

NEWSLETTER

Barley & Barkway Federation Schools

Faith Curiosity Wellbeing Confidence

A MESSAGE FROM OUR HEADTEACHER

Dear Parents and Carers,
It's been a wonderfully lively week at school, especially for our animal lovers!

Exploring the River Rib

Children in Years 1 to 4 enjoyed a fantastic trip to the River Rib, a beautiful chalk stream located in the village of Standon. The visit offered an exciting hands-on learning experience, and the natural surroundings were a perfect backdrop for exploration. If you're looking for a free and scenic half-term outing, a return visit with a picnic is highly recommended!

EYFS Pet Week

In Early Years, the children have been getting up close with a variety of pets of all shapes and sizes. It's been a joy to see their curiosity and care as they met these special visitors—an experience that brought learning to life.

Looking Ahead: Year 4 in London

Next week, Year 4 is off to London to explore the Natural History Museum. Highlights include the earthquake simulator and plenty of interactive exhibits to spark their scientific curiosity.

Don't forget to scroll down to read more about what's been happening across the school—and to celebrate this week's 'Stars of the Week.'

Wishing you all a restful and happy weekend.

Sharon Brown
Federation Headteacher



Nursery, Reception, and Year 1 meeting Sparkles the pony

THIS TERM OUR SCHOOL VALUE IS 'SERVICE'

Our students will be focusing on using their talents to serve, receiving as well as giving, giving with no strings attached, looking at the heart, and living for others.

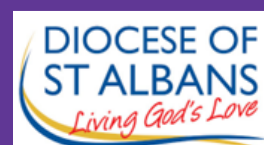
UPCOMING EVENTS

- Nursery, Reception, Years 1&2 Parent/Carer RSE Curriculum presentation - Tuesday 20th May, 15.20 until 15.50.
- Year 3&4 Parent/Carer RSE Curriculum presentation - Wednesday 21st May, 15.20 until 15.50.
- Inset Day - Friday 23rd May - schools closed
- Half term - Monday 26th to Friday 30th May
- Summer Term Ends - Tuesday 22nd July, Barkway to finish at 12.30pm and Barley to finish at 12.45pm.
- Inset Day - Wednesday 23rd July - schools closed

"Living Life in All Its Fullness" -John 10

Barley and Barkway (VA) C of E First Schools Federation
Church End, Barley, SG8 8JW | 84 High Street, Barkway, SG8 8EF

Tel: 01763 848281 | 01763 848283
Email: admin@barleybarkway.herts.sch.uk
Website: www.barleybarkway.herts.sch.uk



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 Tiffany. Tiffany has been loving learning about pets this week and has been so excited to share her own experiences with animals. We have had some special visitors into school this week. Tiffany was very knowledgeable about dogs and did a fantastic job sharing what she knew about them to her friends and teachers.

Well done Tiffany!



RECEPTION

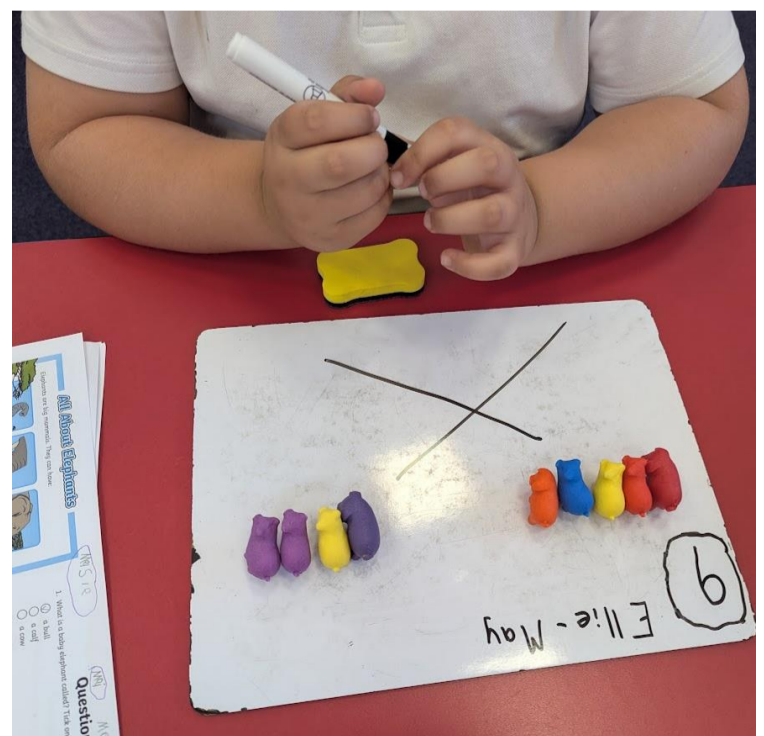
This week Leo is the star of the week for his fantastic writing and beautiful handwriting. Leo was writing a sentence about his special place. He said his special place was his house because his family are there. Leo sounded out each word in his sentence independently, remembering finger spaces and super letter formation. He spelt tricky words correctly and remembered a full stop at the end of his sentence. Super work, Leo! Well done.



YEAR 1

This week Ellie-May is the star of the week for her fabulous work at learning how to count in 2s, 5s and 10s. She has worked hard learning how to apply her knowledge while writing arrays and repeated addition and by sharing into different groups checking if they are equal or not. Ellie-May is fantastic at explaining her answers in full sentences using the sentence stems "I know that" and "I notice that".

Well done Ellie-May!



STARS OF THE WEEK

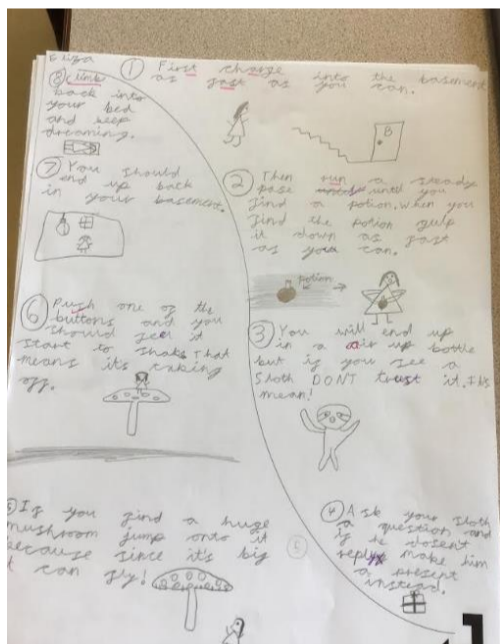
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YEAR 2

This week Storm is the shining star for working extremely hard on helpful and positive behaviours!

Storm is working hard on all the Hazel class rules and is being kind and helpful to others.

Storm tried really hard when making a vehicle in DT and when writing a story independently. Well done Storm, we are so proud of you!



YEAR 3

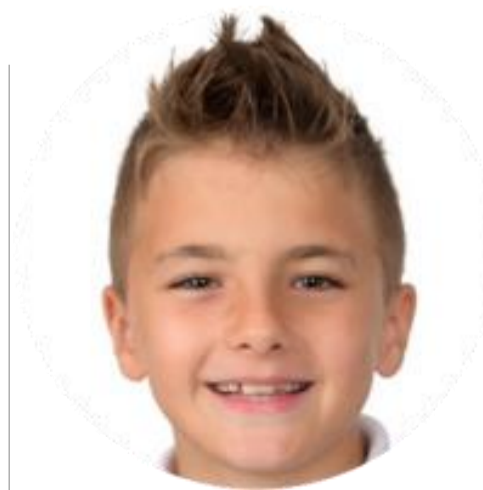
This week Eliza is the star of the week for planning her English work. In her plan she included verbs, prepositions and exciting vocabulary. Her wonderful illustrations will support her at the writing stage next week.

Mrs Porter cannot wait to read her magical instructions when she writes them next week.

Well Done, Eliza!

YEAR 4

In Year 4 this week, our star of the week is Henry. Henry has been working really hard at his reading, challenging himself with tricky texts that include dialect. He is also able to understand and work out inference questions, where we work out an answer from the text. An example of that from this week was what month was it? In the text it said it was early summer so we could infer that it was probably June. Well done, Henry!



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ART STAR

This week, Jake is our shining star in Art. He worked hard to create a wonderful sculpture inspired by Yayoi Kasama.

Even though he had a set back using the clay he persevered and didn't give up.

Well done Jake!



SPORTS STAR

This week Adela is our shining star this week. She tried really hard in her Athletics lesson this week and stayed completely focused on the activity. She tried hard in a range of different athletic activities which used different skills! Excellent work!

Stan is also our brilliant star for making rapid progress, showing great determination and remembering to run past the finish line!

Stan for making rapid progress, showing great determination and remembering to run "fast past the finish line".



PETS WEEK

NURSERY & RECEPTION

This week in Oak Class it was pets week. The children enjoyed taking it in turns looking after different animals in the roleplay area which was set up as a vets.

We also had some special visitors this week; a dog, some guinea pigs, and a pony! The children had the opportunity to pet and learn about each of the different animals how to look after them.

The children have also been learning the different pet Makaton signs, which the children demonstrated with Miss Horton in this week's achievement assembly to parents, carers, staff, and children at the Barley school site.

Also, a big thank you to everyone who brought in their pets for the children to see and learn about!



CHALK STREAMS

YEAR 1 TO 4

Years 1-4 were able to see a chalk stream sparkling in the sunlight on Wednesday morning for our River Rib visit with Chair of Friends of Rib and Quin, Mark Wilkinson. Perhaps due to recent thunderstorms, the shallower areas of the chalk stream were only accessible through areas now too deep for even the children's wellies so we watched with interest from the water's edge as Mark and Mrs Brown collected a few samples of the river for our exploration. Mark and his helpful band of volunteers from FORQ passed out some chalk stones and cased caddis stuck to rocks for the children to look at. We were interested to hear about the freshwater insect that builds itself a protective case out of sand, stones and plant debris to shield itself from predators before emerging as a caddisfly later in the summer.

The children had opportunities to explore the stream water sample with magnifying glasses and microscopes. They were excited to see so many river fly larvae and fish. They carefully transported bullhead fish, minnows and sticklebacks into a viewing container for a closer look! We were privileged to receive a nettle cordage tutorial from Mark and Denise Wilkinson. The children learnt how to pluck off the nettle leaves and rub off the fibres from the stem. They then split the stem and scraped it to create nettle strings ready for twisting into cordage. We will continue this at school as they will be easier to work with once dried out a bit.

We are ever so grateful to Mark Wilkinson and all his volunteer helpers for their time and effort and we know we will continue working with Mark on wildlife exploration and conservation. We will keep you posted on our joint projects as they evolve!

Check out the next page for more photos!



CHALK STREAMS

YEAR 1 TO 4

The children had a lovely morning:

Angelica-Mae said "This was the best day of my life. I am tired now!"

Vira, Maisie and Jake all said they enjoyed "exploring the animals from the stream"

Reggie said "I liked the gloves best"

Ophelia said "I liked making the nettle string and catching the fish".

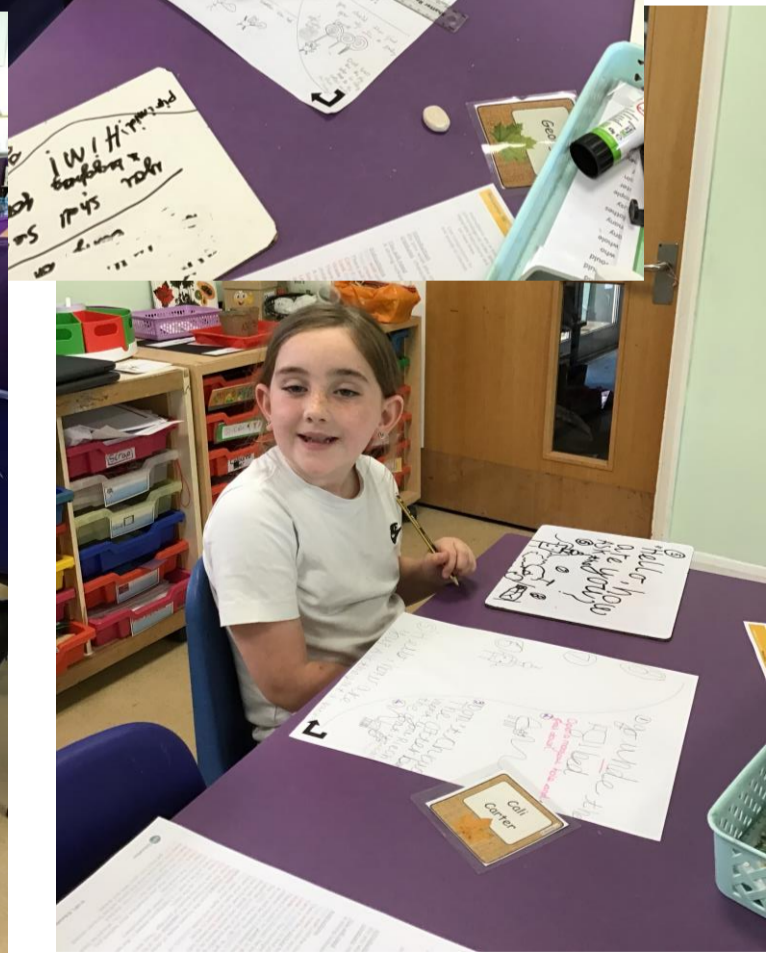
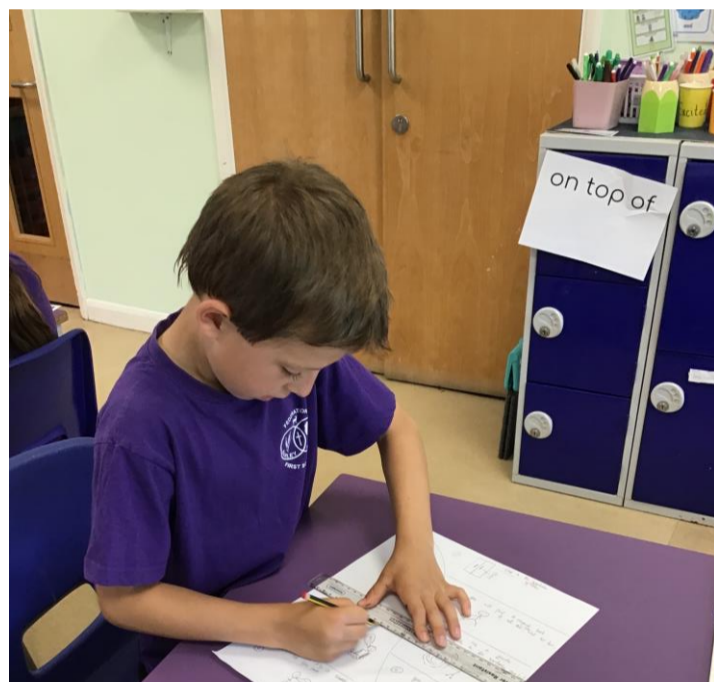
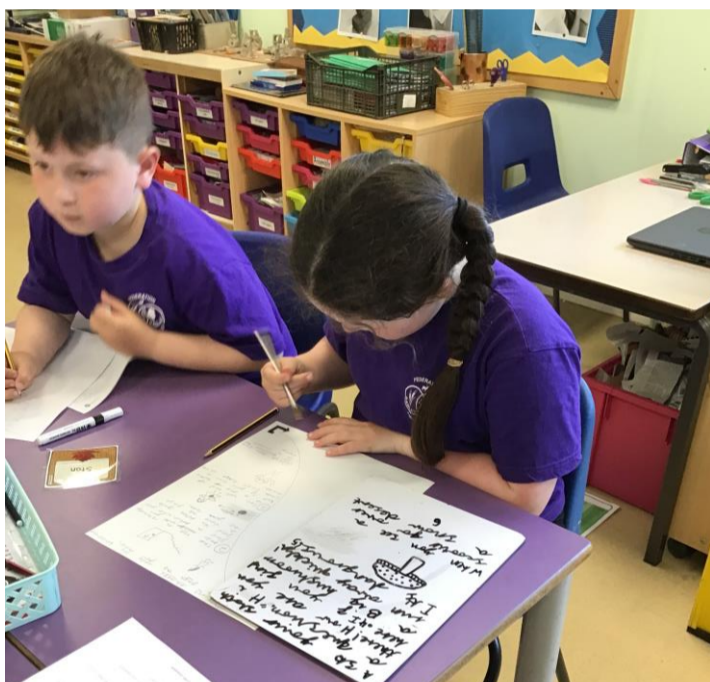


ORACY PROJECTS

YEAR 3

Year 3 have been busy planning instructions to move through a magical land in the middle of the night. They are working on using prepositions and verbs to make their instructions more engaging.

Artwork by Andy Goldsworthy



ART PROJECTS

YEAR 4

Year 4 children are enjoying working on their art project based on the artist Emily Speed.

