



Two Rivers Primary School News

Issue 8 March 2026

Headteacher's message

Welcome to our March Newsletter, it has been another busy month for Two Rivers Primary School.

The children have really enjoyed our Endeavour to Employment week. It is great to explore future careers with our learners and they all really enjoyed visiting the role play village that came to school to help us experience different job opportunities – it was really enjoyed and you will see throughout the newsletter the children's experiences of this.

We have also celebrated World Book Day. This year each class themed their world book day activities around popular Julia Donaldson stories. As ever there were some wonderful costumes, we hope you enjoy seeing our photos of the day. During our Science week children engaged in hands-on science experiments and an interactive planetarium in the Hall.

Thanks to all who attended our Mother's Day event in school, where we celebrated all the influential people who help us grow.

In the final week of term children across the school have taken part in Easter activities. This has included our Bunny Bounce fundraiser and an egg decorating competition, well done to all who took part.

We sadly say goodbye to two members of our staff. Michelle Roberts is moving on to pastures new in her promoted role, and we wish her every success for the future. We also say farewell to Julie Garey, who is retiring after over 30 years of dedicated service to the school. Thank you both for everything you have done to support our children, families, and staff over so many years.

If you have any concerns during the holiday period, please call the school number, and your call will be diverted to my mobile.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support.

Warm regards,

Laura Slinn



Diary Dates:

Friday 27th March

Last day of term

Monday 30th

March – Friday 10th

April

Easter Holidays

Monday 13th April

Return to School

Monday 4th May

May Day Bank
Holiday

**You will receive
more information
about in school
events nearer to the
time.**





Early Years

March has been a busy month, full of lots of exciting activities based around our Traditional Tales topic. We have explored the stories of Goldilocks and the Three Bears, The Three Little Pigs, The Gingerbread Man and Jack and the Beanstalk.

Indoors, we have used puppets, sensory trays, sound boards, symbols and objects of reference to experience different elements of the stories. We even made our own gingerbread men with gingerbread play dough!





Outdoors, we made porridge for the Three Bears in our mud kitchen and planted our own beanstalks in Forest School.

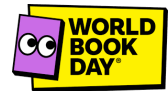


This week, we have also enjoyed getting ready for Easter, hunting for, matching and creating our own Easter eggs using the touch screen.





Red 1 & 3



We have continued our Knight Fever topic by looking at castles and knights across the curriculum. We have explored different stories, sensory stories, poems and non-fiction books about castles and knight, explored castles in history and D&T.



Both classes enjoyed taking part in our whole-school celebrations of World Book Day. We had some fantastic costumes and enjoyed exploring various Julia Donaldson both in class and with exciting activities throughout the school.





We have enjoyed celebrating Science Week by exploring solids. We have enjoyed exploring how ice melts, exploring oobleck and visiting a planetarium in the hall to end a fantastic and fun week of science experiments.



Finally, we have celebrated our Endeavour to Employment focus week with a visit to Little Kid Town, a role-play village that has given all of the children a chance to experience some different jobs. We all had great fun dressing up and exploring different jobs.



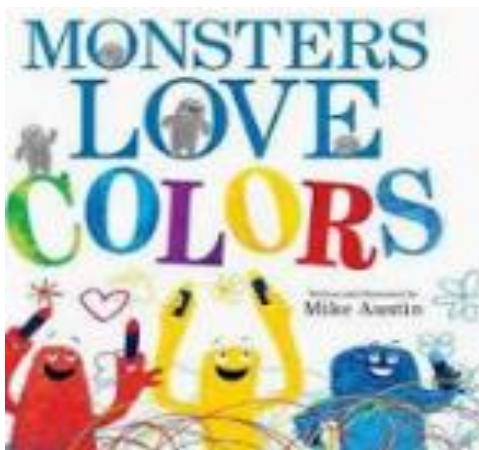


Red 2

Red 2 started the term with the WOW starter for the topic "Over the Rainbow".



In English we have looked at the sensory story "Monsters love colours"





In Art we have enjoyed doing some purposeful printing and looked colour mixing





Yellow 1

This month we celebrated World Book Day and enjoyed lots of activities based around our favourite stories. Some of the children and adults dressed up as their favourite characters and our staff team were 'Smeds and Smoos' for the day. We had a parade in the hall, explored some messy play based on Smeds and Smoos, had a Highway rat snack and made our own Stick man.



In music lessons we have been learning how to play chime bars, discussing the different pitches and following basic score to play different songs.





In RE we have been learning about the Hindu festival Holi, a festival of colour and celebrating the triumph of good over evil. The children did some lovely colourful chalk drawings on the playground to show what they had learnt.

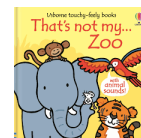


During our Science week we have been learning all about different states of matter, the children looked at solids, liquids and gases and have talked about how to identify these and the properties they have. We have also looked at light and dark, looking at how different colours can change the way we see things. They have really enjoyed the practical aspects and we seem to have some budding scientists on our hands!





Yellow 2



This month we had special visitors in school- the role play village. We spent the morning exploring the different play set ups and job roles. We explored the hairdressers, building site, fire station and vets, just to name a few! We had a great time.



In Maths we have been focussing on shapes, patterns and measures. We have enjoyed exploring 2D shapes through songs and objects, we worked hard to complete shape jigsaws and posting activities.



This half term our sensory story is 'That's Not My Zoo', we have been very engaged in the story and have loved listening to the sounds the animals from our story make. We enjoyed meeting the characters as interactive toys.





Yellow 3

Yellow 3 have had a marvellous March! We started our new topic - Out of this World – and have been enjoying all things to do with space, planets, rockets and aliens!

In English we enjoyed lots of stories including The Best Dress Ever and Through the Magic Mirror. We enjoyed meeting new characters and sequencing the stories. We also explored a non-fiction book about big machines. World Book Day was lots of fun and we enjoyed seeing everyone dressed up – even the teachers!



In maths we have been busy exploring adding, subtracting and multiplying. We also worked hard sorting shapes into groups and collecting and recording data.





It was Science Week in March and we did lots of exciting experiments both in and out of the classroom. Children enjoyed watching things change in front of their eyes and fizz up like a volcano!



Children also loved the Roleplay Village in the hall and went from being a doctor to a firefighter to a builder.





Yellow 4

This half term Yellow 4 have loved their topic all about space! In art we have been exploring the work of Peter Thorpe. We have created our own rocket pictures, using chalks and focusing on choosing bright colours.



We also loved Science week – we carried out lots of different experiments linked to solids, liquids and gases. Our favourite was mixing different coloured liquids and seeing what colours we could make. We also loved the Planetarium and learning about space.





We had lots of fun during world book day, our book was "What the Ladybird Heard" by Julia Donaldson. We also enjoyed exploring the different activities set up around school.





Blue 1

This half term we have been exploring the history of bread in Design and Technology. After a tasty afternoon of sampling different types of bread, Blue one spent the day designing, making and sampling their own bread. From measuring out their own ingredients to evaluating their creations, Blue 1 worked very hard and were master bakers by the end of the day!



This half term we have been exploring different religions. In recognition of the Hindu festival of Holi, Blue 1 explored the religious meaning of the 'festival of colour', creating and decorating their own Rangoli patterns with brightly coloured paint and chalk.





This week Blue 1 have been exploring Science week! We have taken part in lots of fun experiments including exploring density by creating lava lamps and creating chemical reactions with popping film cannisters. We have had a very exciting session inside a Planetarium where we have explored space, the moon landings and the upcoming space mission to Mars.



On Friday 6th March Two Rivers celebrated World Book Day. Blue 1 embraced the fun by dressing up as their favourite book characters and sharing their favourite reads with their friends. We participated in the school book day parade and spent the afternoon exploring our wonderful book collection in the library, and listening to Julia Donaldson stories.



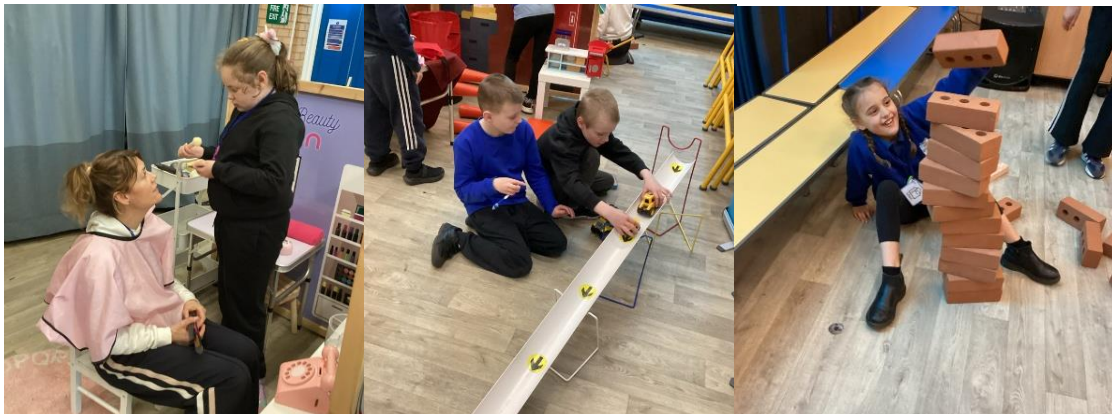


Blue 2

This month we have been very busy, we have enjoyed lots of fun things. We have continued to enjoy our community visits visiting both Pooley Park and Morrisons Café, the children really enjoyed their toast.

The children enjoyed dressing up for World Book Day as their favourite characters. Staff also dressed up using the theme of Monkey Puzzle and Dear Zoo to fit in with our topic this month.

The children had a great time exploring the role play village in school, they particularly liked the construction area, beauty area and the fire/police sectors.



We have also joined in with fun science experiments for our science week, in PSHE we have been concentrating on working together and recognising when people are happy and sad and looking at ourselves in the mirror making faces. As part of our forest school we have been helping to look after the rabbits feeding them and stroking them.





As an end of topic trip Blue 2 visited Ash End Farm. Our topic has been Amazing Animals we all had a wonderful day!





Blue 3

In Blue 3 we have had another amazing term, here are some of the highlights of what we have been up to.

Excellent swimming and learning lots of new skills



Celebrating the Holi festival





A visit from the Role play village



_Maths – Addition/Subtraction

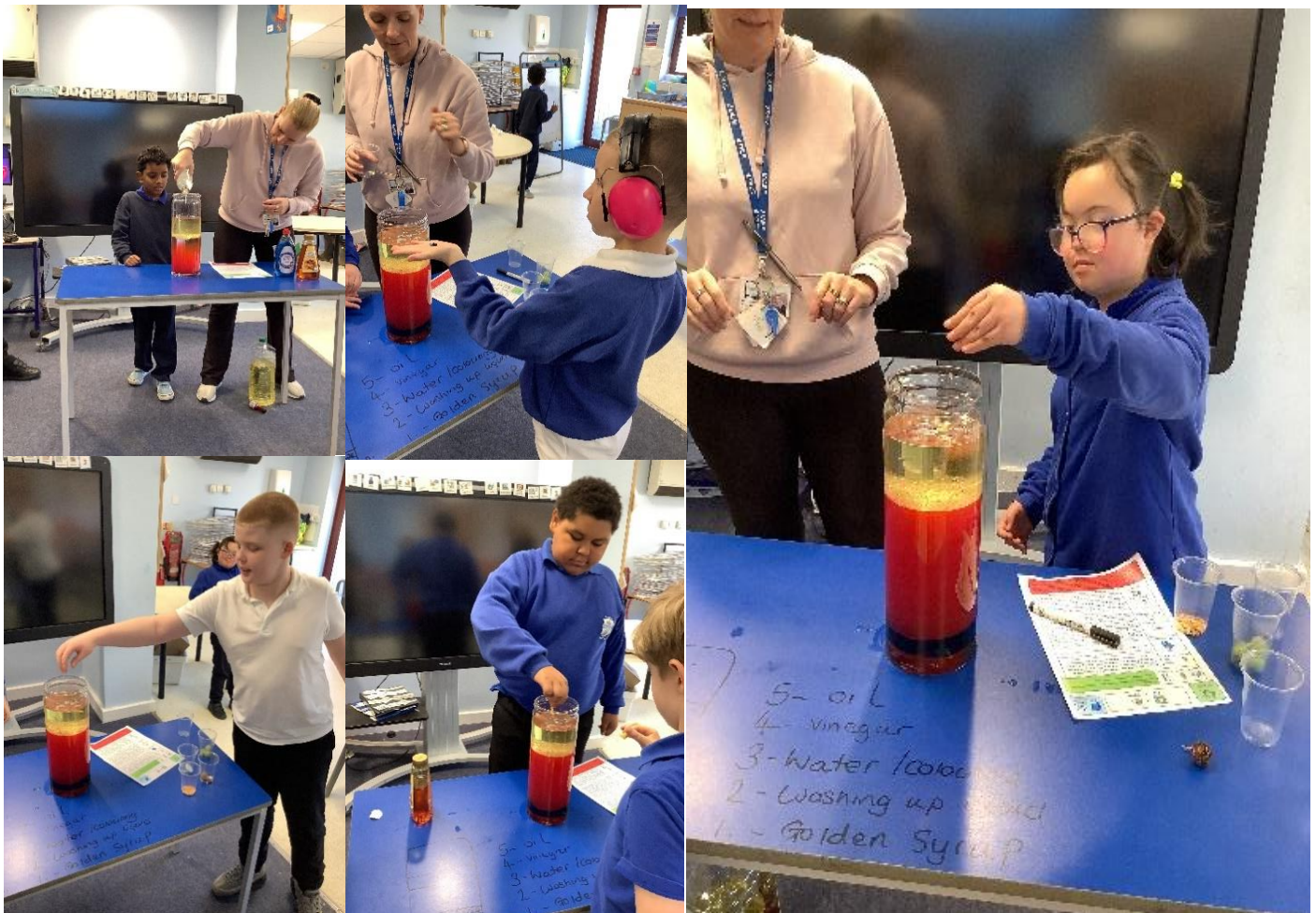




Looking at making healthy choices



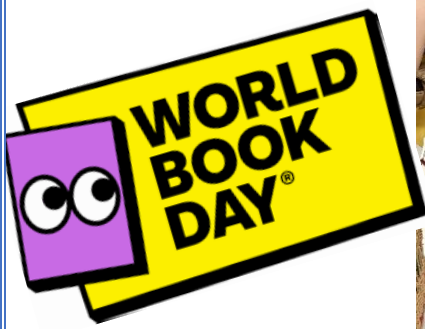
We have had a fabulous science week looking at solids & liquids





Blue 4

Blue 4 looked amazing when joining in with world book day 2026. As a class our book was Charlie cooks favourite book and everyone looked amazing dressed up in their favourite characters. Everyone also participated in the world book day parade around the hall.



Two Rivers also had a role play village come in so children could explore different careers that they may like in the future. The children really loved this!



We have had our science week where everyday we explored and conducted different science experiment. The children looked at solids, liquids and gases. On the Friday we had a big science day where the children explored lights and shadows, planting and also had a trip to the planetarium that was in the hall.





Horse Riding

We have started Horse Riding at Gartmore Riding Centre this term. We have been learning how to be gentle and safe around the horses. Richard has been learning how to get on and off safely, and how to sit up in the saddle and hold his balance and hold the reins. Noah has been learning the parts of the horse's body and how to groom them. Keep an eye out on the Aiming High section of the Staffordshire website for information about accessing ongoing activities at Gartmore for you to take your child to.





Safe and Well News with Richard and Sue

Well, the Spring Term is almost at an end, and here in the Family Support Team we have continued to support our Two Rivers children and families through a difficult Winter. Spring is now here, and we are all looking forward to sunnier and warmer days ahead.

Please contact either of us if you need our support and we will do the best that we can to provide the help that you need.

We would like to share some information with you from the Staffordshire Community Occupational Therapy Team about Door and Window Safety which we hope you will find useful.

Happy Easter to you all!



Window Safety

Children with little awareness of danger may require measures to be taken to prevent them from breaking glass or jumping or falling from windows.

This leaflet provides advice on how you can help keep your child safe around windows.

General Considerations:

- o Children with challenging behaviour need close supervision at all times.
- o It is advisable to keep the area below windows clear of furniture to prevent your child from climbing.
- o Windows may need to be kept locked while your child is in the room. When your child is out of the room the windows can be opened for air circulation.
- o Councils and Housing Associations may not agree to provision of window restrictor catches as they may prevent evacuation in the event of a fire.
- o **Before fitting any extra locks, fire safety should be taken into consideration. The Fire Service is able to provide advice.**

Examples of Possible Solutions:

Glass:

- o Glass safety film fitted on windows or internal doors/windows.

Restrictors/locks

- o Consider using restrictor devices on windows that open externally. Also consider whether the window can be locked although being aware of fire precautions.

Sensors

- o If it is not possible to lock windows, an alarm can be fitted to alert you if your child opens the window.

Curtain rails

- o For children with challenging behaviour who tend to pull on curtain rails, curtains can be held up with Velcro attachments.
- o Alternative curtain rails are available that are expandable and with anti-ligature fixings.

- o If it is not possible to keep curtains in place, plastic opaque window covering to give privacy whilst letting in light.

Examples of suppliers - these are **not recommendations** however and other suppliers can be found.

Glass safety film:

- o Amazon, or most DIY stores for example B&Q, Wickes, Screwfix.

Interior window protection frame:

- o Tough Furniture: strong furniture for challenging care environments.

Restrictors

- o Clippasafe: Home Safety Products, Harness and Reins Sets, our Carramio Baby Carrier and Window lock.
- o Jackloc: window restrictor.

Curtains/ Curtain rails

- o Colourways: is a one-stop shop for specialised interiors, providing furniture, household equipment and soft furnishings for residential homes.





Door Safety

Children with little awareness of danger may abscond from home or access rooms where they could be in danger, for example the kitchen and bathroom. This leaflet provides advice on how you can help keep your child safer around doors.

General considerations:

- As a child grows taller or learns to open locks, solutions may have to be adapted.
- Before fitting any extra locks, fire safety should be taken into consideration. The Fire Service is able to advise.
- If doors are locked with keys it is important that the keys can be found quickly in the event of an emergency.
- Visual panels should be considered carefully taking into consideration a young person's right to privacy.
- Identify the reason for accessing certain rooms.
- Some locks are safer than others e.g. keypad locks can be used by other people rather than key locks.

Examples of possible solutions:

- Redirect and distract.
- Keeping child out of high-risk rooms rather than keeping them in their bedroom.
- Before considering locking doors and/or restricting access, please consider all other strategies/solutions first.
- Sensors or alarms can be fitted to doors to alert you when your child has entered an area or opened a door.
- Stable doors with cabin hook/slide bolt (top and bottom half open separately) or stairgate to enable the child/young person and parent to see each other in adjoining rooms while keeping the child safe.
- Slide bolts, door chains and internal and external door locks.



- Key safe or key cabinet to ensure that keys can be located quickly in the event of an emergency.
-
- Keypad door locks. These ensure that only people with the security code can open the door and prevents your child from leaving the house. **These should be used only for preventing access to a high-risk area rather than preventing access out, or via an emergency exit route. The fire service can complete a fire safety risk assessment around locked rooms and an alert can be placed on a property that a child with additional needs who resides in the property and is in a locked room.**
- Doors with a visual panel or spy holes enable you to see the child without disturbing them. The spy hole should have 180° viewing range.

Examples of suppliers - these are **not recommendations** however and other suppliers can be found.

Door wedges, slide bolts, door chains, internal and external door locks:

- DIY outlets, for example Homebase, B&Q.

Door/Window restrictors:

- Jackloc – window restrictor.
- Door monkey- unique design automatically locks interior doors in a slightly cracked position. Helps protect against pinch injuries.
- Door ajar clip from Fledglings.

Key safe or key cabinet:

- The Safe Shop.
- NRS healthcare – key safe.
- Amazon.

Sensors or Alarms:

- Maplin - Wide Range of Electronics Products.
- Frequency Precision: Sensors and pressure mats to monitor those in care.
- Ridley Electronics UK: use of remote technology is key in empowering you at home, at work or anywhere you may visit.
- Amazon.

Pressure Mat and Pager Systems:

- EasyLink UK: Assistive care technologies.
- Frequency Precision: Sensors and pressure mats to monitor those in care.

For keypad door locks, doors with a visual panel or spy hole, or for stable doors: try most DIY stores or a carpenter (for stable doors).



Wellbeing News

Looking after your Mental Health and Wellbeing while Staying at Home

Being active is great for our mental health and wellbeing. Moving our bodies can be fun, and it helps both us and our children release tension and feel more relaxed.

Here are some fun links for dancing and yoga to do with your children this Easter. Also the Easter story to relax at bedtime too.

The Easter Story for Kids – Bible Bedtime Story

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nf6JgJ_BDXU

MOVE LIKE THE AVENGERS | Marvel x Les Mills 5-minute Kids Workout

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uYi1kyMeFHQ>

Cosmic Kids Yoga - YouTube

<https://www.youtube.com/user/CosmicKidsYoga>

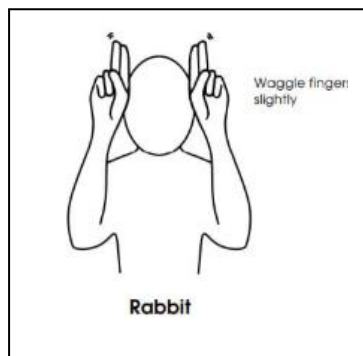
Stitch Yoga! ● Yoga Brain Breaks For Kids ● Fun Yoga For Kids ● Cosmic Kids Yoga ● Stitch Kids Yoga

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8QQJP0pNHZl>





Sign of the Week



Rabbit

You can see how to do the sign here:

<https://www.youtube.com/@makatoncharity>

Whole Class Attendance

Group	% Attend
PURPLE	92.22
RED 1	92.32
RED 2	93.43
RED 3	92.31
YELLOW 1	95.25
YELLOW 2	97.83
YELLOW 3	95.27
YELLOW 4	97.37
BLUE 1	95.61
BLUE 2	95.92
BLUE 3	95.92
BLUE 4	93.44

Congratulations to:

Yellow 2



**You have the best
Attendance for March**

**EVERY
SCHOOL DAY
COUNTS**



Library

RECOMMENDED READS

The recommended read for this month is;

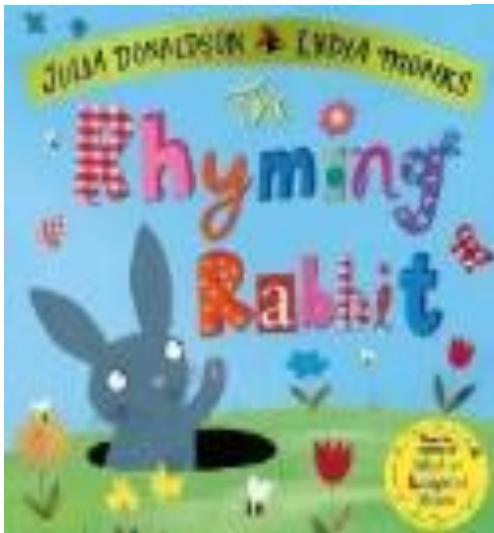


Snowball By Paul Linnet & Sue Hendra

Fans of the Supertato books will be pleased to see the award-winning picture book duo return this Christmas with a hilarious wintertime story full of snow-themed giggles and frolics. The story has a festive setting (complete with robins and Christmas lights in the illustrations) without overtly referring to Christmas itself.

Snowball feels a little lonely, gazing down at the nearby town below and longing for a bit more fun. With a 'jiggy, jig, jig' he sets off down the hillside. Snowball underestimates the steepness of the slope and begins to skid and tumble. Rolling faster and faster, he gathers more snow (not to mention a random assortment of other items) as he goes and things soon begin to...well, snowball out of control.

Click the link to watch the story
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=2q4mXrfkyO8>

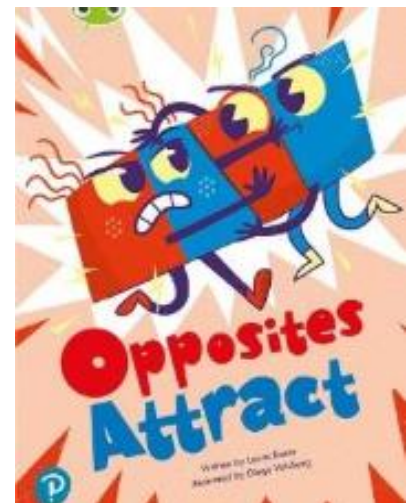


The recommended Bug club reading corner book for this month is;

Opposites Attract by Laura Baker, illustrated by Diego Vaisberg

Dot and Tod are both magnets, and they like collecting things, but they do not like each other at all! One day, Dot and Tod spot something they both want to collect, and realise they have something in common. Dot and Tod become friends. This book introduces the concept of magnetism. It also deals with the themes of friendship between people who are different, and realising we have more in common than we may think.

Click the link to watch the story
<https://www.activelearnprimary.co.uk/resource/98686>





World book day

We all had an amazing day celebrating World Book Day. It was a joy seeing so many children (and adults) dressed up as their favourite characters! We all participated in a parade to show off our costumes and each class chose their stand out costume. Well done everyone!



Red 1	Florrie
Red 2	Brindley
Red3	Isabelle
Yellow 1	Mya
Yellow 2	Carter
Yellow 3	Jack
Yellow 4	Kydan
Blue 1	Harry
Blue 2	Chloe-Rose
Blue 3	Jude
Blue 4	Willow



The staff also had their own competition, and the winners were...

Staff Best Dressed – Whole School	Rebecca and Jane
Staff Best Dressed – KS1	Red 3
Staff Best Dressed – KS2	Blue 1
Staff Best Dressed – Sensory	Blue 2





Endeavour MAT Update

Dear Parents and Carers,

The Department for Education has published a new White Paper, *“Every Child Achieving and Thriving,”* alongside a consultation titled *“Putting Children and Young People First.”*

These documents outline the government's long-term vision for the future of education in England, with a strong focus on transforming support for children with Special Educational Needs and/or Disabilities (SEND). The **new legislation will not commence until September 2029**. Until that time, the current system will stay in place.

At Two Rivers Primary School and across Endeavour Multi-Academy Trust our priority is, and always will be, the success and wellbeing of our children and young people. We welcome the government's commitment to making the education system more inclusive and ensuring that support is available to children and families more quickly.

Detailed below are some of the key components of the government's plan:

- **High quality teaching for everyone:** Every school will follow new "National Inclusion Standards" to ensure all children get high-quality support as soon as they need it.
- **Quicker access to specialists:** Working closely with health colleagues to improve access to experts such as speech and language and educational psychologists.
- **Review of layered support and clearer Individual Support Plans:** The new system aims to make sure parents and carers are well informed, and your children receive the right support at the right time.
- **'Targeted and Targeted Plus'** will use school-based digital Individual Support Plans (ISPs) and see local authorities working closely with health boards to commission local professionals, so they become more routinely available in the area.
- The **'Specialist'** provision package/stage will become the new style Education Health and Care Plans (EHCPs) underpinned by specialist provision packages. Following legislation, children with an existing EHCP will be assessed and either move to a specialist provision package or keep their EHCP until moving to the next phase of education where they will receive an Individual Support Package.



Parents and carers should be reassured that we are already in an exceptionally strong position to deliver these proposals. We have long-established, strong working relationships with health services that already support our high standards of care.

We will be participating in the national consultation to ensure our school's expertise and your children's voices are represented. We understand that news of "reform" can sometimes feel uncertain. However, we are here to navigate these changes alongside you, ensuring that every child in our care continues to receive the dedicated support they deserve.

We will share further details as the consultation progresses.

Yours sincerely,

Laura Slinn

Head Teacher



Endeavour

Multi-Academy Trust

Stronger Together • Excellence • Inclusion • Equity




School News



This term we will be saying farewell to **Julie Garey**, our wonderful School Secretary, who is retiring after over 30 years of dedicated service. Julie has been a constant source of support, warmth, and reassurance for families, pupils, and staff alike. Her commitment to the school has been extraordinary, and we know she will be greatly missed. We send Julie our heartfelt thanks and wish her the very best as she begins her well-earned retirement — complete with the many exciting holidays she already has planned!

We are also saying goodbye to **Michelle Roberts**, our Assistant Headteacher, who has secured a well-deserved promotion at another all-age special school in Warwickshire. Michelle has been a passionate, dedicated, and highly respected member of our leadership team, and her work has made a lasting impact on pupils and staff. While we are sad to see her go, we are incredibly proud of her achievement and wish her every success in her new role.

Please join us in thanking Julie and Michelle for their exceptional service.

We will miss you 





Happy Easter!

