



Newsletter 24 – 13th March 2026

DAY	WHAT'S ON
EVERYDAY	Cygnets: bring reading books, reading records, spelling books, water bottles Swans: bring water bottles, a healthy snack Wear PE Kit on Monday and Thursdays
MONDAY 16TH MARCH	- Monday Breakfast and Takeaway Coffee - Mr Bateman Music Lessons - Sports Club 3.15-4.30pm pick up from School - ASC 3.15-5.15pm
TUESDAY 17TH MARCH	- Lunchtime Chess Club - Year 5& 6 Mock Trial Cirencester leaving school at 12.45. - Year 3& 4 Book Club 3.00-3.30pm - ASC with Crafts 3.15-4.15 & 4.15-5.15pm
WEDNESDAY 18TH MARCH	- Mr Meade Music Lessons - Forest School Rec, Year 1 & Year 5 - ASC 3.15-4.15 & 4.15-5.15pm - NO FRENCH CLUB TODAY
THURSDAY 19TH MARCH	- Swans Trip to the Corinium Museum – Packed Lunches order by 17th March. - ASC with Signing 3.15-4.15 & 4.15-5.15pm
FRIDAY 20TH MARCH	- Musical Mania - Year 1&2 Mini Olympics, Kingshill School, 3.45-5.15pm - ASC 3.15-4.15 & 4.15-5.15pm
MONDAY 23RD MARCH	- Monday Breakfast and Takeaway Coffee - Mr Bateman Music Lessons - Sports Club 3.15-4.30pm pick up from School - ASC 3.15-5.15pm
TUESDAY 24TH MARCH	- Lunchtime Chess Club - Year 3&4 to Rendcomb College for the Touring Opera - Year 5&6 Book Club 3.00-3.30pm. - ASC with Crafts 3.15-4.15 & 4.15-5.15pm
WEDNESDAY 25TH MARCH	- Mr Meade Music Lessons - Forest School Whole Cygnet Class - Year 4 to see In the Net Internet Safety Play at Down Ampney School - Year 5 & 5 Swimming Gala at Cirencester Pool 1.30-3.00pm. - ASC 3.15-4.15 & 4.15-5.15pm - KS2 French Club 3.15-4.15
THURSDAY 26TH MARCH	- Easter Concert for Parents, 2.00pm in school. - ASC with Signing 3.15-4.15 & 4.15-5.15pm
FRIDAY 27TH MARCH	- Easter Service in Church at 1.00pm. 1.30pm end of term 4.

Stars of the week

Cygnets- Penny for working hard throughout every lesson this week and in particular RWI and PE.

Swans- Quinn for his determination with his handwriting.



Wings

Congratulations to Leo who has gained his wings this week for his careful planning and completing a brilliant recount.

Message from Miss Davies

As we approach the Easter period, it is a lovely opportunity for our school community to come together and celebrate the many talents and achievements of our children.

On Thursday 26th March at 2.00pm, we will be holding our Easter Concert. This will be a celebration of music, with both classes sharing some of the pieces they have been developing during the term. Children who have individual music lessons will also have the opportunity to perform a piece, either individually or as part of a group. This promises to be a wonderful event and I warmly invite the whole school community to join us in celebrating the children's hard work and musical progress.

We will then gather for our Easter Service on Friday 27th March at 1.00pm at St Peter's Church. This is always a special occasion for the school and a chance for the children to reflect on the meaning of Easter together.

As part of our Easter celebrations this year, we will also be asking the children to create an Easter egg creation in school. Please send your child to school on Wednesday 25th March with a hard-boiled egg, along with any ideas, designs or small resources they might like to use to decorate it. The children will make their creations during the school day.

Friendship is one of our Christian values and reminds us of the importance of working together collaboratively. Today, our School Council met with the PTA to share their ambitions to develop the school's vegetable plots, and the PTA discussed ideas for future fundraising to help support this project. It was wonderful to see such positive collaboration between the children and our wider school community.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support of our school community. We look forward to sharing these special events with you.

Tortoises over the Easter holidays

We are very grateful to Adam's family who have looked after Jeremy and Shelley for the winter. They are now looking for a holiday destination for the Easter holidays. Please let Mrs Simmons know if you are able to have them at your home, at least for the first week.

No French Club on 18th March

A reminder that there is no French Club on Wednesday.

Reminder - Swans Trip to the Corinium Museum on Thursday 19th March

The Swans are going to the Corinium Museum on Thursday. The PTA are kindly covering the cost of the coach but we are asking for a contribution of £4 per child to cover the entrance ticket. This is payable under the Shop Item on the Portal. Please register your child and if you need a school packed lunch please order by Tuesday 17th March. The children should wear school uniform

Cygnets

What a busy and exciting start we have had to the term!

English

In English, the children have been exploring the story *Send for a Superhero* by Michael Rosen. They have been introduced to the mischievous villains Filth and Vacuum and have enjoyed learning about their personalities. The children created character posters describing how these characters behave and what makes them evil. Next week, the children will be writing their own versions of the story. They have already begun planning their characters and the problems they might cause in their stories.

Maths

- **Reception:** The children have been focusing on number formation as well as practising addition and subtraction. They have shown a good understanding of counting forwards and backwards and have been working carefully on forming numbers correctly.
- **Year 1:** The children have been learning to calculate using teen numbers up to twenty. They can confidently add and subtract these numbers and understand the part-part-whole model. They have also started learning about fractions, including halves, quarters and thirds, exploring these through shapes and numbers.
- **Year 2:** The children began learning how to measure using a number line and have since progressed to measuring in centimetres and metres, as well as exploring weight and height. They have also been learning about fractions, including halves, quarters and thirds, and comparing these fractions.

Science

In Science, the children have been learning about living things and how to classify objects as alive, never alive, or dead. They explored the characteristics of living things using the acronym **MRS GREN**:

- Movement
- Respiration
- Sensitivity
- Growth
- Reproduction

- Excretion
- Nutrition

We took a walk around the Wildlife Garden and used these characteristics to help us decide whether things we observed were living or non-living. The children had a wonderful time investigating the environment. We then moved on to learning about **microhabitats**, identifying what kinds of living things might live in them. This week, the children designed and created their own microhabitats and suggested which creatures might live there.

RE

In RE, the children have been learning about the story of Easter and the sacrifice that Jesus made. They also worked on ordering the events of Holy Week.

Music

The children have been learning a range of songs and rhymes and using musical instruments to accompany them.

Geography

In Geography, the children have been learning about the four countries that make up the United Kingdom. We explored maps and used Google Earth to locate where we live. The children also enjoyed a seasonal walk to look for signs of spring. More recently, we have been learning how to use a compass and identify the different compass points.

PE

With the mixture of spring weather we have experienced, the children have been practising ball skills such as chest passes and catching. On days when the weather has been less favourable, we have been enjoying some high-energy dance sessions — the children are becoming very good at the **Jive!**

PSHE

In PSHE, the children have been thinking about how we speak to others and the difference between kind and unkind words. We discussed positive things we can say to one another and reflected on how our words can affect other people's feelings.

Art

In Art, the children have been learning about primary colours and how they can be mixed to create new colours. They also explored the work of watercolour artists and discussed the inspiration behind their artwork before creating their own beautiful paintings.

Swans

In English, Year 5 and 6 have begun a unit based on Stonewall by Rob Sanders. We have summarised key information to understand the events leading up to Stonewall Uprising and used expanded noun phrases to write an advert. We have also practised writing in the passive voice to achieve a formal tone. Alongside this, we have been preparing our case for the Mock Trial competition.

In English, Year 3&4 have been very enthusiastic about our study of Shackleton's Journey. They have written telegrams home, acted out and written persuasive letters to Shackleton, giving him

advice on whether to abandon Patience Camp and said farewell to crew members. To finish of the unit they carried out a press conference for the crew on their safe return and are writing a newspaper article about the extraordinary expedition.

In Maths, completed a unit on written methods of short division, both with and without remainders. Year 6 completed their unit on calculating with fractions by multiplying pairs of fractions and dividing fractions by a whole number. They have now begun calculating percentages of number.

In Maths, Year 3&4 have been working hard on their division. They have been using place value to help them divide multiples of ten and then beginning to learn about remainders. The year 4's have also started learning formal methods using the bus stop method.

In Science, Year 5 and 6 have continued our unit on properties of material. We tested the solubility of different materials then designed our own investigation to look at factors that affect the speed at which sugar dissolves in water. We then finished the unit by exploring different methods of separating mixtures, including filtration, sieving, magnetic separation and evaporation. In Computing, we have started a unit on Bletchley Park and the history of computers. We looked at different types of cipher used throughout history and then explored different ways to strengthen a password.

In Science, Year 3&4 are studying animals including humans, finding out about the digestive system and the role of different types of teeth. They enjoyed Mrs McLellan getting yucky blending the contents of the stomach and enacting the journey of the food through the intestines!



In Computing, Year 3&4 we have been doing further coding with Scratch, this time using if then else conditional statements and creating and storing variables, in order to write a multiplication game which interacts with the user and records their score. .

In PSHE we have looked at what marriage means, using the text King & King, looked at how our emotions change as we grow older, particularly during puberty, and thought about actions we can take if we feel uncomfortable about someone else's behaviour towards us.

In Art our new topic is Brave Colour. We really enjoyed creating elastic band sketchbooks and have started recording colour combinations we think are effective in them.

This week we have been asking the question 'How do Hindu's see Brahman?' We have been looking at the Trimurti –Brahma, Vishnu and Shiva – and exploring how the three deities help to explore the different side of Brahman. The Yr 5&6s considered how Hindu's might look for help from different deities at different times in their lives.

In Music we have been preparing for our Easter performance and getting ready for our trip to Rencomb to see the touring opera.



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£1,436

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This could be you!

WIN



Head Teacher for the day!

Have you ever wanted to be in charge and run the school? Maybe you want to know what the teachers do out of the classroom?

Now is your chance!

One Cygnet and One Swan will win in our raffle!

To enter, email PTA@southrop.gloucs.sch.uk with your child's name and the number of entries you would like.

£1 per entry. No maximum entry. Winners will be drawn on Friday 27th March.

GOOD LUCK!!!