



## Off to the Palace!

ON Wednesday, year 5 visited Hampton Court Palace to extend their learning about the Tudors. They explored areas of the palace linked to their recent lessons and discovered how Henry VIII's court operated through a strict hierarchy, with access to different rooms depending on status.

The children then took part in an engaging workshop focusing on Elizabeth I and her role in launching the Elizabethan Age of Exploration. They imagined embarking on a round-the-world voyage and considered the most valuable treasures they could bring back for Queen Elizabeth such as spices, gold, pearls and even the humble potato.

The day ended with a visit to the famous maze - a firm favourite - and thankfully, everyone managed to find their way out ... eventually!



## Dates for the diary

- 10th February—Dental Hygiene with the School Nurse (Infants)
- 10th February—Safer Internet Day Parent Workshop at 8.45am & 2.30pm
- 12th February—Year 3 Egyptian Day
- 13th February—end of first half term. School closes at the normal time.
- 16th—20th February **SCHOOL CLOSED FOR HALF TERM**
- 23rd February—Children return to school
- 26th February—Parent/Teacher Consultations 2-7.30pm **SCHOOL CLOSSES EARLY—NO AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS THIS WEEK**
- 2nd March—Wellbeing Week. **NO AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS THIS WEEK**
- 12th March—Battle of the Books at Laleham CE Primary School

## Behind every Smile there is Teeth!

THIS week Year 4 children has a visit from Sarah who is a school nurse to talk about hygiene. This links very nicely with children's science learning about teeth.

The children shared their home learning with her. They had created posters, leaflets and videos about how to take care of our teeth.



## A Bit Sticky!

**AS part of National Storytelling week, Forest School Club have been looking at The Stick Man by Julia**



**Donaldson. The children created their own stick man, measured some sticks & measured some worms of course!**

## An ACE Achievement!

WE are delighted to share some fantastic news: our school has been awarded a "Very Good" Travel Plan Award, recognising the positive steps we've taken to promote safe, healthy, and sustainable travel to and from school.

This award reflects the collective effort of our pupils, families, and staff to make active and environmentally friendly travel part of everyday school life. From walking and scooting to cycling and using public transport, our community has shown real commitment to reducing congestion, improving road safety, and supporting wellbeing.

Over the past year, we've taken part in a range of initiatives to encourage smarter travel choices, including improving our cycling storage, road safety learning, and ongoing discussions with pupils about how their travel choices impact both their health and the environment. It's been wonderful to see such enthusiasm and responsibility from our children—many of whom are now proud champions of active travel!

A big thank you goes to everyone who has supported our Travel Plan and helped make this achievement possible. This award is something we can all be proud of, and it motivates us to keep building on this success as we continue our journey towards even more sustainable travel.



VERY GOOD TRAVEL PLAN 2025/2026



# January Reading Competition Winners

WE are delighted to show you the winners from the January Reading Competition. The children received raffle tickets for every book they read by a new author. The winning raffle tickets were chosen in worship last Friday. The children had a tea party and received a certificate and brand new book to read! During the tea party the children were asked their opinions of future competition, what prizes they would like and how we could promote reading in school. February reading competition is now open. This week was



National Storytelling Week and the children had a live lesson on Tuesday and it was based on the soundtrack to your story. The children need to use sounds to create a story. See details below. Children in Reception and Year 1 can have their story scribed by an adult. Entries should be in by Monday 23rd February—Why not enter you could win a prize!

## February Reading Competition



**National Literacy Trust**

Change your story

**Soundtrack Your Story**  
Playful storytelling at home  
(KS1 or 2)

**National Storytelling Week**

Creating stories together can be fun and relaxing. Making up stories using your imagination, things you see around you, and your memories helps develop language skills. Try creating your own sound-story with the activities below - there's no right or wrong way!

**Collecting everyday sounds**

When you are next outside, perhaps walking to school or in the park, try noticing (and maybe recording) some of the sounds you hear around you. You might hear dogs barking, a train in the distance or footsteps crunching. Try making the sounds with your own voices too.

When you get home, pick the sounds you like best and imagine what could be happening in a story with those sounds. Who or what is making the noise? Where is it happening?

How does the sound fit into your story world: is it a clue, a warning or part of an adventure? Tell or write your story.

**Storytelling games to play at home**

Try out these storytelling games at home with a family member or friend.

**ABC story-making**

Create a story together from thin air! You'll need two or more players. One person starts with a sentence beginning with "A," the next continues with a sentence starting with "B," and so on through the alphabet. Take turns adding sentences to see where your story goes.

Now, bring your story to life with sound. Can you add a rhythm, sound effect or background beat to match what is happening? Let the words become the soundtrack to your imagination!

**Storytelling with real stories**

Ask a friend or family member to tell you a story about their life. Prompt with questions, e.g., "What was the naughtiest thing you did when you were a child?" or "What is the funniest thing that's happened to you?" Then, tell the story to someone else, adding extra bits to make it more dramatic.

As you retell the story, think about the sounds that would go with it - laughter, footsteps, music from the time or even a dramatic drum roll. Think about the activity where you heard sounds on your walk and collected your own sound library. Use the sounds in your made-up tale to make the memory sing!

**Story-making with objects**

Collect 6-8 random small objects in a box or bag. You can use anything - a teddy, a coin or a fork. Take it in turns to pick an object without looking and use it to make up a story together. For example, if you take out a teddy, you could say, "Once upon a time, there was a tiny bear who..." Then, take out another object and decide what happens next: "Once upon a time, there was a tiny bear who found a shiny, gold coin. He picked it up and..." Build a story using all the objects.

As each object appears, think about what it sounds like in real-life, or what it might sound like in your imagination. Could the teddy hum a tune or could you say "mmmm" as if you're enjoying food when you pick up your fork? Layer these sounds to create the perfect soundtrack to your story.

# Spectacular Home Learning



YEAR 2 children have been learning all about the Antarctic and we have seen some outstanding home learning from the children. It was so impressive that we had to share it with you all. Well done!

## Our value for this half term is compassion



This week in worship we have continued to explore our value of compassion. The children learned of the parable of the lost sheep from Luke 15. In this story a shepherd loses one of his hundred sheep and he leaves the 99 sheep to go and search for the one that was missing. This is reminder to all of us that we are special to God and he will always be there for us when we are feeling lost.



**WINNER**

House Points:

**Foxall**

**690**

**Howard**

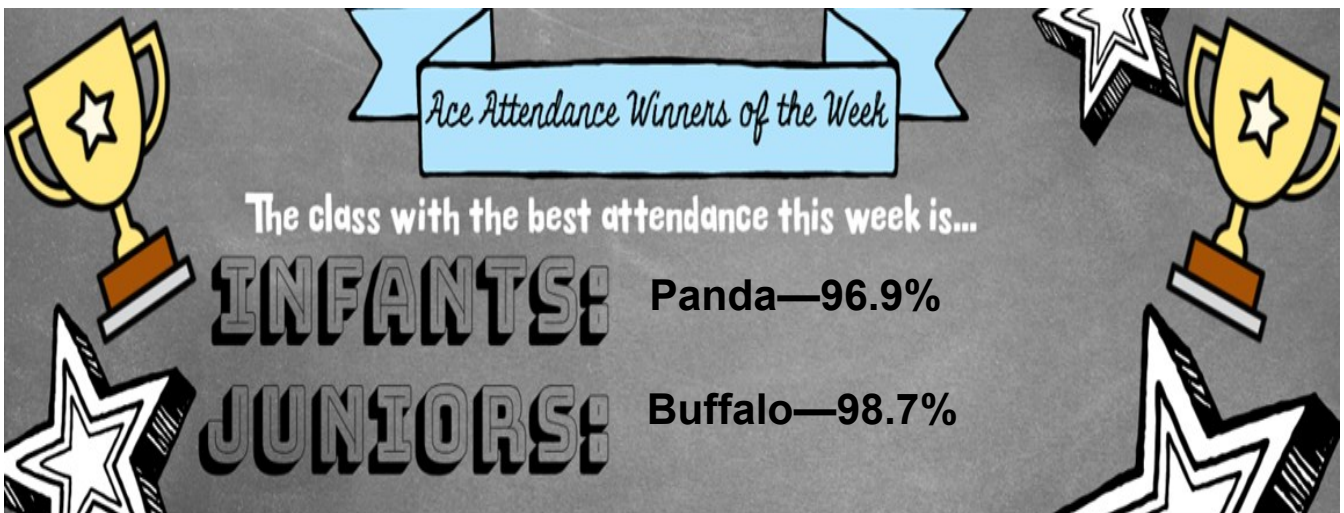
**532**

**Lockington**

**1455**

**Mann**

**388**



Our attendance target is 96%

Whole school this week 94.6%

# ACE Celebration Stars of the Week

	<b>Name</b>	<b>Reason</b>
<b>Koala</b>	<b>Kevin M</b>	<b>For his contribution during class discussion on PSHE</b>
	<b>Tegh S</b>	<b>For always showing compassion towards his friends</b>
<b>Kangaroo</b>	<b>Ali U</b>	<b>For excellent effort in maths looking at making 6 &amp; 7</b>
	<b>Frankie W</b>	<b>For always given 100% effort during learning times</b>
<b>Tiger</b>	<b>Tommy D</b>	<b>For his perseverance when completing his tough 10</b>
	<b>Muaimin</b>	<b>For working super hard to write independently using his phonics knowledge</b>
<b>Panda</b>	<b>Jet M</b>	<b>For an excellent explanation about odd and even numbers</b>
	<b>Elijah S</b>	<b>For concentrating and trying his best with his handwriting</b>
<b>Zebra</b>	<b>Nelly C</b>	<b>For brilliant balancing in gymnastics and helping others</b>
	<b>Rahela A</b>	<b>For always trying her best and wanting to learn</b>
<b>Giraffe</b>	<b>Michael S</b>	<b>For excellent effort this week in all his learning, especially reading</b>
	<b>Cerys J</b>	<b>For independently sounding out words using his phonics</b>
<b>Lemur</b>	<b>Nolan</b>	<b>For his incredible pronunciation of I am able to... In French</b>
	<b>Kate L</b>	<b>For her impressive sign language skills whilst learning our class song 'Bringing us Together'</b>
<b>Meerkat</b>	<b>Chaenna</b>	<b>For her extremely descriptive poem about the wilderness</b>
	<b>Matei</b>	<b>For his excellent contributions to our science investigation</b>
<b>Rhino</b>	<b>Arjon I</b>	<b>For a fantastic effort and contributing in maths</b>
	<b>Abdullah U</b>	<b>For trying hard to improve the presentation of his writing</b>
<b>Elephant</b>	<b>Finley L</b>	<b>For his exceptional computer coding using Logo</b>
	<b>Rupert C</b>	<b>For his excellent reasoning about the amount of factors in different numbers</b>
<b>Llama</b>	<b>Savannah</b>	<b>For a fantastic explanation text about her Mars rover</b>
	<b>Isla R</b>	<b>For demonstrating a growth mindset in maths by challenging herself and working independently</b>
<b>Buffalo</b>	<b>Thomas S</b>	<b>For his outstanding explanation text about his Mars rover</b>
	<b>Jackson D</b>	<b>For his outstanding attitude to learning—always trying his best in everything that he does</b>
<b>Panther</b>	<b>Krishna</b>	<b>For his positive and enthusiastic attitude to his learning</b>
	<b>Jude C</b>	<b>For excellent maths learning this week, calculating percentages</b>
<b>Leopard</b>	<b>Oli B</b>	<b>For his positive attitude and growth mindset across all lessons</b>
	<b>Mollie K</b>	<b>For sowing fantastic resilience and never giving up when finding percentages of amounts</b>