



23 Jan 2026

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## Headteacher's insight

As we move into the second half of the half term, it has been a pleasure to reflect on some of the wonderful learning opportunities and experiences the children have enjoyed this week, as well as to look ahead to the events we will be sharing together over the coming weeks.

This week, our Year 5 pupils took part in a Matball event alongside children from Marleigh. The event was a great success, with pupils demonstrating excellent teamwork, resilience, and sportsmanship throughout. It was lovely to see the children working collaboratively, encouraging one another, and representing our schools so positively.

We thoroughly enjoyed the Movement Miles Challenge we have been engaging with for the last fortnight alongside four other primary school in our Anglian Learning school family. Good spirited competitiveness has certainly motivated more movement at a time of year when movement requires a higher level of motivation.

We were also delighted to welcome visitors into school for a special assembly to launch the SparkTank Challenge. The assembly generated a real buzz of excitement and curiosity among the children, and we are very much looking forward to taking part in this innovative project. More information will be shared with parents soon.

As we enter the second half of the half term, there are several events to look forward to. On Tuesday 3rd February, we will be marking National Storytelling Week with a series of workshops in school, giving children the opportunity to enjoy and explore stories in creative and engaging ways. On Friday 6th February, we will celebrate NSPCC Number Day, with children invited to come to school dressed to represent or celebrate numbers. The day will include a range of fun and interactive activities designed to inspire enjoyment and confidence in mathematics.



## ...continued

We will end the half term on a high note with our **PTFA Funky Hair Day on Friday 13th February**. Children are invited to attend school in non-uniform with a funky hairstyle, and donations to the PTFA will be warmly welcomed. These contributions play an important role in enabling the PTFA to continue supporting and enhancing our children's curriculum experiences.

Finally, I would like to wish you all a very positive weekend. I hope the weather is kinder than forecast, but if it does turn out to be wet and cold, I hope you are able to enjoy a cosy and restful one with your families.



*Mrs Thompson*

**Mrs Emily Thompson**  
**Executive Headteacher**

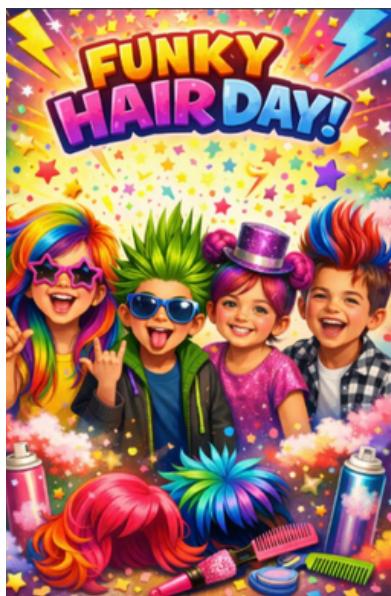


## Fundraising News & Updates

### Funky Hair Day

Get ready for a day of colour, creativity and fun as the PTFA invites all pupils to take part in our **Funky Hair Day on Friday 13th February**.

On this day, children are welcome to come to school in **non-uniform** and show off their **wildest and most wonderful hairstyles**. Think big hair, bold colours, wigs, crazy hair-dos and plenty of hairspray — the wilder, the better!



There will be **prizes to be won**, with winners chosen and announced on the day, so everyone has a chance to get involved and have fun.

We kindly invite you to **make a donation** for this day. Watch this space for ways to make your donation. All funds raised will go directly to the PTFA, helping us continue to enhance opportunities for all our children.

Thank you, as always, for your support — we can't wait to see the fantastic hairstyles on the day!

**DONATE**

### School Bench

We've hit **75%** of our target!

Please **share the link** to our fundraising page with **friends, family, businesses and employers**. It's a great opportunity for businesses to raise their profile and brand awareness by donating and using their business name!

75% of target raised

**£557.50**

Raised of **£740.00** goal  
By 12 supporters



**DONATE**

**thank you!**



### Please remember

Reading Record Books and Reading Books should be in school everyday please.

## Butterflies Class

This week in Butterflies Class, we've been exploring the joys of Spring through the delightful book *Hello Spring* by Jo Lindley. The children have really enjoyed discovering the signs of the new season and have been sequencing pictures to retell the story in their own words. We will continue with this book next week as we extend our writing and look for more signs of Spring in the world around us. We have also been writing in the provision; making books about 'Zoo Animals' as we learn 'z for zoo' in Phonics.

In PSHE, we have been learning more about working together. The children have shown wonderful teamwork as they planned and built dens outside—there was lots of communication, cooperation, and creativity on display!

In Maths, we've been focusing on the numerals 1 to 5, supported by our favourite friends, the Numberblocks. The children always enjoy spotting numbers in their play and using them during our group activities.

It's been a busy and happy week of learning, and we're looking forward to seeing what signs of Spring we can spot together next week!





## Dragonflies Class

This week in Dragonflies we've enjoyed starting some exciting new learning. Maths has taken us into a new unit on multiplication and division, beginning with exploring equal and unequal groups.

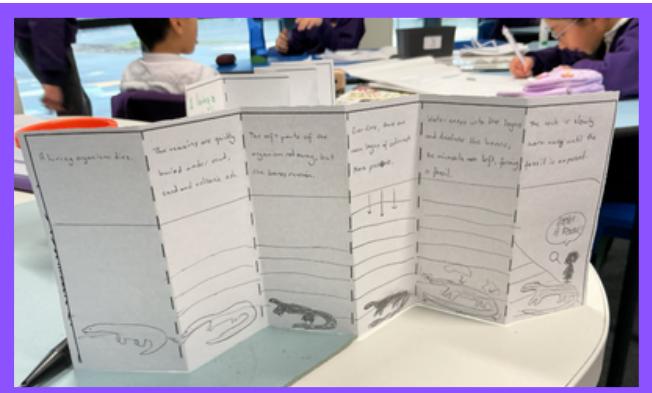
In science we have started our work on materials, sharing ideas about what different objects are made from.

Our English lessons have focused on the story Beegu, as we've been exploring the characters and getting ready to write our own stories. We also had a very special visit from local author Keith Hatton, who came to share their new book with us — a real highlight of the week for the children.





# Owls Class



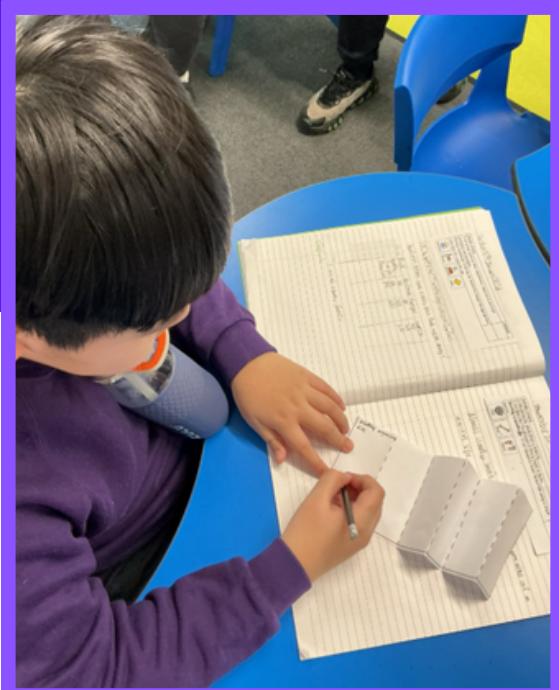
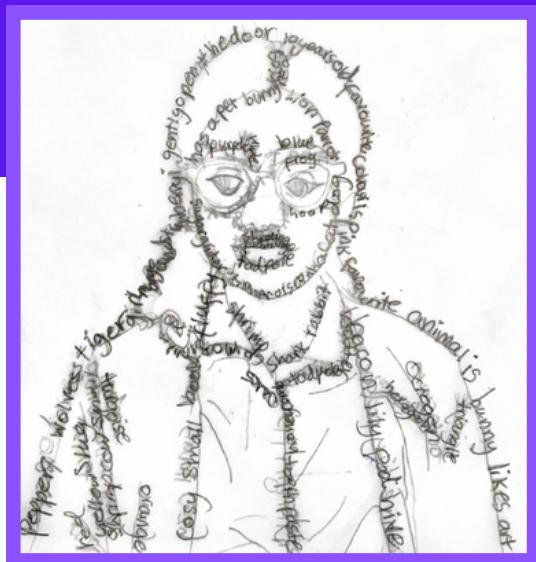
Owls have had a fun filled week of learning! We have started our art topic by tracing around pictures of ourselves using only a continuous line. Then we outlined our faces using sentences from our reading books. It took a lot of patience but the results were amazing. We're now experimenting with mixed media to create the best background for our portraits.

In maths, Owls have learnt how to convert mixed fractions into improper and vice versa. We first use fraction diagrams then move into more abstract problems such as missing numerators/denominators. Great perseverance from the class!

In Science, we had a lesson about fossils. We learnt what a fossil is and the scientific process of how it's made - we made a zigzag booklet on the process of fossilisation. Try and ask an Owl what a fossil is and they will give you the best definition.

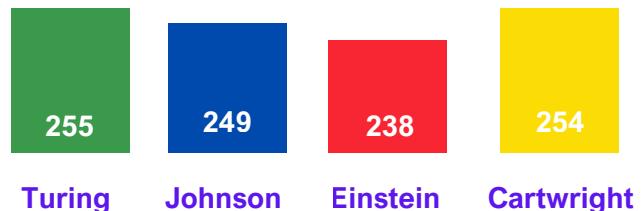
Year 5 played their first sports event: Matball after many weeks of swimming. They showcased their skill in throwing and defending but they also showed respect for other players. We appreciate Mr. Parker and FDP Owls for organising and playing with us respectively.

Here's to another great week!





## House Point Totals



## NSPCC Number Day – Dress as a Number!

On **Friday 6th February** we will be taking part in the **NSPCC's Number Day** to celebrate maths across the school and to help raise funds for the NSPCC.

Children (and staff!) are invited to dress up as a number. Costumes can be as simple as wearing a number badge or a football shirt, or as creative as turning yourself into a maths problem! Low-cost and homemade options are very welcome.

During the morning, each class will take part in a special maths lesson dedicated to a number. We will also introducing the Maths Through Stories competition, where children will create their own maths-themed stories.



We kindly encourage our families to consider making a donation to the NSPCC. Donations can be made via their website <https://www.nspcc.org.uk/support-us/donate/>.

We are looking forward to an exciting day celebrating maths, creativity and problem-solving while supporting a really important charity.

Thank you for your support!

## Message for Ladybirds

Next week in computing, we will be building our own **rockets** to help us learn how instructions and algorithms work. To support this exciting project, please send your child to school on **Thursday 29th January** with a **clean, empty 500ml plastic bottle**.

Thank you — we really appreciate your support!





**FOLLOW US**

[For key dates see our website](#)

## Term Dates 2025/26

[For 2026/27 dates see our website](#)

### **Autumn term 2025**

Thursday 4th September to Friday 24th October  
Half term: Monday 27th October – 3rd November  
Tuesday 4th November to Friday 19th December  
Christmas holidays: Monday 22nd December to  
Tuesday 6th Jan

### **Spring term 2026**

Tuesday 6th January to Friday 13th February  
Half Term: Monday 16 February to Friday 20  
February  
Monday 23rd February to Friday 27th March  
Easter Holidays: Monday 30th March to Friday  
10th April

### **Summer term 2026**

Monday 13th April to Friday 22nd May  
Half Term: Monday 25th May to Friday 29th May  
Monday 1st June to Friday 17th July  
Summer Holiday: Monday 20th July onwards

### **INSET Days (closed to pupils)**

Monday 1st September  
Tuesday 2nd September  
Wednesday 3rd September  
Monday 3rd November  
Monday 5th January  
Monday 20th July



ANGLIAN LEARNING

Presents

# Primary Platform Exhibition 26

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an exhibition of artwork from Anglian Learning  
Primary Schools

**7 & 8 March 2026  
10 am to 3 pm**

The Marven Centre, New  
Road, Sawston Village College

**All welcome**



# PREMIER HOLIDAY CLUBS



**MORE** fun, **MORE** friendships, **MORE** smiles  
during the **FEBRUARY HALF-TERM!**



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**Premier**  
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**Excellent**



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# YOUR NEAREST MULTI-ACTIVITY CLUB

**Venue:** Marleigh Primary Academy, CB5 8BG

**Dates:** 16th - 20th February 2026

**Times:** 8.45am till 3.45pm (Extended hours till 6pm also available)

**Price:**

**Ages:** 4 to 12 years old

**Additional info:** Book now to secure a space!



Our Holiday Clubs keep children active, safe, and entertained throughout the school holidays.

Join us this February as we offer a wide range of fun activities, including sports, performing arts, and games, all at great value. There's something for every child to enjoy this half-term!

**Book now** for a holiday full of excitement!



## CLUBS ARE BETTER WITH FRIENDS!



**TREAT YOUR FRIENDS  
TO 20% OFF...AND GET  
20% OFF TOO!**

\*Ts&Cs apply. Refer a Friend discount on new bookings only.

