

# Barley & Barkway Federation Schools NEWSLETTER

SPRING TERM  
7<sup>th</sup> MAR 2025



Faith

Curiosity

Wellbeing

Confidence

Dear Parents and Carers,

## A Week Full of Fun and Celebration!

What a fantastic week it's been, with so much fun had by all during our pancake races and pancake-eating! We also thoroughly enjoyed Mrs. West's assembly, where she took us through the rich history of the English tradition of Pancake Day, dating back many centuries.

The fun continued with World Book Day, and we want to express our heartfelt thanks for your incredible support of our young authors. The creativity and imagination displayed through their stories, recounts, and poems was truly inspiring. Well done to all of our talented pupils!

## Exciting News: Nursery Expansion

As part of our ongoing commitment to providing high-quality care and early education, we are excited to announce the expansion of our Nursery to now welcome children aged 2 from September 2025. This will allow us to create an even more enriching environment for your little ones, while continuing to foster the nurturing, family-focused atmosphere that makes our school so special.

This expansion will help us better meet the growing needs of our community and ensure we continue providing the best possible start for every child.

## Join Our Team – We're Hiring!

Are you or someone you know passionate about working with young children? If so, we'd love to hear from you! We're currently looking to expand our team and would be happy to have an initial, no-obligation conversation about potential opportunities in our Nursery from September 2025.

We look forward to continuing to grow alongside you and your family. Thank you for being a vital part of our community – your support means everything to us!

We hope everyone has fun spending their World Book Day tokens!

SHARON BROWN - FEDERATION HEADTEACHER

## UPCOMING EVENTS

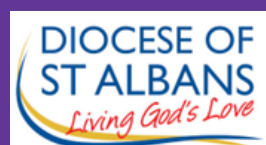
- Benefice confirmation service by Bishop Richard at St Margaret of Antioch in Barley on Sunday 9<sup>th</sup> of March at 10:30am. If you are interested in being confirmed, please let Rev Mark know – revmarkbridgen@gmail.com or 01763 848756.
- Mother's day – Sunday 30<sup>th</sup> March
- Easter holidays – Friday 4<sup>th</sup> April to Monday 21<sup>st</sup> April

*"Living Life in All Its Fullness"*  
–John 10



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# STARS OF THE WEEK

Children are chosen by their teacher to be Star of the Week and are proud to receive this recognition which we celebrate in our Sharing Assembly.

Stars are chosen for good behaviour, excellent work, demonstrating school values...

## NURSERY

This week our star is Poppy. Poppy showed lots of engagement and enthusiasm in her phonics lessons this week.

Nursery have been learning the sound 'k' and Poppy tried hard to name words beginning with the sound 'k'.

Well done Poppy!



## RECEPTION

This week in Reception, Oscar is our star of the week. Oscar is always so kind and thoughtful to everyone in Oak Class; he thinks about their feelings and always wants to help and make everyone feel happy! Oscar is a superstar role model in Oak Class and we are so proud of him. Oscar has also been a marvellous mathematician - he has been using fantastic mathematical language in our mastery lessons including 'whole' and 'parts'. Well done, Oscar!

## YEAR 1

This week in Apple Class, Esme is the star of the week for working so hard on her phonics. Everyone in Apple class is so proud of how hard you have worked to move up another book band in reading and I have spotted you using all the strategies we have to help you spot the digraphs when reading and writing.

Well done Esme! Keep up the good work!!



# STARS OF THE WEEK

## YEAR 2

This week Isabelle is the shining star in Hazel class for her efforts with all her learning!

Isabelle is trying hard with the different tasks she is given, she is applying her phonics really well when reading and writing and she is practicing her oracy every day. Isabelle impresses us in Maths Fluency sessions, speaking in clear full sentences that explain her maths reasoning.

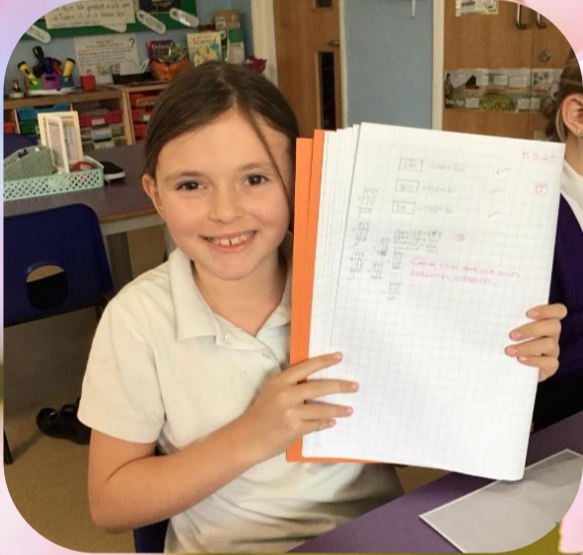
Well done Isabelle!



## YEAR 3

This week Cece is our star of the week. We have been rehearsing our column addition and subtraction strategies in maths. Cece presented her work neatly and remembered to use a ruler.

Cece was very proud of this work and so was Mrs Porter.



## YEAR 4

This week in Year 4, Henry is the star of the week. In our Maths Mastery lessons, I challenged the children to 'prove it'. How do they know that  $11 \times 10 = 110$ ? Henry is always able to prove it and helps everyone with their understanding.

Well done Henry!



# STARS OF THE WEEK

## SPORTS STAR

This week Amber is our PE star. She showed a great understanding during the warm up in a PE lesson that it isn't about winning. Amber jogged while leading from the back of the pack ensuring everybody slower than her understood that too.

Cali for trying hard during running and in her salsa lesson!



## SCIENCE STAR

This week Adela in Year 4 is our science star.

In our lesson on electricity she worked really hard to follow the tricky instructions and successfully make her circuits.

Well done Adela!

# WORLD BOOK DAY

This week for World Book Day we celebrated by coming in to school in our pyjamas/comfy clothes and the children were challenged by Miss Mière and Miss Preston to be an author or illustrator.

The children were asked to create their own book and share it with their class on World Book Day.

Children who bought in their amazing handmade books were rewarded with a special World Book Day badge!

Well done everyone!



# PANCAKE DAY

On Tuesday, we had a lot of fun doing pancake races in both schools. We found out why people traditionally eat pancakes on Shrove Tuesday and participated in an ancient English tradition. Even the teachers got involved and of course afterwards we all got to eat the pancakes which is the best bit!



# SHROVE TUESDAY

## NURSERY & RECEPTION

This week we have had lots of fun learning about 'Pancake day'. On Tuesday we learnt all about Shrove Tuesday and had lots of fun taking part in pancake races! We even got to have pancakes for our morning snack! Throughout the week we have also been making our own 'messy play' pancakes as well as playing in our very own Pancake Cafe! Reception have also been writing about their favourite pancake topping!



# COLLAGES

## YEAR 2

Year 2 enjoyed continuing their Art unit on collage this week with a creative session of layering up parts of magazines to create exciting and interesting images. At the end of the session their work was laid out in a gallery and children were given time to appreciate each other's efforts and make comments on the collages.

Angelica-Mae: I like Jaxon's one with the blue face as it has 5 little bits added onto it.

Alice: I like Storm's one, I like the baby and the bits that Storm added to it.

Mrs Brown: I really like the contrasting colours, because most of it is black and white and then you have a splash of colour.

Jake: I like Angelica-Mae's as it has a background and someone running at the front.

Mrs Makewell: Yes Angelica-Mae has made really good use of the negative space and you can clearly see the cut out of a person.

Isabelle: I like the decorations Alice used.

Jaxon: I really like Jake's, Isaac's and Willows because of the different colours.



# MARGARET HOUSE

The sun shone on the children who walked to Margaret House (assisted living residence) on Wednesday. The children were accompanied by Mrs Gould and all had a lovely time eating lunch sitting side by side with the residents at Margaret House.

Willow and Noah chatted to Ann, Roy and Barbara about their favourite football teams, foods and holidays. Cali and George chatted away to their Margaret House friends and they really enjoyed their food! Storm and Louis R were very polite and enjoyed extra helpings of John's delicious roast potatoes.

The residents talked about their own childhoods and the areas they lived in when young. It was a lovely lunch connecting with friends in our community!



# ONLINE EVENTS

## YEAR 3

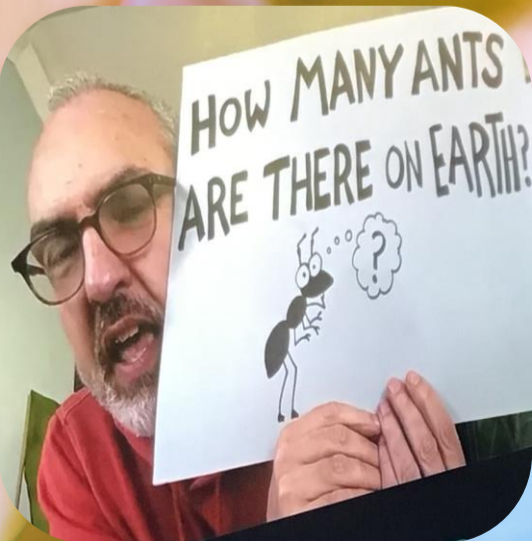
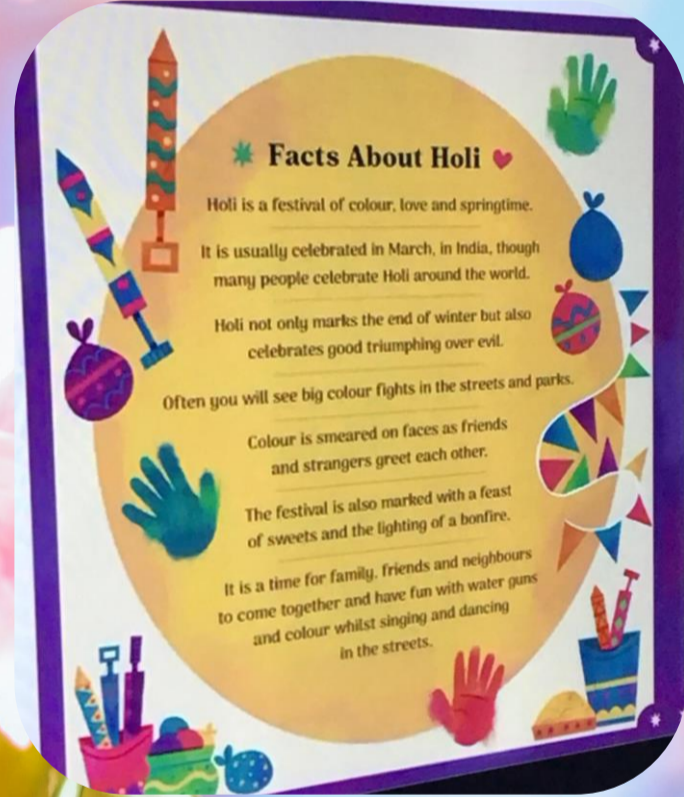
For world book day we took part in an online session to celebrate the book "The Night Before Holi". Holi is a Hindu Festival that represents Spring time. We listened to the author read the book and then learnt how to be illustrators. The author talked about how she loved taking inspiration from books she read as a child to inspire her to write her own stories.

Their advice was "to be brave with your blank piece of paper and begin putting words onto paper".

Year 3 also celebrated World Book Day week by participating in an online event with the author David O'Connell who is an author and illustrator.

His latest book *Beastie Bros* is about an exploding dung heap and bugs. This book has lots of exciting facts about bugs so we enjoyed participating in some cross curricular science and literacy learning.

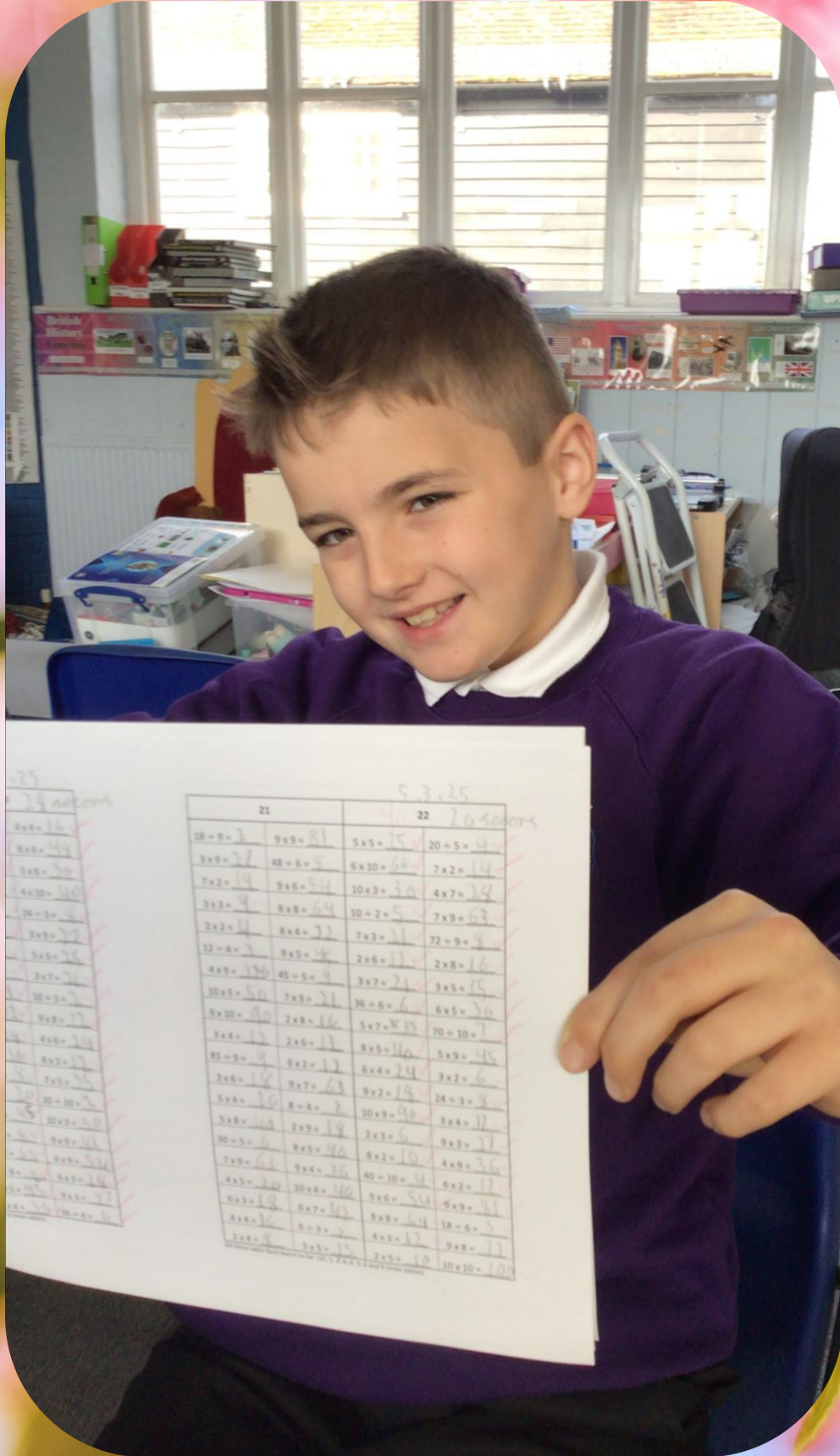
We learnt how to be an illustrator and plan a story. We also learnt about the importance of researching facts about animals to make stories interesting and realistic.



# TIMES TABLES

## YEAR 4

We are very proud of Louie M in Year 4. Every morning, as soon as the children come into the classroom, they practise times tables facts. They have two minutes to answer as many questions as possible. On Wednesday morning, Louie answered all 40 questions in 20 seconds!! As you can see from the photo, he was very proud. How quickly can you answer the 40 questions?



	22	
9 =	5 x 5 =	20 ÷ 5 =
6 =	6 x 10 =	7 x 2 =
6 =	10 x 3 =	4 x 7 =
8 =	10 ÷ 2 =	7 x 9 =
4 =	7 x 3 =	72 ÷ 9 =
5 =	2 x 6 =	2 x 8 =
5 =	3 x 7 =	3 x 5 =
3 =	36 ÷ 6 =	6 x 5 =
3 =	5 x 7 =	70 ÷ 10 =
=	8 x 5 =	5 x 9 =
=	6 x 4 =	3 x 2 =
=	9 x 2 =	24 ÷ 3 =
=	10 x 9 =	3 x 4 =
=	2 x 3 =	9 x 3 =
=	8 x 2 =	4 x 9 =
=	40 ÷ 10 =	6 x 2 =
4 =	9 x 6 =	9 x 9 =
=	8 x 8 =	18 ÷ 6 =
3 =	4 x 3 =	9 x 8 =
	2 x 5 =	10 x 10 =

# AN UNEXPECTED VISITOR

At breaktime in Barley on Monday we received an unexpected but very welcome visitor! Daisy and her owner were walking along Church End and had to take refuge in the school's driveway as a large coach was passing.

Mrs Brown ran up and asked Daisy's owner to introduce her to the children. Daisy is quite a young horse but can't be ridden because of a back injury. At one point all of the children were busy admiring her.



# CHARLIE CHICKS

Charlie Chicks are back!

From Monday 10<sup>th</sup> March we are supporting Garden House Hospice, by offering their hand knitted Charlie Chicks (who have an Easter surprise inside) – the chicks are £1.50 each and are available in both offices until Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> April.

