



## Newsletter 21 – 13<sup>th</sup> February 2026

| DAY                                             | WHAT'S ON                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
|-------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>EVERYDAY</b>                                 | Cygnets: bring reading books, reading records, spelling books, water bottles<br>Swans: bring water bottles, a healthy snack<br>Wear PE Kit on Monday and Thursdays                                                              |
| <b>16<sup>TH</sup>-20<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY</b> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>HOLIDAY</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                       |
| <b>MONDAY<br/>23<sup>RD</sup> FEBRUARY</b>      | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Start of Term 4</li> <li>Monday Breakfast and Takeaway Coffee</li> <li>Mr Bateman Music Lessons</li> <li>Sports Club 3.15-4.30pm pick up from School</li> <li>ASC 3.15-5.15pm</li> </ul> |
| <b>TUESDAY<br/>24<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY</b>     | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Lunchtime Chess Club</li> <li>Nature Quiz</li> <li>Year 3&amp;4 Book Club 3.00pm</li> <li>ASC with Crafts 3.15-4.15 &amp; 4.15-5.15pm</li> </ul>                                         |
| <b>WEDNESDAY<br/>25<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY</b>   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mr Meade Music Lessons</li> <li>Forest School Rec, Year 1 &amp; Year 3</li> <li>ASC 3.15-4.15 &amp; 4.15-5.15pm</li> <li>KS2 French Club 3.15-4.15pm</li> </ul>                          |
| <b>THURSDAY<br/>26<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY</b>    | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Look Who's Talking Competition</li> <li>Year 5&amp;6 Book Club 3.00pm</li> <li>ASC with Signing 3.15-4.15 &amp; 4.15-5.15pm</li> </ul>                                                   |
| <b>FRIDAY<br/>27<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY</b>      | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Musical Mania</li> <li>ASC 3.15-4.15 &amp; 4.15-5.15pm</li> </ul>                                                                                                                        |
| <b>MONDAY<br/>2<sup>ND</sup> MARCH</b>          | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Monday Breakfast and Takeaway Coffee</li> <li>Mr Bateman Music Lessons</li> <li>Sports Club 3.15-4.30pm pick up from School</li> <li>ASC 3.15-5.15pm</li> </ul>                          |
| <b>TUESDAY<br/>3<sup>RD</sup> MARCH</b>         | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Lunchtime Chess Club</li> <li>Year 3&amp;4 Book Club 3.00pm</li> <li>ASC with Crafts 3.15-4.15 &amp; 4.15-5.15pm</li> </ul>                                                              |
| <b>WEDNESDAY<br/>4<sup>TH</sup> MARCH</b>       | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Mr Meade Music Lessons</li> <li>Forest School Rec, Year 1 &amp; Year 4</li> <li>ASC 3.15-4.15 &amp; 4.15-5.15pm</li> <li>KS2 French Club 3.15-4.15pm</li> </ul>                          |
| <b>THURSDAY<br/>5<sup>TH</sup> MARCH</b>        | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>KS2 SEN Panathlon Event Cirencester AM</li> <li>Year 5&amp;6 Book Club 3.00pm</li> <li>ASC with Signing 3.15-4.15 &amp; 4.15-5.15pm</li> </ul>                                           |
| <b>FRIDAY<br/>6<sup>TH</sup> MARCH</b>          | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>School Celebration of World Book Day</li> <li>Musical Mania</li> <li>ASC 3.15-4.15 &amp; 4.15-5.15pm</li> </ul>                                                                          |
| <b>SATURDAY<br/>8<sup>TH</sup> MARCH</b>        | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>PTA JUMBLE SALE</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                               |

### Stars of the Week

**Cygnets:** Isabelle & Penny for working so hard in their Phonics lessons.

**Swans:** Rupert for making great progress with handwriting.

## Message from Miss Davies

As we continue to celebrate the National Year of Reading, we have been reflecting on how we can further nurture a love of books across our school community. Reading remains at the heart of everything we do, and we are committed not only to teaching children \*how\* to read, but also helping them to \*want\* to read. On Wednesday we took part in a webinar exploring the balance between reading for pleasure and the structured teaching of phonics. This prompted some excellent professional discussion about how we can excite and inspire children about books, stories and language, alongside developing their essential reading skills. As part of this work, we are currently reviewing our reading provision in school, looking carefully at the opportunities we offer to spark curiosity, imagination and enjoyment in reading. We also encourage you, where possible, to reflect on how reading is shared at home even small moments spent enjoying books together can make a huge difference.

Thank you to everyone who attended the recent lockdown meeting. We really appreciate your time and engagement. The PowerPoint will be attached to this newsletter for all parents to view. We would welcome any feedback you may have after reading it, as your views are important to us.

A quick reminder that we have working party on Saturday to add more hedgerow to the wildlife garden boundary, and other jobs. Please join us between 10 and 12 tomorrow... I will bring cake.

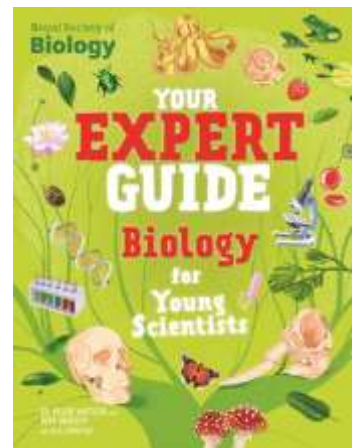
Finally, I would like to wish you and your families a lovely half term. Thank you, as always, for your continued support.

## World Book Day Celebrations



We will be celebrating World Book Day at Southrop School on Friday 6<sup>th</sup> March, when the author of **Your Expert Guide Biology for Young Scientists**, Dr Helen Watson, will be joining us for the morning. Mrs McLellan has been working with the Reading Ambassadors and they are lining up lots of enjoyable activities for the day. Please could everyone come

dressed as their favourite book character or author, and if possible bring their book to share, or in their pyjamas or onsie ready for a bedtime story. It will cost £1 to come dressed in costume and this money will be donated to Book Aid International, which creates access to books around the world.



How can you get involved? If you have any previous book character costumes that are no longer need and are happy to donate, could you please give them to Mrs McLellan to be used by another child.

The children love to have mystery readers in to share a favourite book during the week of World Book Day. Please volunteer if you have time.

Dig out any books your child has outgrown and donate them for a book swap. There will be a box in the entrance hall for the donations the week commencing 2nd March.

Please send in pictures of your child's favourite cosy reading space to share on the day.

## Gardening working party this weekend

Thank you to those who have already offered to join us on Saturday at 10am to plant hedging and clear some leaves in the wildlife garden. If you are able to join us please just pitch up and bring a spade or rake!

## After School Clubs Term 4

Next term it will be crafts with Mrs Martyn for the first hour of Tuesday's club and on Thursdays Mrs Martyn and Mr Vickery will be showing the children how to sign. Please book through the normal After School sessions. All the children signed into club on those days will have the chance to take part.

KS2 French will continue in Term 4, although Mrs Coecup is not available on 18<sup>th</sup> March.

Bookings for clubs will be open from 6.00pm on Friday 20<sup>th</sup> February.

## Cygnet Morning Snack

Next term the contribution for the Cygnet morning snack will be on the Portal and available to pay from 6.00pm on Friday 20<sup>th</sup> February. The amount for Term 4 will be £6.00.

## Cross Country Event

On Wednesday 4th February, 5 pupils from Years 4, 5 and 6, took part in a cross country event at Farmor's School. They made the school proud with their stamina and perseverance, in some cases running against children from a higher year group. Unsurprisingly, they were all exhausted by the end, as can be seen in our before and after pictures. The drive back to school was the quietest the minibus has ever been!

