktor, Summer, Lily B, Ayva, Thomas, Caleb, Sophia

These pupils have demonstrated our school values and learning behaviours, well done.

Parent Assemblies and Cafes

Arday class welcomed parents into a their café this week to explore 'sensory processing' and how understanding information from all of our senses affects our wellbeing. Watch this YouTube video if you'd like more information about sensory processing - <https://youtu.be/V-kUKyfu0as>

On Tuesday, Year 1 presented their assembly to Reception, Year 2, Year 3 and their families. We started of our assembly by talking about our values for this term - Friendship and Trust. The children talked about the sorts of people they could trust and what makes a " good friend". The children then moved onto the talk about their learning across the curriculum. We heard about the different ways we could classify animals and the features of a map. The children really impressed us with their scientific and geographical vocabulary. To finish off our assembly we shared one of our current songs we had been learning in class " Minibeast Rave". The children presented their assembly beautifully and worked so hard to learn their lines. Well done everyone.

Prefect Update

We have had lots of visitors into school this week. The Mental Health team came in to give and assembly about saying kind things to others. This links to our school rule - praise no put downs.

Year 2 were visited by a scientist, Year 3 were visited by Ursula from the Rivers Trust who brought eels for them to keep and observe in their classrooms and Year 4 were visited by a chef.



There have also been some trips this week. Year 3 went to the Guildhall for their Heritage Project with the Town Council and Reception went to a farm. I'm sure they enjoyed seeing all of the animals , especially since they have had so many in their classes over the past few weeks.

Reading

It is important that children read every day. On a Monday, reading diaries are checked and teachers award gold stars for children who have read more than 7 times.

This week 180 children read more than 7 times and achieved their gold star.

This week's award is to:

Maathai

Daily run

To support Mental and physical health and well-being, children run every day. KS2 have a weekly distance competition.

This week's award is to:

KS1: Merian
KS2: Hadid

School Update: Leadership changes

We sent a letter last week to announce a change to the leadership team, Mrs Mulford is leaving at the end of the Summer Term to be Headteacher of another school. Mrs Langley, who works within the Halcyon Federation at Wicklewood will be joining Drake as Head of School.

Message from Mrs Mulford:

I wanted to take this opportunity to share how much love I have for Drake, the whole community of pupils, families and staff and the ethos and opportunities that are so in line with my values and belief in the very best for every child. The decision to move on was not an easy one and I will miss Drake greatly. I am however excited to start at a new school and have this opportunity. It is a small school of around 100 children and will have mixed year group classes, this will be a new experience for me. My aim is to bring all of my learning from Drake to benefit children in a new community. I know that Drake is in great hands and am sure I will be hearing about lots of wonderful things that the children have been up to! I want to thank you all for all of your support during my time here and wish you all the very best for the future!

Message from Mrs Langley:



It's with great pleasure that I introduce myself. I'm Victoria Langley and will be joining Drake as the new Head of School from September. With over 25 years of experience leading EYFS and as a Head of School, I am excited to bring my expertise and passion for the arts and sport to my role. I am committed to ensuring the best outcomes for children alongside developing the opportunities to learn beyond the curriculum, building on the excellent work that has already taken place at Drake. I look forward to getting to know you all and becoming part of the Drake community. I'll be spending time in school during the summer term, so do please come and say hello.

Feature Podcast

Our children contribute to school life and the children's learning through our Drake Radio. You can listen live [here](#).

Have a listen to a feature podcast: [Hope's reflections on Arts Week](#)

All podcasts are available on the [video centre section of the school website](#).

MALLARDS

Mallards hare currently working on the Year 6 Prom night and the Summer Fayre.

mallards9lrv@nsix.org.uk

Dates for your Diary

All scheduled events for classes/year groups are included in year group newsletters and added to the [year group pages](#).

We aim to provide as much notice as possible for school events, but there are sometimes opportunities that arrive at short notice. As new whole school events are created, we will list them here and then add them to the [school website calendar](#) for future reference.

Summer Term dates

25th June: Sports Day

18th July: Summer fayre

19th July: End of term — finish 1pm



Drake Primary School proudly presents

SUMMER CONCERTS 2024

Reception - Friday 5th July at 2:45

Year 1 - Tuesday 2nd July at 2:45

Year 2 - Wednesday 19th June at 2:45

Year 3 - Wednesday 3rd July at 2:30

Year 4 - Thursday 11th July at 2:45

Year 5 - Thursday 4th July at 2:45

Year 6 - Thursday 20th June at 2:30

Rocksteady pupils - Wednesday 17th July at 10:00

Choir - Wednesday 10th July at 3:45

Whole school choir - Thursday 18th July at 12:00





DRAKE'S

**SPORTS DAY
25TH JUNE**

KS2 -

9:20am -

12:00pm

KS1 & EYFS

12:30pm-

2:55pm

**PLEASE COME AND
CHEER ON YOUR
CHILDREN**

If you have any questions,
please speak to the office.



The Norfolk Reading Project

MANY CHILDREN LEAVE
SCHOOL UNABLE TO READ

YOU CAN HELP PUT
THAT RIGHT

GET INVOLVED!

HELP US TO HELP CHILDREN LEARN TO READ

- Volunteer
- Share our details
- Organise your own fundraising event
- Donate



The Norfolk Reading Project

For further information please contact us via our website
www.thenorfolkreadingproject.co.uk
or Email: info@thenorfolkreadingproject.co.uk

THE NORFOLK READING PROJECT EXPLAINED IN 6 SIMPLE STEPS:



1. WHAT IS IT?

We are a charity whose aim is to help all children learn to read by providing voluntary practical support in communities where it is needed most.



2. WHY IS IT NECESSARY?

Good literacy skills underpin all learning and success in later life but nationally many children leave school unable to read and write properly.



3. IT DOESN'T HAVE TO BE LIKE THIS

Here in Norfolk educational attainment is well below the national average. Together we can help change this.



4. HOW WILL WE HELP?

We will provide trained and DBS checked Reading Support Volunteers, who will regularly listen to children read on a one to one basis in schools. Novice readers need opportunities to practice.



5. WHERE AND WHEN?

During term time in a school near you!



6. HOW YOU CAN HELP

We need Reading Support Volunteers and also those with other skills to help organise and raise funds to support the charity.

GET INVOLVED!

Contact...
www.thenorfolkreadingproject.co.uk
info@thenorfolkreadingproject.co.uk

Thetford Coffee Drop In



Join us at Thetford Library for friendly chat and advice regarding life with a vision impairment.

Sessions are Monthly - 2pm - 3:30pm

Upcoming Sessions:

- Wednesday 24th April 2pm - 3:30pm
- Wednesday 22nd May 2pm - 3:30pm
- Wednesday 26th June 2pm - 3:30pm



For more information call 07743 921439 or email chris.linstead@visionnorfolk.org.uk

Thetford Town Council



Sunday 30 June

10 AM - 3 PM
(sellers from 9 am)

MARKET PLACE

GARAGE SALE

All welcome, come along and sell the things you don't need anymore!

Pitches £4 on the day



book a space venues@thetfordtowncouncil.gov.uk
or ring 01842 754247

JOIN US FOR OUR

BIG GREEN FAIR

SUNDAY
16TH JUNE

11am - 3pm
Thetford
Market Place

Come along to learn about protecting our environment and how you can get involved to make a difference!

Scan the QR code below to find out more at our Facebook page, or visit our Eventbrite page at: bit.ly/ThetfordBigGreenFair



Organised as part of the Climate Coalition's

THE GREAT BIG GREEN WEEK

Organised by Thetford Environmental Group, in partnership with Thetford Town Council



BRING FAMILY & FRIENDS

Stalls from local voluntary organisations!
Charities and businesses too!
Activities and crafts!
Live performances!
Food!

Tangles with the Angles

Have you ever wondered how King Edmund really died, or how Alfred the Great managed to burn the cakes? How the people of Sutton Hoo got a huge ship up a hill, or what magical stories were told around the fire at West Stow?

This summer, join two intrepid adventurers as they jump back to the past in search of answers to all your Anglo-Saxon questions!

Accompanied by hands-on Anglo-Saxon craft workshops, this play is a funny and anarchic introduction to Anglo-Saxon history for 7-11 years olds and their families.

Play running time: approx. 50 mins
Workshops include pottery, belt and jewellery making, runes and poo excavation!

The Longshed, Woodbridge,
IP12 1FP
Saturday 16 June, 11am and 2pm



West Stow Anglo-Saxon Village,
IP28 6HG (part of DragonFest)
Saturday 22 June, 11am - 4pm*

The Carnegie, Thetford,
IP2 2DS
Sunday 23 June, 2pm



Ely Museum, CB7 4LS
Saturday 29 June, 2pm and
3.30pm

See each venue's box office for ticket prices
*only showing 15 min snippets of performance during DragonFest

spinningwheeltheatre.com