

FEDERATION NEWSLETTER

FAITH

CURIOSITY

WELLBEING

CONFIDENCE

Spring Term 2



Spotlight

Please don't forget that FOBBs are running their Easter competition up until the end of term (Friday 27th March). Tickets cost £1 and each adult that buys a ticket(s) will receive an Easter egg! There are also various other prizes to win. All funds raised will go towards a new mud kitchen for the Barkway playground.

UPCOMING EVENTS

* Bawdsey Manor

29th April – 1st May (Y3 & 4)

* Bank Holidays

School will be closed

- 4th May
- 25th May (Half Term)

* Forest School

Reception & Y1

- 7th May
- 21st May
- 12th June
- 25th June

* Half Term

25th May – 1st June

“Living life in all it's fullness” – John 10

A message from our Headteacher

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been a busy and enriching week here at our Federation, filled with learning, reflection and celebration.

We were delighted to welcome Reverend Mark, who led our collective worship centred on our school value of friendship. He encouraged the children to think deeply about what friendship means, linking this to a story from the Bible to help deepen their understanding of its importance in our daily lives.

Children in Years 1 to 4 attended a very important assembly created by the NSPCC. They learned about the vital message of Speak Out, Stay Safe, including who they can talk to if they are worried and the number they can call for support. This was handled sensitively and thoughtfully, and we are proud of how engaged and reflective the children were.

At Barkway, we held our second Nursery Stay and Play session, which was a huge success. We hope all who attended enjoyed themselves, and Miss Horton's delicious treats! It was wonderful to see both familiar and new faces. Our EYFS team thoroughly enjoyed getting to know the children and sharing in their play. We look forward to welcoming everyone again at our next session on Wednesday 29th April, 9:30–10:30am. If you haven't joined us yet, please do come along and feel free to spread the word to friends and family. We would love to see you there.

Thank you to Year 2 for their fantastic class assembly. We hope you enjoyed learning all about their impressive knowledge of animals; I know that Miss Preston was incredibly proud of them all.

Years 2, 3 and 4 also enjoyed a special belated Mothering Sunday celebration yesterday. We hope all who attended appreciated the thoughtful treats prepared by the children. Barkway's celebration will take place on Wednesday 29th April at 2:40pm. We hope the children's special ladies are able to join us for an afternoon of treats and painting.

Oak Class have been learning about St George's Day this week, using George and the Dragon as their focus for both reading and writing. They had a wonderful time dressing in red and white and taking part in a range of creative activities, including making shields and painting.

Year 1 have been exploring the work of sculptor Henry Moore in their art lessons. The children had great fun becoming "living sculptures" themselves, using their bodies to create different shapes and even standing inside sheets to form their own imaginative designs.

Oak and Apple Classes are enjoying their first Forest School session of the summer term this afternoon. I am sure they will have a fantastic time, and I look forward to hearing all about their adventures on Monday.

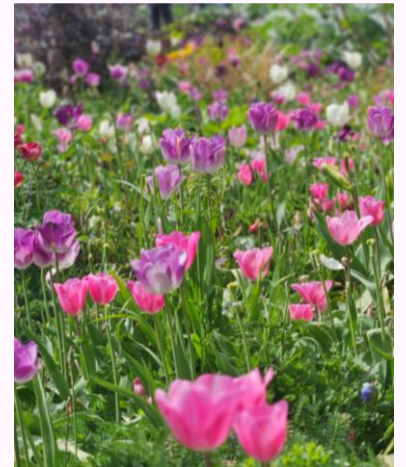
Looking ahead, the Barkway Market will take place on Saturday 9th May. We will once again be running the BBQ and would be very grateful for any help, both on the day and with setting up the gazebo on Friday 8th May after the achievement assembly. If you are able to offer some time, please do let Kelly Whitaker from FOBBs know.

Wishing all our children the very best of luck for the Mini Marathon in London tomorrow, it's set to be a beautiful sunny day and, as always, a fantastic experience for everyone involved. Good luck as well to those taking part in the London Marathon on Sunday!

Finally, I wish you all a wonderfully sunny and warm weekend.

Best wishes,

Miss Mière



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Stars of the Week

Nursery

This week, Grace is our shining star. She was able to tell me the sounds for me to scribe for, 'food', 'fish' and 'home'. She then used her name card to copy her name carefully.

Grace has been doing an amazing job with

writing her name so neatly and carefully copying letters. We are so proud of how confident you are becoming and how you keep trying, even when things feel tricky.



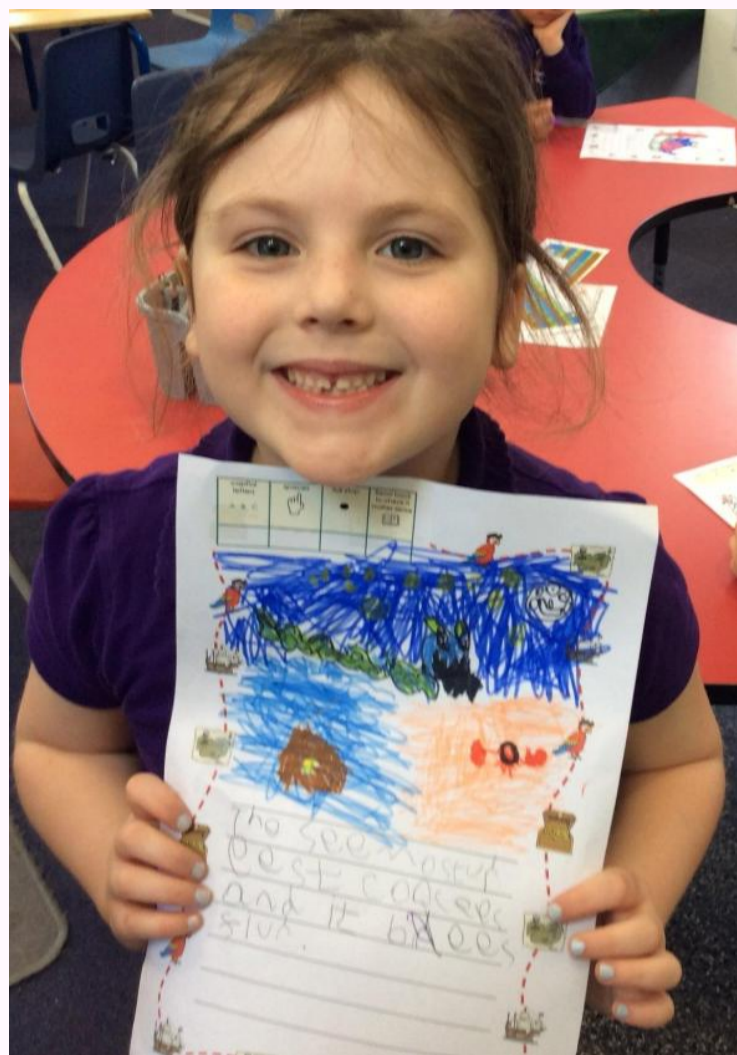
Keep up the brilliant work - you are a superstar!

Reception



This week's Star of the Week goes to Tiffany. Tiffany has settled beautifully into her new class and is becoming a wonderful member of our group. She has been trying really hard to follow the class rules and make good choices with her behaviour.

We are especially pleased with how she is trying hard to listen carefully, joins in with activities, and shows kindness to others. Keep up the fantastic work — we are so happy to have you in our class!



Year 1

This week our shining star is Lexi for her efforts in English lessons. After we have shared a story, Lexi is always buzzing with ideas for her own writing. Lexi has a fantastic imagination and always adds lots of detail when describing her creations. Last week Lexi invented a sea monster that breathed fire! Lexi has made such great progress with her writing this year. She has really grown in confidence and is now writing independently. She is able to use a capital letter, full stop, finger spaces and the conjunction 'and' in her sentences. Well done Lexi!

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 and demonstrating school values.

Stars of the Week

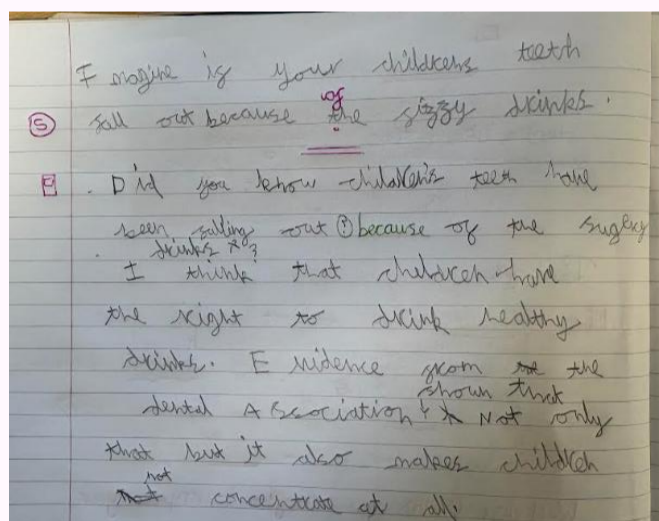
Year 2

This week, the star of the week in Year 2 is Esme! Esme finds speaking in front of an audience an overwhelming challenge but on Thursday she stood up to perform for year 3 and then again when the parents arrived! She spoke confidently with a clear voice and we are all feeling so proud of her!



Well done Esme for persevering with something you have found really hard!!

Year 3



This week Willow is our star of the week. We are writing persuasively in Beech Class and Willow is writing about why there should be a limit of the amount of fizzy drinks children have. She wrote about "tooth decay, concentration and the effect on children's sleep"



Year 4

This week, our star of the week is Stan. Stan has been working really hard on improving his handwriting and is now using legible handwriting in all his books and I am able to give him his pen license! He's also been working hard on his reading and it is a pleasure to listen to Stan read. Well done Stan!

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Stars of the Week



Sports Star

This week PE star is Tommy.

Tommy has started the summer term off with a can do attitude.

It was a pleasure to watch him attempt some new skills this week in our multi skills lesson and involve others in his achievements.

Well done Tommy, keep it up!

Art Star

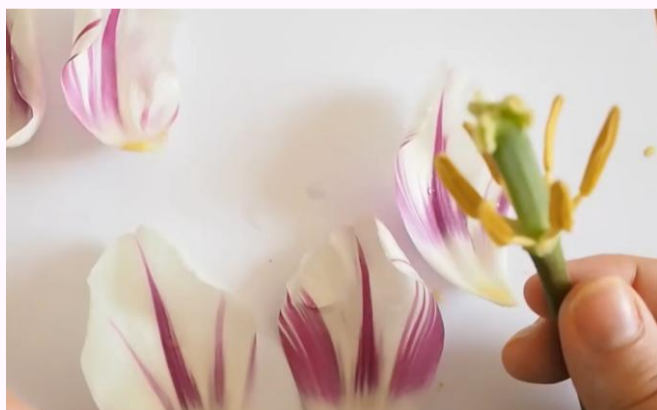
This week all of Year 4 are art stars, they worked really hard to create a light up canvas, combining science and art and achieving amazing results.

Well done everyone!



Science Star

This week our Science Stars are year 2 and 3 who worked collaboratively to dissect flowers. This half term year 2 and 3 are having joint science lessons to plant and nurture our allotment area. Well done Hazel and Beech Class for being super scientists to look after the environment and our plants.



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Happy Birthday

A big **HAPPY BIRTHDAY** to
Saffron and Eva who are
celebrating their Birthday's
this week and over the
Easter Holidays!

We hope you have a
fantastic time filled with fun
and the things you enjoy the
most!



This weeks activities

Oak Class

This week Oak class had a fantastic time learning all about the story of **St. George and the Dragon**. The children were fully immersed in the tale and loved exploring it through a range of fun and creative activities! We began by sharing the story together, where the children enjoyed talking about the characters and predicting what might happen next. They showed great enthusiasm when discussing heroes, dragons, and castles.

Throughout the week, the children took part in lots of hands-on learning. They created their own colourful dragon artwork using different materials, made shields fit for a knight, and practised their cutting and sticking skills.

This week, the children also became little scientists as they explored ramps using a large carpet roll tube! They worked together to build different ramps and investigated how far objects would travel. They explored how changing the height and angle of the ramp affected the distance travelled, showing great curiosity and excitement.

This hands-on activity introduced early scientific thinking, as the children observed, experimented, and talked about their ideas. They used wonderful language to describe what was happening, such as "faster," "slower," "far," and "near."

It was fantastic to see such teamwork, problem-solving, and enthusiasm for learning through play!



This weeks activities

Apple Class

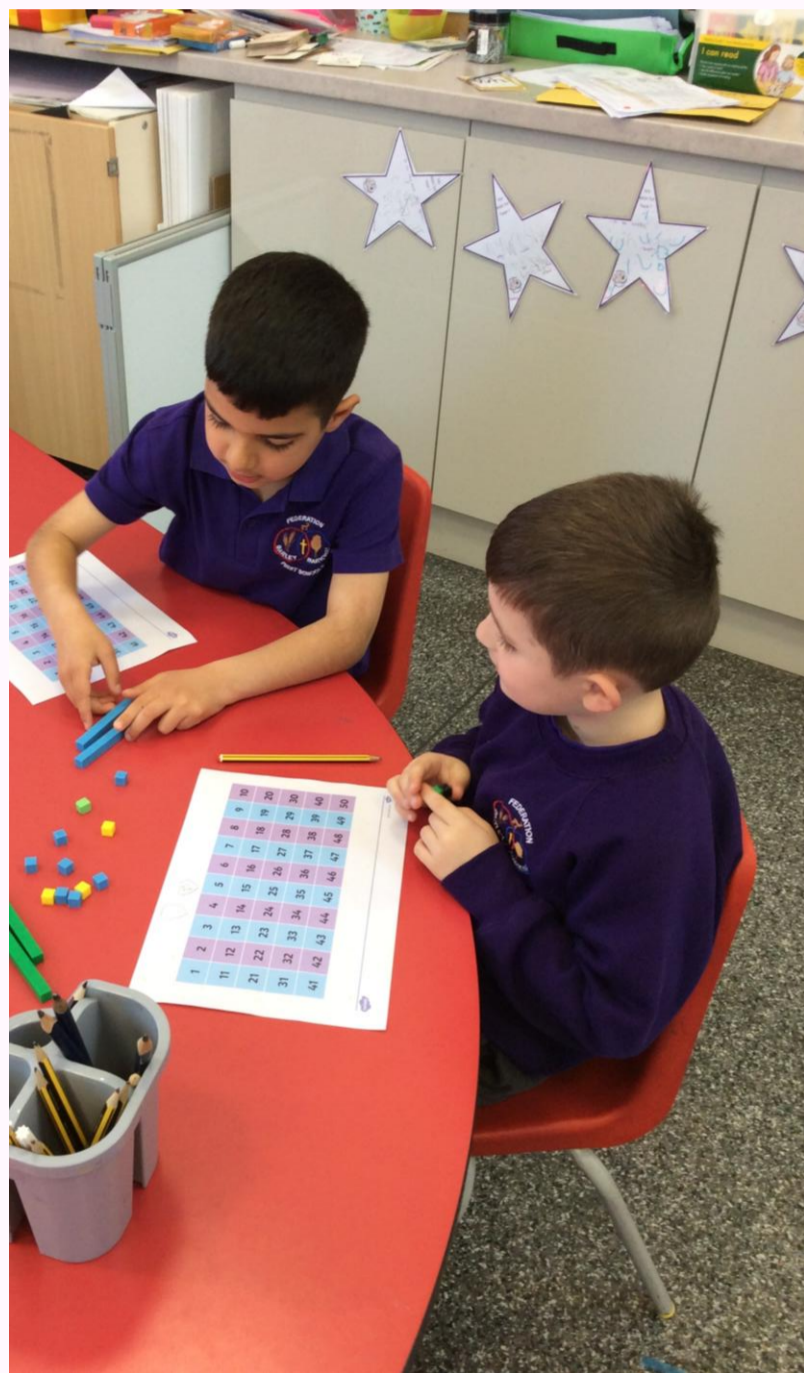
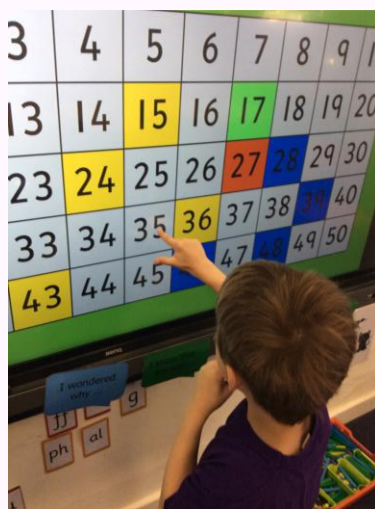
Apple class has begun a new Maths topic focusing on Place Value with numbers to 50. The children enjoyed a game of 'Splat Attack' where Mrs Gould called out a number and they had to splat it on their 1-50 number grids and on the interactive board.

They then practised counting forwards and backwards from different numbers. The big focus has been learning to build numbers to 50 using dienes.

"That number is 50" (Hunter)

"50 has 5 tens" (Louis).

It is important for the children to become really confident with understanding and building the numbers to 50 before they move onto focusing on numbers to 100 later this term.



This weeks activities

Hazel Class

This week, Year 2 did a fantastic job preparing for their class assembly. On Thursday, the children took us on an exciting adventure around the world to explore *living things and their habitats*.

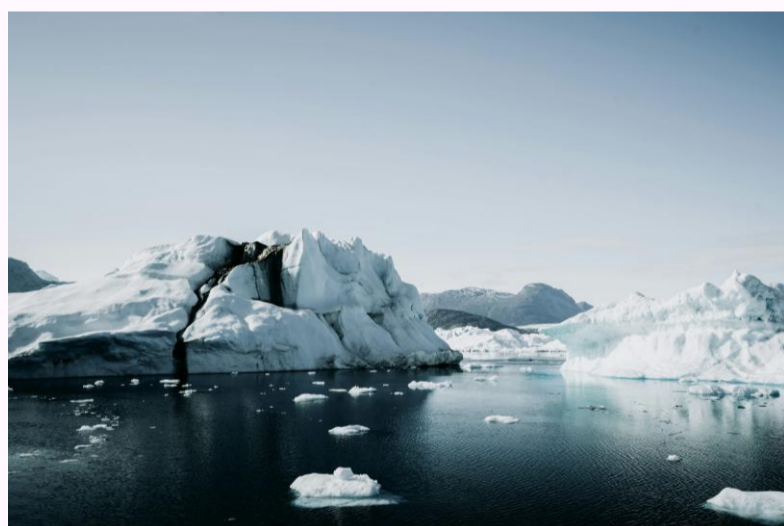
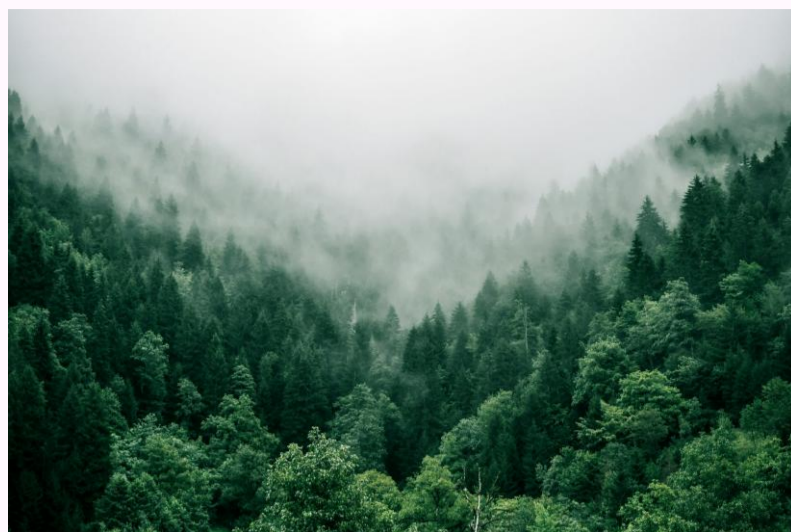
They travelled through a range of environments, including forests, oceans, polar regions and deserts, explaining how each habitat provides animals and plants with what they need to survive, such as food, water, air and shelter.

The children confidently demonstrated their understanding of how animals are specially adapted to live in different conditions, from the freezing cold of the polar regions to the hot, dry desert.

As part of the assembly, the children also shared their learning about microhabitats, showing how even small spaces, like under logs and rocks, are important homes for mini-beasts. They impressed us with their knowledge of how to identify whether something is living, dead or has never been alive.

We were especially proud of how clearly the children spoke when sharing their non-chronological reports about animals, as well as the wonderful pieces of work they created and proudly presented. The assembly was brought to life with fantastic acting and a lively song, which the children performed with great enthusiasm.

Well done, Year 2, for a confident, informative and thoroughly enjoyable assembly!



This weeks activities

Hazel & Beech Class

This week Year 2 and 3 started off one of their projects in a joint science lesson by dissecting flowers. This ties in with part of their learning on how to plant and nurture the allotment area.

They carefully dissected parts of the flowers and compared them to other examples – visualizing the similarities and differences.

Using a knife, the children opened up the stems to see how water is transported through the flower.



This weeks activities

Sycamore Class

Year 4 have been enjoying listening to persuasive speeches given by Malala Yousafezi and Greta Thunberg. We are learning how to write a persuasive letter and are thinking about what we feel passionately about and who we need to write to.



Tesco Tokens

In Tesco Extra, Royston, we have been given the opportunity to receive up to £1,500 funding for our mud kitchen!

How does it work?

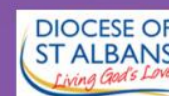
After you finish your shopping you will find the blue tokens available at the checkout.

Simply place the tokens in our box which can be found near the exit doors on your way out!





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