



Building Bright Futures

Responsibility:
make good choices
because your
actions matter

Respect:
value everyone
and everything in
how you listen,
speak and in what
you do

Compassion:
show care and
understanding for
everyone

Courage:
be brave; believe
you can

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Blackwell News

Issue 15

8th May 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

We hope you enjoy reading this newsletter, which celebrates the wonderful learning taking place across our school. Inside, you will find examples of the fantastic artwork created by our Art Club, alongside highlights from our creative junk modelling project, where children have used imagination and teamwork to turn everyday materials into exciting creations.

Our children have also been busy developing their scientific thinking by observing the world around them and asking important questions such as, "How does this happen?" Children have been exploring UK habitats, discovering the variety of environments and wildlife found across the country, while also learning about the fascinating process of pollination and the important role it plays in nature.

Across the school, we continue to focus on improving writing skills, and it has been wonderful to see the children growing in confidence, creativity and accuracy in their work.

We would also like to recognise our Year 6 children, who have been working incredibly hard in preparation for their Key Stage SATs next week. They have been busy revising and have made tremendous progress throughout the year. We are extremely proud of their effort, resilience and positive attitude, and we know they are ready to do their very best.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support.

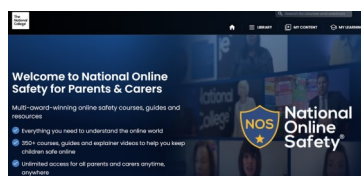
Kind regards,

Sarah Martin
Headteacher

Keep me safe online'

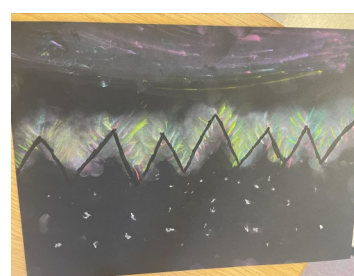
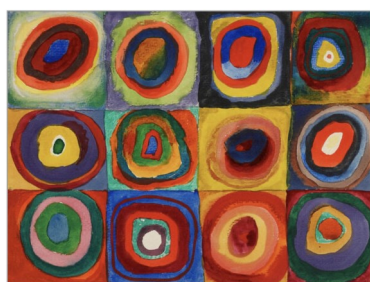
We want to help you to keep your child safe online, so please find below a couple of resources to support you. The QR Codes below provide you with easy access. Do take the time to have a quick look as there are step-by-step instructions, as well as short videos.

www.internetmatters.org/parental-controls/#choose-parental-controls-guide



Blackwell Art

Over the last 2 weeks, we have really enjoyed starting y3/4 art club on a Friday lunchtime! Firstly, we looked at a piece of Art called 'Concentric Circles' by Wassily Kandinsky. Miss Cantillon bought in cookie cutters such as circles, hearts, bones and flowers. We used them as stencils to create our own similar style art work by dividing our page into quarters. We used paint and mixing palettes. We hope you enjoy our versions of his work. Secondly, we used black card and chalk pastels to create our own artwork. Miss Cantillon gave us a selection of ideas that we could explore. We enjoyed smudging and using the chalk to create some masterpieces of our own.



Year R

Squirrels Class have been busy exploring their creativity and problem-solving skills through an exciting junk modelling project. The children set out to design and build their very own rockets using a variety of recycled materials.

Before getting started, the children carefully planned their design, thinking about what their rocket would look like and how it would be constructed. They then explored different ways of joining materials together, making thoughtful decisions about which methods would work best for the resources they had chosen.

As they brought their designs to life, the children showed great resilience and adaptability—making changes and improvements along the way as needed. It was wonderful to see them learning through trial and error while staying focused on their original ideas.

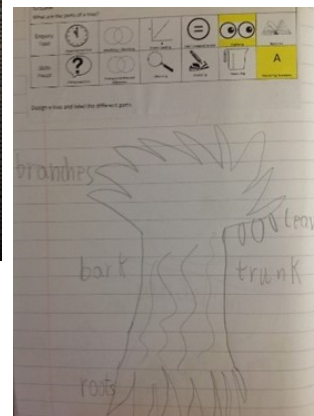
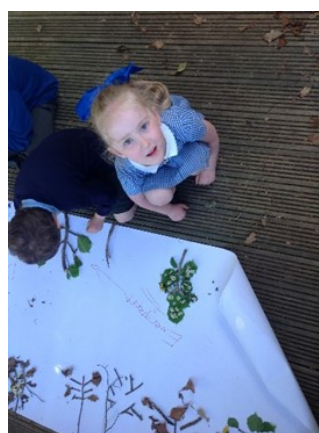
The final rockets were truly fantastic, and the children were incredibly proud of what they had achieved. Well done, Squirrels Class, for your brilliant creativity!



Year 1

Science is about observing the world and asking, "How?" In Year 1 we have been focusing on how trees are adapted to the seasons.

We conducted a field study, around the school observing and analysing the structure of different trees. Learning about the important jobs the parts of a tree do. By comparing **Evergreen** and **Deciduous** species, the children began to understand how trees function throughout the year. We also collected twigs and leaves to create fabulous tree collages.



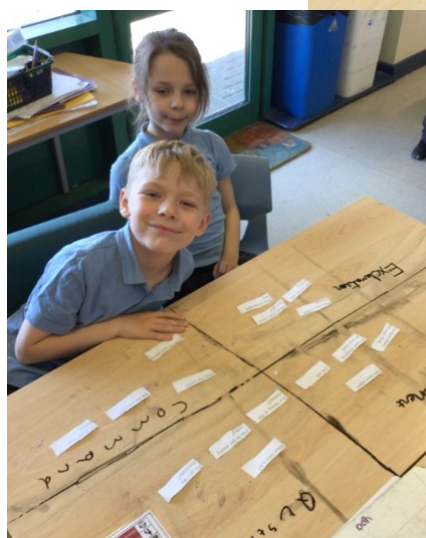
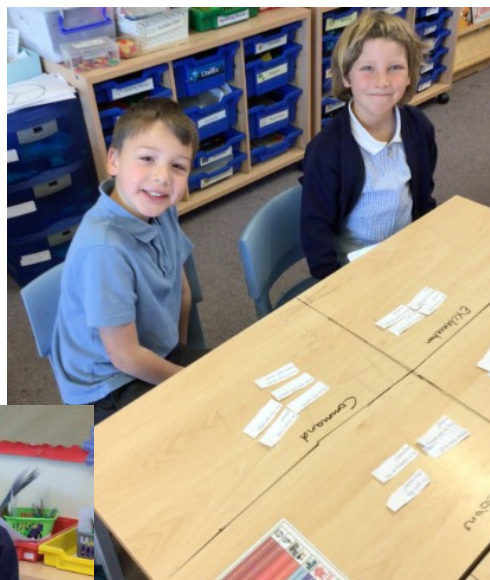
Year 2

The children enjoyed working in small groups to sort out the animals that live in different UK habitats. We spent a lot of time discussing what habitats are and the best ways in which we can help animals to thrive in their habitats. We discussed how some animals can live in different habitats. For example, many of us currently have foxes and even fox cubs in our urban habitats. We also said that foxes can live in woodland too. We discussed how humans are very adaptable and can change their habitats with ease. We talked about how animals can't adapt so easily to changes in their habitats.



Year 2

One of our recent Curious Quest codes has been to recognise different sentence types. The children enjoyed grouping the sentences into statements, questions, exclamations or commands. They had to be sentence detectives to see if they could find a question word, such as who or where, or an imperative verb in a command. The activity was especially fun because they were allowed to use whiteboard markers on the table.



Year 3 & 4

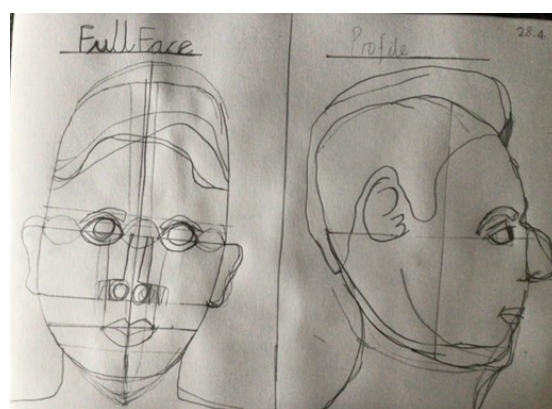
In Years 3 and 4, children have been drafting, revising and editing factual reports on the human digestive system. By utilizing cause and effect conjunctions—such as *consequently*, *therefore*, *so*, and *as a result*—the children as writers have articulated how mechanical digestion in the mouth leads to the chemical breakdown of nutrients in the stomach. Cohesion was maintained through the use of fronted adverbials and pronouns, ensuring the text flows logically. The integration of Tier 3 scientific vocabulary—including terms like *peristalsis*, *hydrochloric acid* and *enzymes* and well as the scientific names for internal organs has transformed their writing from general observations into precise, technical explanations.

Digestion
The digestive system grinds food down into microscopic pieces so the nutrients can be absorbed and have a good time in your blood stream. These particles provide energy for you so that you can GROW, REPAIR and remain healthy and strong.

Cave off Causes
First, the food is ripped ^{tears} up into pieces small enough to digest, but if using all your teeth. Now that the food is small enough to digest, you need to be able to swallow the food. Except your tongue is like a ~~conveyor belt~~ ^{conveyor belt} moving food around the mouth and helps you

taste food. But the saliva (spit) brings everything together, it makes everything in your mouth slippery, so you can use your tongue (aided with saliva) to swallow the food that is now ready for the next stage of digestion.

In Art, the children have been exploring cubism through the use of shapes and lines. They have created a draft sketch for their final piece where each side of the face represents a different emotions such as anger or happiness. The children have selected abstract shapes to draw the faces and have considered sizing and placement to reflect the emotions that they are trying to convey.



Year 5

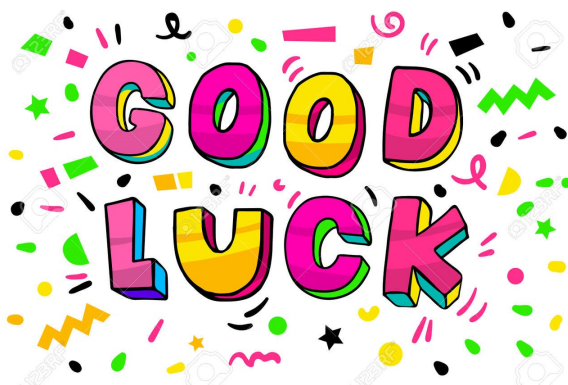
As part of our Year 5 Pollination topic, each child has planted a sunflower seeds. The children have been closely monitoring the growth of their seeds and observing the shoot unfolding.



Year 6

Year 6 have been working hard revising for our upcoming SAT's next week. Both classes have been using chrome books for LBQ, working in teams (for Ash class' favourite) 'The Unfair Game' and playing (Birch class' favourite) 'Maths Dash!'

We are so very proud of all our Year 6 children and the progress they have made. Keep it up for the final push Year 6 - we've got this!



May 2026	
11th—14th	KS2 SATS
18th	PTA Cake sale 8.00—9.00am and 3.00—4.00pm Class photos
20th	Parents' Forum 8.50am—9.50am 'Space Expert' in to see Squirrels class
22nd	INSET Day—School Closed to children.
25th	Bank Holiday—children not in school
26th—29th	Half Term Holidays—children not in school
June 2026	
1st	Children return to school
5th	PTA Summer Fair—more details to follow
10th	Year 2 trip to Ovingdean Beach
17th	Parents' Forum 8.50am—9.50am New Reception Parent Meeting 6.00pm—7.00pm
29th	Sports Day—more details to follow
July 2026	
1st	New Reception Children Stay and Play session 2.15pm—2.45pm
1st—3rd	Year 6—Sackville Induction
7th	Squirrels class assembly — parents invited
8th	Year 6 rehearsals at Chequer Mead—9.00am -3.00pm Year 6 Production at Chequer Mead—5.00pm—9.00pm New Reception Children Stay and Play session 1.50—2.50pm
13th	New Reception Children Stay and Play session 9.30—10.30am
17th	PTA Colour Run
22nd	Last day of term
23rd -	Summer Holidays—School closed to children

September 2026	
1st	INSET Day School closed to children
2nd	Children back to school for Years 1-6
2nd—7th	Home visits for New Reception children
8th	New Reception children first day—going home for lunch
9th	New Reception children lunch at school and then home for the afternoon
10th	New Reception children start full time