

Newsletter

Issue 21
27 February 2026

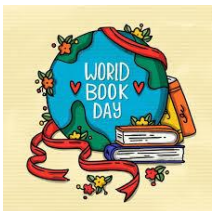
Dear Parents and Carers

It has been lovely to welcome children and families back to school after the half term break. We hope to have had a chance to catch up with family and friends and to relax too.

This week, as usual, has been busy and full of lots of memorable learning activities. On Monday **Hares in Year 3** had an exciting archaeology afternoon filled with hands-on discovery courtesy of the Customer and Communications for the M3 junction 9 improvements project! Children carefully excavated a sand "dig site" to uncover replica bones, using brushes and trowels just like real archaeologists. In the pottery area, pupils used clay to create their own pots inspired by Neolithic designs. Over in the Roman zone, coin rubbings of replica Roman coins revealed images and inscriptions while learning about life in Roman Britain. Everyone engaged brilliantly with history!



Staffing News: As many of you will know we will be saying Goodbye to Miss Hamilton after Easter as she is moving back to Scotland. A new teacher, Miss Reynolds will be joining the teaching team for the summer term. Miss Suttey will also be leaving us after Easter. She will be spending more time with her family. We will greatly miss both Miss Hamilton and Miss Suttey and wish them all the very best for the future. Mrs Jensen will be making a return to the office on a temporary basis until we recruit a permanent Admin Assistant to replace Miss Suttey. In September, Mrs Davies and Mrs Steels will teach a class as a job share in Year 2. Both teachers will work for half of the week and take joint responsibility for Bumblebees Class.



Reminder - World Book Day – 5th March. We are looking forward to welcoming the children into school **dressed as a book character or ready for a bedtime story**. Children can also **bring into school their favourite book** if possible. This is so they can share their enjoyment of the book with their class mates.








If you can spare a few minutes, we would be delighted to welcome **parents and carers into school after drop off to read a story to the children**. This will be from **8:45am until 9:15am**. We will make sure everyone hears a story whether their adult comes in or not so please be prepared to read to a small group. Siblings can group together along with friends and classmates. Throughout the day the children will be looking at books and stories. We plan to do paired reading across classes and have different adults reading stories to different classes as well as taking part in some on line reading events led by authors, the BBC and the Literacy trust

Eco Ambassadors - The Big Plastic Count, 9-15 March 2026

Our school will take part in the Big Plastic Count, a national investigation into the volume of plastic packaging used in UK homes. For one week we are asking children to keep track of the plastic packaging put into the rubbish AND recycling bins at home. The form is available here: <https://linktr.ee/oliversbattery> Or please ask if you need a printed copy. (You only need one form per household, not per pupil). Results should be logged by 22nd March, or please return the completed form to school on Monday 16th March.



As always to it was fabulous to celebrate children who have been recognised for being great role models this week in our Celebration Assembly.





Date	Friday 27 February 2026
 Squirrels	Gus and William helping tidying away the resources ready for use by everyone in their class – well done boys!
 Ladybirds	Adam and Theo have shown great resilience this week when practising writing numbers and counting groups of objects. Also, they have been really concentrating when reading and applying their phonic sounds. Well done!
 Bumblebees	James G has really impressed me with his reading this week. He has taken his time to use his phonics to sound out tricky words. Keep up the super reading James!
 Hares	Adam worked hard before half term to create an excellent poem. He remained focused throughout all stages of his learning even when he was given some constructive criticism he showed resilience and determination. Excellent poem, focus, resilience. Finley A has had a positive can-do attitude. He has applied himself to his new English journey and created some great descriptive sentences.
 Foxes	Codi and Danny have really impressed me with their readiness to learn. They have worked so hard on their writing and both of them have made huge progress with their handwriting. Well done Danny and Codi!
 Herons	Liam, Orla, Cosima and Alma have shown dedication to their learning across the curriculum this week, particularly in art. They persevered and stayed focused when presented with the challenge of drawing life-like hands, producing artwork that was very impressive
 Kingfishers	The Year 6 helpers at the Pancake Races have been recognised for their enthusiasm, the respect they showed the other children and their organisational skills: Nina, Pearl, Darlene, Joshua, Kota, Caitlin, Freddie and Amelia



Top Table

The children chosen for the top table this week are:

Douglas B – Ladybirds, Rex W – Bumblebees, Amit D – Hares, Annabelle Mc – Foxes

Housepoints – these are announced each week in assembly				
	 Oak	 Maple	 Birch	 Rowan
Points this week	588	436	658	414
Leaderboard	2nd	3rd	1st	4th

Stage Success

During half term, Eloise, Caitlin and Amelia from Year 6 took part in a production of Wind in the Willows at The Point Theatre in Eastleigh. Amelia was a field mouse and sang a solo; Eloise was a rabbit and Caitlin was a hare. They have been rehearsing since November and took part in multiple shows, singing and dancing their hearts out! Well done girls!



Kings School Ambassador Visit

A reminder that some Year 7 ambassadors from Kings School will be visiting our school on **Tuesday 3 March** to talk to our Year 5 and 6 about their experiences of starting secondary school and answering any questions that they may have. There is also an opportunity for parents of Year 5 and 6 to meet with them afterwards from **2.15 – 3.15pm**. This will give you the chance to hear directly from current pupils about life at secondary school and raise any questions that you may have.

Thank you for your continued support and have a lovely weekend.

Yours faithfully



Miss Vittle
Headteacher

Dates for your diary - [new events in Blue](#)

ALL DATES CAN BE FOUND ON OUR SCHOOL WEBSITE TOO 😊

Year 7 Kings' Ambassadors visit (Year 5 &6) 1.30 – 2.30pm (Pupils) 2.30 – 3.30pm (Parents)	Tuesday 3rd March 2026
World Book Day	Thursday 5th March 2026
Year 1 Trip to Science Centre	Monday 9th March 2026
Parents Evening – 2.30 – 5.40pm	Tuesday 17th March 2026
Parents Evening – 2.30 – 5pm	Wednesday 18th March 2026
Rock Steady Concert – 3pm	Monday 23 rd March 2026
Listen to Me Concert – 1.30 – 1.50 (Year 2)	Thursday 26th March 2026
Listen to Me Concert – 2 – 2.20 (Year 1)	Thursday 26th March 2026
Choir Concert 2.45pm	Friday 27th March 2026
School breaks up for Easter	Friday 27 th March 2026
Inset Day	Friday 26 th June 2026
Inset Day	Monday 29 th June 2026



Austen Avenue
Winchester SO22 4HP
Telephone: 01962 869496
Email: admin@oliversb.com

Headteacher: Miss Sarah Vittle B.Ed (Hons)