

Newsletter

Issue 22
28 February 2025

Dear Parents/Carers

We have had a fantastic first week back after our half-term break! It has been wonderful to see the children enjoying the start of their various projects.

Squirrels Class had a blast being creative with mud painting at Forest School. Ladybirds have started learning about dinosaurs and fossil hunters, especially Macy Jones, the fossil finder. In Bumblebees, puppets have been the theme for discussion and investigation, with some children bringing puppets from home for us to explore. Hares Class embarked on a project about Winchester, which included some exciting soil digging as part of their fact-finding mission, leading to the creation of informative leaflets.



Foxes had an amazing virtual day traveling to the Caribbean on Tuesday. They made baggage labels, checked in their bags, followed the safety instructions on the plane, and landed safely in the Caribbean.

PC Window visited Herons and Kingfishers classes, giving a very interesting talk on online safety. The children responded maturely to the discussions and had some insightful questions for him.



This week, the KS2 children have also been enjoying learning how to play archery. They had great fun, and we have some budding archers here at school!



On Tuesday, we had a visitor from The Theatre Royal who told us all about the Drama Club she hopes to start at our school. A separate letter has been sent out with information on how to join.

We also said goodbye to Miss Andrews today. We want to thank her for everything she has done and wish her well in her new role. Next week, we will welcome Miss Davies to work in Squirrels Class on a temporary basis.

Headteacher: Miss Sarah Vittle B.Ed (Hons)

Amongst the sunshine this week, we have been delighted to see new bulbs growing in the grass. Please could we ask that you keep off the grass to give the flowers and grass a chance to grow

We are planning on holding an arts week in school from Monday 23rd June to Thursday 26th June. This is also the week of the Winchester Garden Festival Week. Our art week will celebrate our school gardens and grounds and will culminate in an Open Gardens afternoon on Thursday 26th June. More details to follow soon. However, if you, or someone you know, has an interest in art in nature please do let us know. We would love to invite artists in to school. We will also need extra resources to support this week such as wool and fabric for weaving.



It was fabulous to celebrate children who have been recognised for being great role models this week in our celebration Assembly.

Date	Friday 28 February 2025
Squirrels	Kei – For always being ready to learn. It is lovely to see his diligence during lessons and he's an excellent role model for the other children in Squirrels. Frankie and Ozzie – For looking after our classroom resources and making sure they are always put away in the right place.
Ladybirds	Lucy and James for making Mrs Steels proud by always being Ready, Respectful and Safe in and out of the classroom.
Bumblebees	Jack for his Oracy skill presentation of his work and amazingly trying hard to do his best showing respect.
Hares	Crosby, Evie M, Aren, Ema, Mila, Hope and Theo – All of these children have returned from half term and hit the ground running with their learning. We have loved seeing how determined they have been to succeed and make progress this week.
Foxes	Jack and James – Jack has been ready to learn this week, by showing real determination to identify and explore different lines of symmetry. James has been working hard on reading in school, showing resilience when tackling tricky words
Hérons	Lois and Rosa – For showing such enthusiasm while practising for our poetry performance. We were so impressed by their use of prosody! Amelia – For showing such a positive attitude to all aspects of school life. When PC Window visited us, Amelia was very inquisitive and welcoming.
Kingfishers	Zac – for sensitive, thoughtful contributions to our class discussions and acting in a respectful manner to all adults that he encounters.

Top Table

The children chosen for the top table this week are: Stanley, Wren and Reuben – Year R
Ibrahim – Year 2





Pancake Day

For dessert on Tuesday the kitchen will be serving Pancakes with golden syrup or fresh fruit. We will also be holding a House Pancake Race in the afternoon!

World Book Day

We will be celebrating World Book Day on **Friday 7 March** where children will be welcome to come to school dressed as a book character or come in their pj's ready for a bedtime story. The PTA will be doing a costume swap along the lines of the Halloween costumes and Christmas Jumper swaps. Please bring your unwanted/outgrown book character costume to the school office. From Thursday 27 February your child will be able to select a costume from the PTA shed at end of the school day. There will be no charge and you do not have to have donated to take part. The children love World Book Day and other fun activities will happen on and around the day.

Parents Evenings

These will be taking place on **Tuesday 18 March and Wednesday 19 March** – a separate letter has been sent out this week.

Fashion Show

Sustainable Oliver's Battery and Oliver's Battery Brownies are joining forces to put on a 'Sustainable Fashion Show' on Tuesday 18 March at 7pm in St Marks Church in Oliver's Battery.

Models/Designers are being asked to make/upcycle their garments/accessories using pre-loved and recycled materials to create and showcase their designs on the 'cat walk!'

For more information or to register your interest please contact Eve Almond at Sustainable Oliver's Battery – email: vealmond@yahoo.com.au



Guitar Day

Hampshire Music Service are running a 'Guitar Workshop' on Saturday 8 March at Otterbourne Primary School. This is open for all players who have been learning for a least one term and up to Stage/Grade 2/3. This is also open for more advanced players. The children will need to bring their instrument, music stand, packed lunch and a drink.

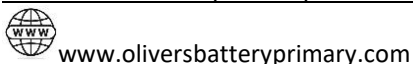
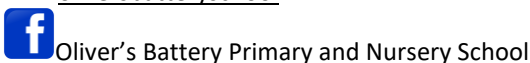
Please go to the Hampshire Music Education Hub or call in to the office for a flyer for more information.

Thank you for your continued support. I hope you have lovely weekend.

Yours faithfully



Miss Vittle
Headteacher



Dates for your diary

New events in Blue

World Book Day	7 March
Yr1 trip to Science Centre	10 March
Parents Eve	18 & 19 March
Rock Steady Concert 2.30pm	31 March
End of Spring Term	4 April
Start of Summer 1	22 April
Yr5 Ferny Croft Residential	23 April
Bank Holiday	5 May
Yr6 SATs	12 – 15 May
Sports Day	21 May
Alternative Sports Day (if wet)	22 May
End of Summer 1	23 May
Start of Summer 2	2 June
Arts Week	23 – 26 June
Inset Day	27 June 2025 & 30 June 2025