

# FEDERATION NEWSLETTER

FAITH

CURIOSITY

WELLBEING

CONFIDENCE

Spring Term 2



## Spotlight

Does your child need a size up in their uniform in preparation for September?

We have plenty of second hand uniform for sale at both school sites for just £1 per item!

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### \* Forest School

- Reception & Y1
- 12<sup>th</sup> June
  - 25<sup>th</sup> June

### \* Nursery & Reception Stay & Play dates:

- 3<sup>rd</sup> June – 9.30am until 10.30am  
**Parents/carers welcome**
- 1<sup>st</sup> July – 9.30am until 10.30am  
**Parents/carers welcome**
- 3<sup>rd</sup> July – **Nursery only** – 10.45am until 11.45am  
**Parents/carers welcome**
- 9<sup>th</sup> July – 9.00am until 12.00pm **Children only**

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

## A message from our Headteacher

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back everyone to Summer 2, our final half term of the academic year!

We have a very busy but exciting few weeks ahead of us, with lots of wonderful opportunities for learning, celebrating achievements and coming together as a federation community. There is plenty for everyone to get involved with and share with us too.

I hope you all had a fantastic half-term break and were able to enjoy some of the glorious sunny weather with family and friends.

This week, Year 4 have been thinking about their transition to middle school. They were excited to meet teachers from KJAR and Edwinstree, who talked to them about some of the exciting lessons, activities and opportunities they will experience as they move into Year 5 and beyond. On Thursday, they also enjoyed a transition afternoon at Edwinstree, giving them a valuable opportunity to begin familiarising themselves with their new surroundings.

Our Year 3 and Year 4 buddies had a very exciting morning at Margaret House this week. More details about their visit will follow shortly, but it was lovely to see them representing our Federation so well as always.

Year 4 also spent an enjoyable morning at the Community Gardens and returned with a wonderful harvest of onions, garlic and beetroot. Some of the produce was taken home to share with families, while the rest was generously donated to John to use at Margaret House. Thank you, Year 4, for all of your hard work and for your thoughtful donations.

Oak Class were treated to an extra PE lesson this week and thoroughly enjoyed developing their tennis skills as well as learning how to throw the javelin. Mrs Whitaker was incredibly impressed with their progress, enthusiasm and growing knowledge. Well done, Oak Class!

### Important Date for Your Diary:

Attendance Parent and Carer Meeting

We have rescheduled our Attendance Parent and Carer Meeting and are offering two different sessions to help accommodate as many parents and carers as possible. The content will be the same at each meeting:

Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> June at 9:00am – Barley  
Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> June at 2:45pm – Barley

Thank you, as always, for your continued support. We are looking forward to an exciting and successful final half term together.

With best wishes,

Miss Mière  
Federation Headteacher

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## Stars of the Week

### Nursery

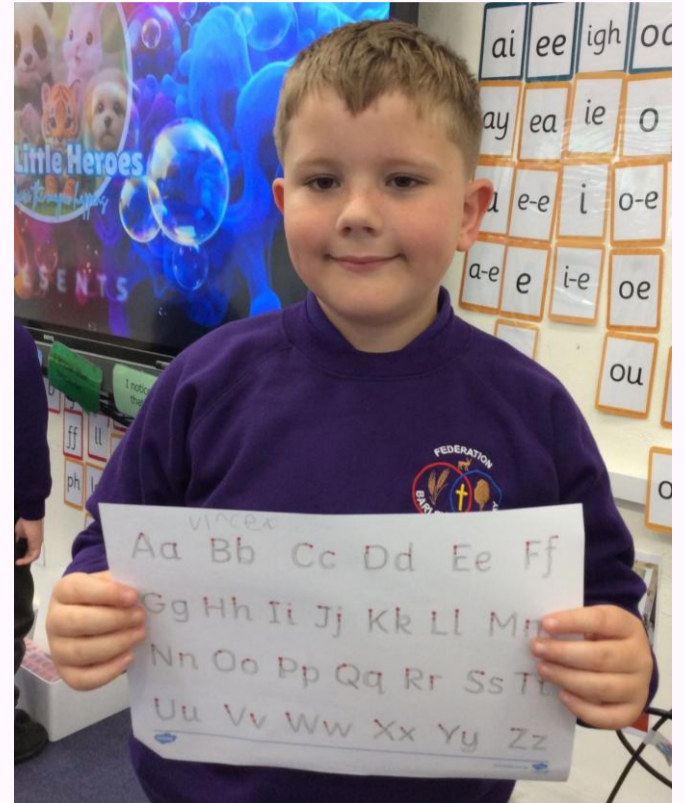
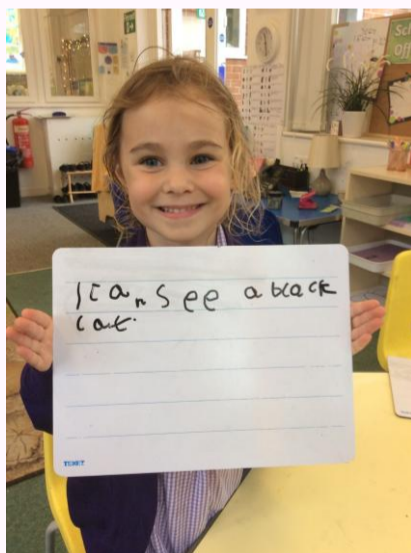
This week, Albie is our shining star in Nursery. Albie has shown fantastic creativity, perseverance, and problem-solving skills while making a telescope. He demonstrated great determination by continually improving his creation and thinking carefully about how to make it even better. Albie used scissors safely and carefully to cut a circle that fitted perfectly onto a tube, showing developing control and coordination. He then also used his fine motor skills to tear pieces of black paper to cover a box. To add extra detail, he attached lids as buttons.



We were very impressed with his focus, independence, and willingness to keep refining his project. Well done on your fantastic effort and creativity Albie!

### Reception

This week's Star of the Week goes to Mabel. During our dictation writing sessions, she worked so hard to sound out each word carefully and hold the whole sentence in her head as she was writing it. She is growing in confidence in her independent writing and is trying really hard to segment words. She is also working really hard on her handwriting and letter formation. We are so proud of you! Well done Mabel!



### Year 1

This week, the star of the week in Year 1 is Vincent for making helpful positive choices both inside and outside of the classroom. Vincent persevered to form his letters correctly, using a good pencil grip and taking care to follow the shape of the letters.

Vincent had a super playtime, choosing two friends to play his Lego with. Mr Watson even spoke to Vincent after to give him a special well done for those brilliant choices.

Keep up the good work Vincent!

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



## Sports Star

This week Ellie May is our shining star!

Mrs Bagnall, Miss Grint and I were so impressed with her striking ability in Rounders! She was able to hit the rounders ball so far every time that she scored lots of rounders for her team.

She continues to impress us in her tennis lesson, showing off her hand-eye coordination!

We are also so proud to hear that Ellie May has learnt to ride her bike over half term. Keep it up Ellie May!

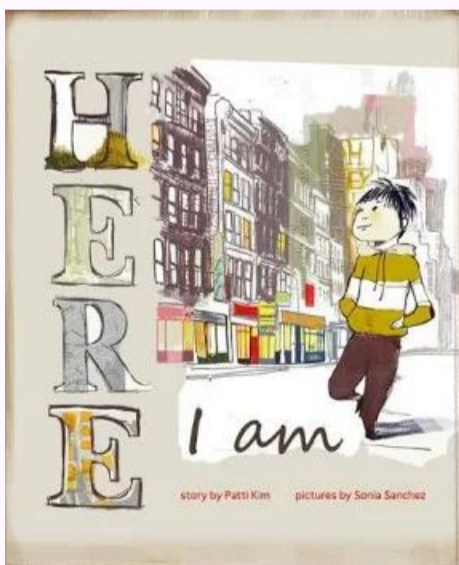
## Science Star

Our Science star this week is Hunter! We have been taking our science learning outside to Forest School this term and the children have been learning about trees and wild plants. Hunter always shows lots of curiosity about the world around him and has enjoyed collecting and identifying different plants in the woods. Well done Hunter!



## Oracy Star

This week our Oracy Star is Reggie for his fantastic discussions around our story book in English. He was able to vocalise how the child was feeling and extended his ideas by using because.



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## This weeks activities

# Oak Class

This week, our EYFS children have been exploring the exciting world of safari animals!

The children enjoyed learning about a variety of animals that live on the African safari, including lions, elephants, giraffes, zebras, and rhinos. They talked about the animals' features, habitats, and similarities and differences.

As part of our creative learning, the children made their own safari animals using a range of craft materials. They carefully selected colours, shapes, and textures to create their favourite animals, developing their fine motor skills and imagination.

In our construction area, the children worked collaboratively to design and build their own zoo. Using blocks, bricks, and other construction materials, they created animal enclosures, pathways, and visitor areas. This activity encouraged teamwork, problem-solving, and communication as they shared ideas and worked together.

The children also practised their mathematical skills by sorting animals in different ways. They grouped animals by size, colour, number of legs, and type, helping them develop their understanding of classification and early reasoning skills.

It has been wonderful to see the children's enthusiasm and curiosity as they explored safari animals through play, creativity, and hands-on learning. We are very proud of their fantastic work!



This weeks activities

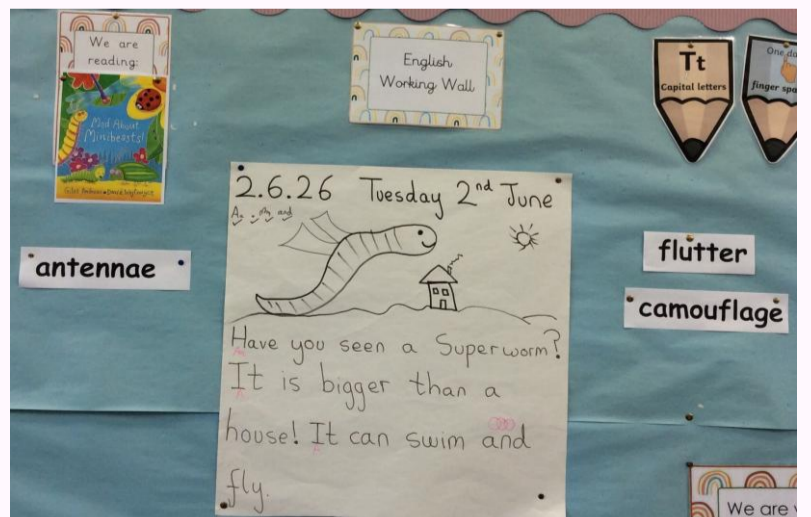
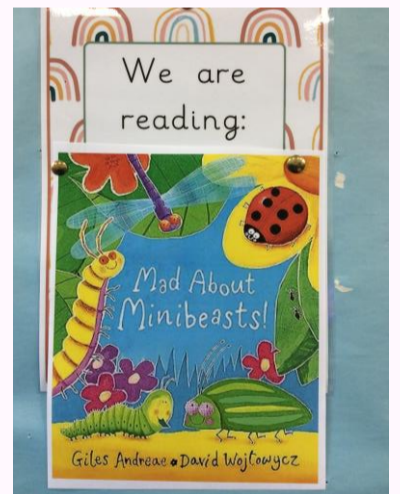
# Apple Class

Apple class really enjoyed Mrs Gould reading Mad About Minibeasts by Giles Andreae and David Wojtowycz. Mrs Gould then created her own minibeast - a Superworm, that was bigger than a house!

The children prompted what we need to remember when writing our sentences, Finley remembered capital letters and full stops, Louis remembered the conjunction 'and' and Henry remembered finger spaces.

Mrs Gould modelled writing a question to grab the readers' attention. All the children practised drawing question marks in the air. They then drew their own brilliant minibeasts and wrote some super sentences to describe their drawings.

It was wonderful to see lots of the children using question marks in their writing.



This weeks activities

# Beech Class

This week in Year 3, during their SCARF lesson, the children explored who is important in their community. They thoughtfully discussed the roles of family, friends, and teachers, and reflected on how communication, especially talking and listening to one another, helps to build positive relationships.

Our new school value is respect. The children demonstrated this brilliantly throughout the lesson by listening carefully and speaking kindly to one another.



## This weeks activities

# Sycamore Class

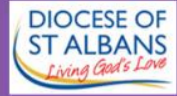
Year 4 had a fantastic time in the sunshine at the community gardens on Thursday morning. We got to harvest some of the vegetables that we had planted earlier in the year.

Some of them have been taken home and the rest we gave to John to use in our dinners! We are looking forward to tasting them.





# BARLEY & BARKWAY FEDERATION FIRST SCHOOLS



# ENROL NOW

*"The school's warm and caring family atmosphere is greatly valued by pupils, staff and parents"*  
- BBF Ofsted 2023



## 10 minutes from Buntingford and Royston

*Situated in the beautiful Hertfordshire countryside - come and see what Barley Barkway Federation First Schools and Barkway Preschool have to offer.*

- ✓ Church of England school
- ✓ Wrap-around care available
- ✓ Forest School Opportunities
- ✓ Nursery to Year 4

For more info:

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