



NEWSLETTER

Friday 1st May 2026

National Education Nature Park Grant

Funding for the National Education Nature Park

During the 2025-26 academic year, the RHS will grant £3 million to more than 1,000 nurseries, schools and colleges in areas where there is a distinct lack of nature to create their own green havens and engage with the Nature Park programme, on behalf of the Government's Department for Education. This grant is enabling new spaces to be created that support wildlife habitats, are a hub for the development of green skills and help to tackle local environmental issues. Since 2023, the RHS has awarded over £12 million to 1,264 education settings as part of the Nature Park grant programme.

You will have seen over the last week that lots of plants have appeared around the playground and at the form entrance of the school. We were invited to apply for a £5000 grant to increase biodiversity around school. We decided to focus the funding on creating our own allotment on the decking area where can grow fruit and veg, we are going to set up a gardening club to maintain the area. All pupils in Reception year 1 and year 2 helped plant the fruit and vegetables as it supported their learning in science. We are hoping our efforts will be successful and hope that we will be able to sell our produce to help fund the ongoing resources we will need for our gardening club. We also wanted to create a garden area in the corner of the playground. A calmer place for those pupils who want to sit and read or draw during their free time.

The funding has also allowed us to invest in some wildlife cameras so we can track the wildlife we are attracting when the playground and sensory garden are quiet.

We are really excited to see the progression of this project and how the children engage with this extra-curricular activity.



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Attendance Matters

Spring 1 Attendance

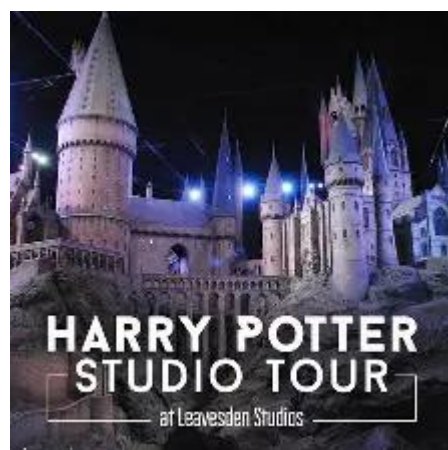
	<u>Wk1</u>	<u>Wk2</u>	<u>Wk3</u>	<u>Wk4</u>	<u>Wk5</u>	<u>Wk 6</u>	<u>Autumn 1</u>	<u>Autumn 2</u>	<u>Spring 1</u>	<u>Spring 2</u>	<u>Year so far</u>
<u>Nursery</u>	86.9	96.9	93.8				91.0	84.7	84	88.9	88.3
<u>Reception</u>	92.4	97.6	94.1				97.1	91.4	94.1	95.4	94.5
<u>Year 1</u>	99.0	96.3	96.7				97.5	94.3	95.6	95.9	96.1
<u>Year 2</u>	99.2	96.4	99.2				98.7	94.7	96.6	95.6	96.7
<u>Year 3</u>	99.3	94.0	90.3				97.1	93.5	95.7	96.8	95.7
<u>Year 4</u>	92.4	97.0	95.7				99.1	95.9	97.8	96.5	97.2
<u>Year 5</u>	97.3	98.3	95.0				94.5	95.2	95.1	95.5	95.8
<u>Year 6</u>	99.7	96.0	97.7				93.6	93.1	96.0	95.6	95.3
<u>Whole school</u>	96.4	96.5	95.3				96.5	93.5	96.1	95.5	96.1

Well done **Year 2** you have the best attendance again this week.

Whole School Attendance since start of the year is currently running at 96.1%

Year 6 trip to Harry Potter Studios

Due a clash with year 6 transition dates to high school we have been able to rearrange the dates for the trip. The trip will now happen on the 29th June instead of the 2nd of July.



Year 1 Parents

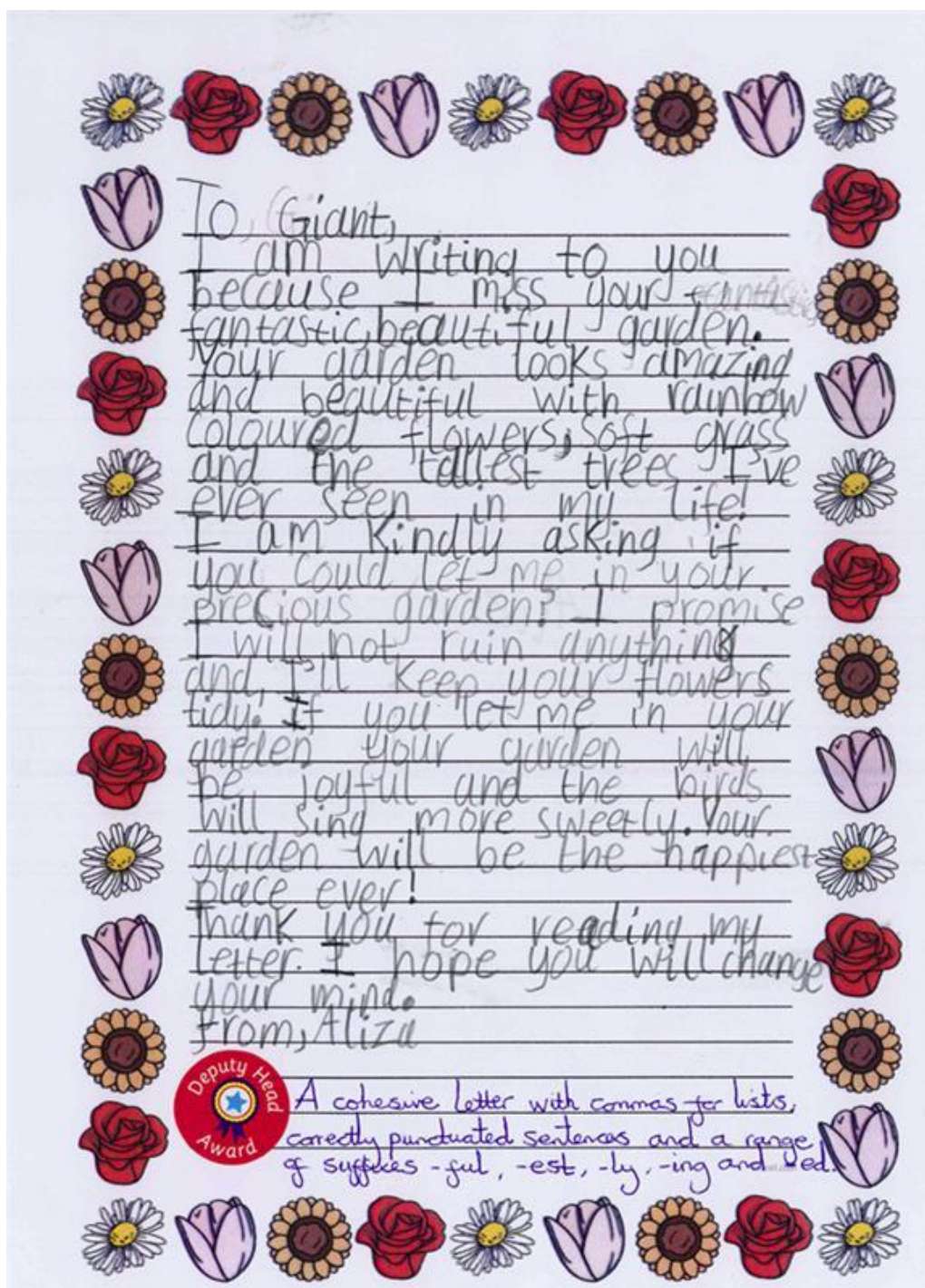
We are currently without Miss Kealey in year 1, she is unlikely to return this side of the half term holiday. During her absence the class will be covered by Mrs Jones, Mrs Stevens and Mrs Williams who returns from maternity leave next week. Mrs Williams is one of our long serving teachers who is usually based in KS2, some of you will know her if you have older children in the school.



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Writer of the Week

This week's writers of the week are Aliza and Guransh in Year 2 for their excellent letters to the giant in Oscar Wilde's book The Selfish Giant, asking him to let them play in his garden when he refuses to let them in. Both children have written cohesive letters. Aliza has used commas for lists, correctly punctuated sentences and a range of suffixes in her work. Guransh has used some lovely ideas to try and persuade the giant, telling him some of the things he'd like to do in his garden. Excellent Year 2 writing!





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DEAR GIANT,

I'm writing to you because I would really like to play in your beautiful garden. Please can we come in? I only want to listen to the birds singing. It's unfair and selfish because you have a giant golden fishbowl and a reading place for reading under a tree. I promise I will take great care of your garden and if I break some thing I will fix it in no time and I will take care of every thing in your garden. Thank you for reading my letter. I hope you'll think about it carefully.

From
Gemma

A cohesive letter with some lovely ideas to persuade the giant, telling him what you'd like to do in his garden. Excellent adjectives too.

Deputy Head Award



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Musician of the Week

Each week in school we have a musician of the week to promote a range of music from different genres, countries and time periods.

Here is this week's musician of the week

Musician of the Week

Name: Antonio Vivaldi

5 FACTS ABOUT OUR MUSICIAN OF THE WEEK!

1. An earthquake shook Venice the day Vivaldi was born, 4th March 1687
2. Vivaldi wrote more than 400 concertos for various instruments, especially for the violin.
3. The scores of 21 operas, including his first and last, are still intact.
4. Even though his music was popular, Vivaldi did not make a lot of money from his music.
5. He died, a poor man, in Vienna, on 28 July 1741.



GENRE
Classical

Musician of the Week

Name: Olivia Dean

3 FACTS ABOUT OUR MUSICIAN OF THE WEEK!

1. Olivia Lauryn Dean (born March 14, 1999) is a British soul-pop singer-songwriter from London
2. She began her career as a backing singer for the band Rudimental..
3. In 2025, she broke an impressive music record, becoming the first female solo artist to score four UK top-ten singles at the same time with her songs *Man I Need*, *Nice to Each Other*, *So Easy (To Fall in Love)* and *Rein Me In*.



GENRE
Soul/Pop



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Sensational Singers!

The following children were chosen as our Sensational Singers for their participation and enthusiasm in singing assembly this week;

R - Amrees

Y1 - Saliha

Y2 - Avneet

Y3 - Roman

Y4 - Irtaza

Y5 - Riley

Y6 - Anika

Our class choir of the week is Year 1! Well done for your excellent singing!

Online Safety for Parents

Each week, we are aiming to provide you with information to help keep your children safe when online. This links to the Online Safety mind maps the children complete with their class teachers at the start of each half term.

Talking to Children about AI

The NSPCC report Artificial Intelligence (AI) is becoming a regular part of children's online experiences. From chatbots and homework apps to creative tools, AI can offer exciting opportunities for learning and play. It also brings risks, especially when children aren't sure what's real, who they're talking to, or how AI works.

What is AI?

AI stands for Artificial Intelligence – computer systems that can perform tasks that typically require human intelligence. Children may already



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be using AI without realising it, as many popular tools and platforms now include AI features. Examples include generative tools like ChatGPT, Copilot, and Gemini, which can help with writing, coding, and problem-solving. And the Snapchat AI chatbot, that interacts with users in real time.

Common AI examples include: chatbots that answer questions or simulate conversations, generative tools that create images, stories, or music, deepfake technology that can produce realistic but fake videos or voices. It is becoming increasingly common for AI to be built into popular apps, devices and websites. It's important to check which apps and services your child uses and whether they include AI features.

While AI can be fun and helpful, it also poses risks that children may not fully understand. So it's smart to be aware of these potential pitfalls.

- Manipulation – AI can be used to create convincing but false content, which may influence children's beliefs or decisions.
- Misinformation – AI-generated answers or videos may look accurate but contain errors or misleading information.
- Identity confusion – children may struggle to tell whether they're interacting with a real person or an AI system.
- Exposure to harmful content – some AI tools may generate inappropriate or upsetting material.
- Cyberbullying / harassment – AI can be used to mimic voices or create fake messages which could be used to cause harm and distress.
- Privacy and data security – AI tools often collect data, and children may not know what's being stored and shared



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- AI-generated abuse and sextortion – in rare but serious cases, AI can be misused to create abusive and illegal content.
- AI-generated sexualised or abusive images – some children may use AI tools to create fake nude or sexualised images of others. Even if the image is not real, it can cause serious emotional harm, reputational damage, and may be illegal if it involves anyone under 18. For more information about AI, discussing it with children see Talking to children about AI | NSPCC

How to setup parental controls on ChatGPT

Internet Matters have published an article detailing how you can link your own account to child's account (they must be logged in) to set parental controls on ChatGPT. You can read the article here:

<https://www.internetmatters.org/parental-controls/entertainment-search-engines/chatgpt-parental-controls/>



your



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Dates for your Diary – 2025 – 2026

(don't forget you can download our calendar by following this line-
things added today are highlighted in green

Month	Date	Event
May	Monday 4 th	MAYDAY Bank Holiday – school closed
	Thursday 7 th	Year 5 trip to St Hildas
	Monday 11 th	Year 6 SATS paper SPAG
	Tuesday 12 th	Year 6 SATS paper Reading
	Wednesday 13 th	Year 6 SATS paper 1 & 2 maths
	Thursday 14 th	Year 6 SATS paper 3 maths
	Monday 25 th – Friday 29 th	Half Term Holiday
	Monday 1 st	Training Day – school closed to pupils
June	Tuesday 2 nd – Friday 5 th	Year 4 Multiplication test to be administered this week
	Friday 5 th	Class Photos
	Monday 8 th – Friday 2 nd	Year 1 phonic screening test to be administered this week
	Wednesday 17 th	School Health Nurse drop in for parents and carers 9.15 – 9.45
	Tuesday 23 rd	Paul Willmott – bible story assembly
	Monday 29 th	Year 6 trip to Harry Potter Studios
July	Monday 6 th	Sports Day – times to be announced
	Monday 6 th	School Health Nurse – safe sun at Sports Day
	Friday 10 th	School reports sent home today
	Monday 13 th	Year 6 Prom 6pm – 8pm @ Thimblemill Recreation Club – tickets £15.00 per pupil
	Wednesday 15 th	Class swap – pupils will meet their new teacher
	Monday 20 th	Training Day – school closed to pupils



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PE days for the coming year

PE						
	Autumn Term		Spring Term		Summer term	
	1pm – 2pm	2pm – 3pm	1pm – 2pm	2pm – 3pm	1pm – 2pm	2pm – 3pm
Monday	Y3	Y1	Y4	Y1	Y4	Y1
Tuesday	Y3	Y2	Y4	Y2	Y3	Y4
Wednesday	Y1	Y5	Y1	Y5	Y1	Y2
Thursday	Y6	Y2	Y6	Y2	Y6	Y2
Friday	Y6	Y5	Y6	Y5	Y6	Y3

Year 5 will be swimming through out the Summer term on a Wednesday afternoon.