

Attendance Figures - The school attendance officer Mrs Short would like to say well done to **Zinc 5** for achieving **99.3%** and **Red R** for achieving **99%** attendance week ending 24/2/17.

Nurture Group - In Nurture we have been talking about our emotions and feelings and how they make us feel and behave. We played a 'face snap' game, where we had to pull a sad or happy face with a partner to understand how our faces change. We have made faces using paper plates, crayons and wool for hair to understand we are 'all the same but different'.

We have been busy making resources to use in Silver to support our behaviour targets such owl pots to put our behaviour reward Wise Owls into. We have made 'Helping Hands' to help with jobs in Silver and made place mats for Snack time.

We have been talking about information from calendars including the date, months, seasons and the days of the week. We enjoy singing 'the days of the week song' and have made our own junk multi-sensory shakers.



joins in the

This year we have decided to participate in 'The Big Pedal', where children can cycle or scoot into school. This is a County Council initiative to encourage and promote an active and healthier way of travelling to school. As part of this initiative we will be having various workshops for the children.

The Big Pedal will run from Monday 20th March - Friday 31st March and is open to both pupils and staff. Our aim is to encourage as many children and members of staff to cycle or scoot to school not only as part of this initiative but to help build upon the intra-school competition between our space teams. If your child/children cycle or scoot during this period then they will gain points for their "Space Team". We will also be competing against various schools within the county for prizes such as: bike and scooter stunt shows, equipment and storage. We will also allocate times throughout this two week period to cycle or scoot during the school day.

We will keep you 'signposted!' with further information.

Get pedalling!

The Thrive Team

Keep Safe Online.!



Do you want to find out how to
keep children safe
on the internet?

Come along on to an internet
safety workshop to be held at
school.

8th March

at 9am



Blue R, Red R & Yellow R -

We are already getting stuck into our new focus of "Minibeasts" in Reception! We watched a slide show of lots of different creatures, discussing with our talk partners what they look like, what they are called and where we might find them. We created a spider diagram as a class of everything we know already about minibeasts, and also thought of some good questions that we would like answered. Riley asked, "do ants fly all the time?" and Blue Class wanted to know if we could find minibeasts in our outside area.

We have started our D&T build with parents this week. The children (and adults!) have really enjoyed spending time with their family members to create a wonderful junk model animal. They all look so brilliant! Thank you so much to everyone who has come to help and gathered the many materials at home.



This week we have also been practising our number formation, and have even had a go at writing numbers as words. We have played digit/word dominoes and used play dough to form numbers alongside other practical resources to help us.

Red Class performed their first Open the Book assembly on Wednesday. Some of the children were very brave, dressed up and went on the stage to help the Open the Book team retell a Bible Story. They did a fantastic job!



What we are learning about next -

Next week is English Week! The children will be taking part of lots of themed activities; including a Talk Boost day, creating their own book mark and making a story map. On Thursday for World Book Day they may dress up as their favourite character from a book - will we see a Gruffalo at school or maybe a Hungry Caterpillar? If you need some inspiration, this website has lots of ideas!

<http://www.worldbookday.com/>

Green 1, Orange 1 & Purple 1 - Year 1 were very busy before the holidays with Phonics Week. We focused mainly on alternative spellings for Phase Three sounds, including recognising words with split digraphs a-e, i-e, o-e and u-e. We also had a visit from a theatre group, who performed 'Cinderella' to KS1 and Reception. The children really enjoyed the performance!



This week we have been continuing our unit on poetry and have been looking at the poem 'Here Come The Fairy Tales' by Brenda Williams. Each child has been practising their own verse of the poem ready for a recital performance on Friday. In GPS, we have also been looking at adding suffixes to words, and finding out how adding '-ed' changes the meaning of the root word.

During our Maths lessons we have been revisiting addition and subtraction, using a variety of resources to help us with our calculations. This has included solving one step problems involving addition and subtraction, and making sure we understand what the question is asking us to do. This week we have been asking ourselves a very important question; 'What do I want to be when I grow up?' The children wowed us with their imaginative ideas about what job they would like to have when they are older and what skills they think they will need to do that job! As you know, Year 1 have been continuing to develop their skills and technique in swimming every Thursday. It has been nice to see all children make progress and build on their confidence in the water! This term, swimming will continue for Year 1 for the next five weeks. Please ensure swimming kits are in school on a Thursday morning.

What we are learning about next - In the next couple of weeks we will be starting a new topic in Maths looking at fractions. For this, children will be finding half and a quarter of shapes and amounts. In English, we will be starting our new Talk For Write unit, looking at the story of Hansel and Gretel. We are also really excited about the events happening in English Week, especially Bed Time Stories after school, 'Decorate a Spud' competition, and of course, World Book Day! We are going to begin thinking about memorable things that have happened in our lives so far. We would appreciate it if you could spend some time with your child discussing their 'significant life events' such as what their first word was, how old they were when they learnt to crawl and walk and when their first tooth fell out. We will be sharing our ideas during circle time before eventually creating our own timelines. If your child would like bring anything in linked to your discussion, please could they bring it in on Monday 13th March 2017.

Turquoise 2 , Magenta 2 Indigo 2 - Before half term the children finished innovating their fire stories in English. Some of the children surprised us by applying their understanding of speech marks to their writing. This term we have started looking at newspaper reports with specific reference to the Great Fire of London. We have story mapped and learnt actions to help us recall the text. We have explored the features of a newspaper report such as the title, headline, caption and picture.

In Maths the children loved looking at patterns and the movement of shapes. They had a great time creating their own patterns and playing of movement of shapes in quarter turns clockwise and anticlockwise. We have looked at fractions of shapes this week including whole, half and quarter fractions and are starting to apply this to fractions of numbers.

We had some cracking fire dance routines in our intra sports competition. All of the children demonstrated good poise and movement using high and low movements to depict flames. In the end the peer judges voted Atlantis as the overall winner. In Science we have continued to focus on materials and have designed our own 'silly machines'. We then went on to describe why they wouldn't be fit for purpose. In Art we have created silhouettes based on the Great Fire of London to go on the front of our quest books.

We were very fortunate to enjoy a surprise Cinderella pantomime visit to school. We all enjoyed joining in with the songs and booing the evil stepmother and stepsisters.



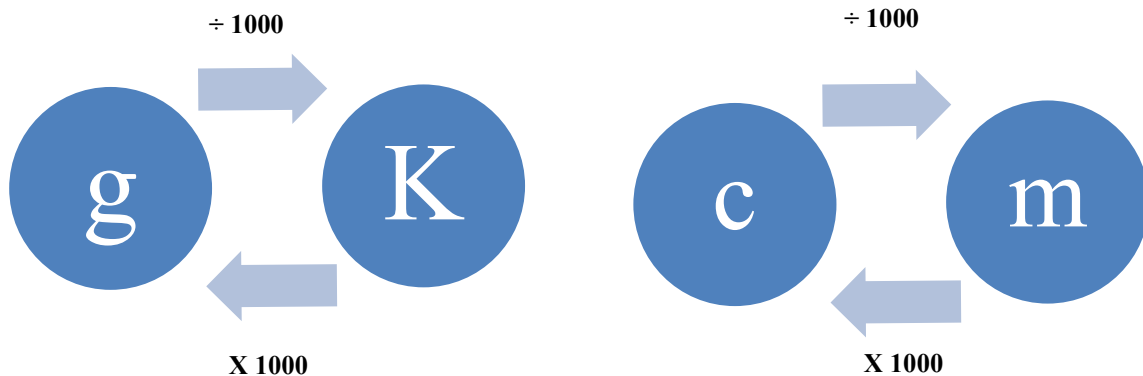
What we are learning about next - Next week we will be doing all things English. Monday sees us writing flame shaped poems and creating word searches. The children are invited to stay to Story Time on Monday after school. If you are staying don't forget to bring your pyjamas, teddy and favourite book to share. On Tuesday we will be creating a comic strip based on the Great Fire of London and designing and making a bookmark related to our school vision. Wednesday is a no pen day and we will be learning poems in our classes to perform to the rest of Key Stage 1. Thursday is World Book Day so remember to have a think about your favourite book character beforehand. During the week Year 2 will be focusing on spelling rules so that on Friday they can perform to their best in the intra house spelling bee. We would love to see some Year 2 Parents at Countdown on Tuesday after school.

After English Week we will be returning to fractions in Maths. If you could discuss fractions of amounts with your children in practical situations such as sharing out the roast potatoes from your Sunday lunch. What fraction has Daddy eaten? In English we will be continuing with our newspaper report and will start to box up and innovate our own version. If you have a newspaper please ask your child if they can find the main features and talk about the layout.

Year Group Updates

Sapphire 3 & Emerald 3 - This fortnight we have been looking further into our topic of Romans. We have been looking at newspaper articles and the features that are involved in them. We have also been looking at Mount Vesuvius and the damage that the volcano did to the little city of Pompeii! Eventually we will be creating and writing our very own newspaper report on the eruption of the volcano in AD 79.

In Maths we have been learning about measure and the units of measurement. We have learnt about weight, in particular grams and kilograms and length, centimetres and metres. After we explored using the measurements with rulers and scales, we then explored the conversion of them. We did this by using our place value and then multiplying or dividing by 100 or 1000. We have been using this chart to help us.



In PE we have finished our times with Ribston and improving our motor skills. Last time at Ribston we developed our coordination by taking part in an obstacle course. This week we have been lucky enough to have Hartpury in and taking us for some rugby sessions. We started by warming up and using our hands to pass the ball. We then used this skill and played rugby netball, where we worked on getting into space and communicating with our team.

In science we have been looking at soils and have started conducting our science experiment. During this experiment we will be looking how fertile the soil and which soil the cress seeds will grow best. Watch this space and we'll inform you of the results in the next newsletter.

Finally in topic we have been continuing to learn about the Romans and their history. We have been busy making our own Roman shields and the looking at the colours and symmetry used in the designs. We have also been learning about the importance of the Roman army and why they were so effective. We learnt about the different formations that they used, like the testudo and the weapons they would have had on them. We are all looking forward to using our shields to march as an army.



Year Group Updates

What we are learning about next - We will be looking at capacity and how to convert between millilitres and litres, like we have been learning length and weight. In English we will be developing our ideas with the newspaper article and the eruption of Mount Vesuvius!

Year Group Updates

Opal 4, Diamond 4 & Amethyst 4 - In Maths, before half term, we finished looking at our unit of time by converting seconds to minutes, minutes to hours and hours to days. Equally, we were converting analogue to 24 hour digital time. Since half term, we have started looking at decimals. The children have been converting fractions to decimals and dividing and multiplying one and two-digit numbers by 10 and 100.

In English, we have started to plan our own play script based on a Greek myth. We looked at the settings for each scene, the characters which would appear in each scene, the way the characters speak (adverbs) and what features and punctuation would be appropriate. From this point, we have written and edited the scenes we planned.

In religious education, we have been looking at Islam. We have been learning about the five pillars of Islam and what they mean (Shahdah, Salat, Zakat, Sawm, Hajj). Furthermore, we are looking at our hope and dreams within our PSHE lessons.

What we are learning about next – In Maths, we will be continuing our decimals topic. We will be rounding decimals to the nearest whole number, ordering numbers with the same number of decimal places and writing decimal equivalents to tenths or hundredths. In English, we will be looking at non-chronological reports of Egypt to be able to write our own report on Greece. We will be looking at the features of non-chronological reports, story mapping texts and applying our SPaG knowledge.

Year Group Updates

Zinc 5 Iron 5 - We hope you all had a relaxing half term. Both classes have certainly come back to school with lots of energy. Teachers included!

In English we have looked at a Viking based discussion text after finding out how to hold a balanced debate. We realised that in a discussion text there are arguments for and against a point. We are now innovating our own discussion text, focusing on ensuring the text is balanced and unbiased.

In Maths we have started learning how to accurately measuring angles. At the start of the week we were unsure about how to line up the protractor on the angle, but now we are masters at it.

In Geography we looked at the features of areas the Vikings chose for settlements. We realised quickly that most large settlements were near rivers, forests, flat areas for farming and surrounded by hills. Ask us to explain why.

On Wednesday we completed a Viking based Science lesson. We looked at a catapult and the forces needed to make it work successfully to defeat an enemy. We then made and tested our own catapults.



PE we are continuing with our Viking dance. We have been listening carefully to the music and creating a sequence of movements showing expression. We have enjoyed working in small groups, sharing our ideas. We have also continued to develop our Badminton skills.

On Thursday we learnt how to use a French dictionary to find the French equivalent of an English word and vice versa and we also found out some interesting French phrases. Using a French dictionary is an important skill and it helped us to start writing simple sentences in French.

What we are learning about next – In English we will continue to innovate and write our discussion text.

In Maths we will continue to learn about angles.

Year Group Updates=

Mercury 6 & Platinum 6 - In Maths we have been investigating shape, including identifying and measuring angles, finding missing angles and properties of 2D shapes. We will be investigating area and perimeter as the next step in our learning journey and are working towards applying our newly gained knowledge to solve problems and puzzles relating to all aspects of shape.

In English we have been investigating persuasive texts and writing a letter to Mrs Bunce trying to persuade her not to cancel 'Stars Time' as we are all in agreement that it should stay! We have discussed many reasons how 'Stars Time' benefits pupils and in turn teachers and the school as a whole and are confident that once Mrs Bunce reads our finished letters she will agree.

The floor and apparatus routine element of our gymnastics unit for PE has been completed with many impressive routines being performed. This culminated in our house competition where our selected house gymnastics teams competed in a close run competition with routines for floor, medium level and high level apparatus. The winning Space team was Endeavour, Discovery came 2nd, 3rd was Enterprise and 4th was Atlantis. As a next step we will be continuing with vaulting using the springboard and vaulting box and introducing the ropes and rings.



What we are learning about next – In Maths we are moving onto factors, multiples, square and cube numbers and will be investigating relationships between numbers, solving and creating number puzzles.

In English we will be writing up our persuasive letters to Mrs Bunce to make sure that 'Stars Time is not a thing of the past!

(PS. Please note that 'Stars Time' isn't really in jeopardy!)

Dates for your diaries

27th February	Storytime	3-20- 4.20pm
28th February	Countdown Conundrum	3.30- 4.15pm
1st March	Dress a Spud as a book character	
2nd March	World Book Day - Dress as a book character	
3 rd March	Y4 Opal Assembly	9.10- 9.30am
10 th March	Y1 Purple Assembly	9.10- 9.30am
17 th March	Y2 Magenta Assembly	9.10- 9.30am
24 th March	Y2 Turquoise Assembly	9.10- 9.30am
31 st March	Y2 Indigo Assembly	9.10- 9.30am
7th April	Inset Day	School Closed to pupils
10th April - 21st April	Term 4 Break	
1st May	Bank Holiday	
5 th May	YR Red Assembly	9.10- 9.30am
19 th May	Y5 Zinc Assembly	9.10- 9.30am
26 th May	Y5 Iron Assembly	9.10- 9.30am
29th May	Bank Holiday	
30th May - 2nd June	Term 5 Break	
16 th June	YR Blue Assembly	9.10- 9.30am
23 rd June	YR Yellow Assembly	9.10- 9.30am
30 th June	Y6 Platinum/Mercury	9.10- 9.30am
7th July	Y1 Orange	9.10- 9.30am
24th July	End of Term 6	

Please note:

Whilst we welcome siblings into school to watch assemblies and other performances we will also provide a crèche facility and would like to encourage parents and carers to use this. Younger children are very welcome to attend performances and assemblies however we appreciate that sometimes it is difficult to occupy them whilst watching the children. If you choose not to use the crèche facility and your younger child/ren are causing a disruption you will be kindly asked to leave the performance. Thank you.

**SCHOOL TERMS AND HOLIDAYS
2017/2018**



AUGUST/SEPTEMBER					OCTOBER					NOVEMBER							
Mon	4	11	18	25	Mon	2	9	16	23	30	Mon	6	13	20	27		
Tues	5	12	19	26	Tues	3	10	17	24	31	Tues	7	14	21	28		
Wed	6	13	20	27	Wed	4	11	18	25		Wed	1	8	15	22	29	
Thur	7	14	21	28	Thur	5	12	19	26		Thur	2	9	16	23	30	
Fri	1	8	15	22	29	Fri	6	13	20	27	Fri	3	10	17	24		
Sat	2	9	16	23	30	Sat	7	14	21	28	Sat	4	11	18	25		
Sun	3	10	17	24		Sun	1	8	15	22	29	Sun	5	12	19	26	
DECEMBER					JANUARY					FEBRUARY							
Mon	4	11	18	25	Mon	1	8	15	22	29	Mon	5	12	19	26		
Tues	5	12	19	26	Tues	2	9	16	23	30	Tues	6	13	20	27		
Wed	6	13	20	27	Wed	3	10	17	24	31	Wed	7	14	21	28		
Thur	7	14	21	28	Thur	4	11	18	25		Thur	1	8	15	22		
Fri	1	8	15	22	29	Fri	5	12	19	26	Fri	2	9	16	23		
Sat	2	9	16	23	30	Sat	6	13	20	27	Sat	3	10	17	24		
Sun	3	10	17	24	31	Sun	7	14	21	28	Sun	4	11	18	25		
MARCH					APRIL					MAY							
Mon	5	12	19	26	Mon	2	9	16	23	30	Mon	7	14	21	28		
Tues	6	13	20	27	Tues	3	10	17	24		Tues	1	8	15	22	29	
Wed	7	14	21	28	Wed	4	11	18	25		Wed	2	9	16	23	30	
Thur	1	8	15	22	29	Thur	5	12	19	26	Thur	3	10	17	24	31	
Fri	2	9	16	23	30	Fri	6	13	20	27	Fri	4	11	18	25		
Sat	3	10	17	24	31	Sat	7	14	21	28	Sat	5	12	19	26		
Sun	4	11	18	25		Sun	1	8	15	22	29	Sun	6	13	20	27	
JUNE					JULY					AUGUST							
Mon	4	11	18	25	Mon	2	9	16	23	30	Mon	6	13	20	27		
Tues	5	12	19	26	Tues	3	10	17	24	31	Tues	7	14	21	28		
Wed	6	13	20	27	Wed	4	11	18	25		Wed	1	8	15	22	29	
Thur	7	14	21	28	Thur	5	12	19	26		Thur	2	9	16	23	30	
Fri	1	8	15	22	29	Fri	6	13	20	27	Fri	3	10	17	24	31	
Sat	2	9	16	23	30	Sat	7	14	21	28	Sat	4	11	18	25		

Term Time <input type="checkbox"/>	Holidays <input type="checkbox"/>
Bank holiday <input type="checkbox"/>	Inset Day <input type="checkbox"/>

Term 1: Mon 4 th Sept – Fri 20 th Oct 2017	35 days
Term 2: Mon 30 th Oct – Wed 20 th Dec 2017	38 days
Term 3: Tues 3 rd Jan - Fri 9 th Feb 2018	28 days
Term 4: Mon 19 th Feb - Fri 29 th Mar 2018	29 days
Term 5: Mon 16 th Apr - Fri 25 th May 2018	29 days
Term 6: Mon 4 th Jun - Wed 25 th Jul 2018	36 days
Total	195 days*

* 195 days are defined as "School days". In the school year 2017/18 pupils must attend for 190 days. Schools may decide individually or collectively which 5 days in the year are INSET or non-contact days (days pupils do not need to attend).

Please note: Schools considering alternative term dates or considering changes to their school opening times may wish to contact our Transport Team to discuss transport implications and contact local childcare providers to discuss what impact this could have.

Christmas Bank Holidays	25 th December 2017 26 th December 2017
New Year Bank Holiday	1 st January 2018
Good Friday	30 th March 2018
Easter Monday	2 nd April 2018
Early May Bank Holiday	7 th May 2018
Spring Bank Holiday	28 th May 2018
Summer Bank Holiday	27 th August 2018