#2 February 2026

Message from Mrs Norman

I will start this Newsletter by repeating my plea from the last Newsletter.

Reading is such a fundamental skill and one which is used across all subjects in school. If you could spare an hour or two to hear children read in school, please send me a message or catch me on the playground. I'm also still looking for a parent governor to join our Governing Body. Maggie Barwell, Chair of Governors, is happy to have a chat with anyone who is interested in talking about what is involved and the associated time commitment.

Thank you to those of you who are using the School Gateway App for payments. It really does help reduce the time and workload involved for our wonderful ladies in the office.... especially when bank branches are closed! If you do not have a School Gateway account, you will find details of how to set one up in the 'News Extra...' section of this newsletter or contact the office and they will set one up for you.

LEAF hoodies. I have recently ordered a few for children who have grown, and the turnaround time is about a week. While we were able to provide each child with a hoodie initially, if you do want a new one they will need to be purchased at a cost of £14.50. Please can I request that when children grow out of one, or leave the school, that they are returned to us and then we can make them available in our *Pre-Loved Plaza*.

Quite an apt quote after last week's fun and games in the mud :-)

Calendar dates & Reminders

P.E days

Oak Class - TUESDAY

Maple and Acorn Classes - THURSDAY

The school P.E uniform is a plain white T-Shirt and plain black shorts/joggers.

Rowan Class - SWIMMING WEDNESDAY Children should wear full school uniform to school. Swimming starts again on the first Wednesday after half term.

Please remember to remove earrings and any other jewellery before your child comes to school.

LEAF days (Let's Enjoy Active Fridays)

Children should wear their green 'LEAF' hoodie and plain black jogging bottoms every Friday please.

February 12th, 13th, 23rd and 24th - Scholastic Book Fayre, 3:20- 3:45 in the school hall or Rowan class.

Friday 13th February - STEM Science workshop for years 1,2 & 3

Rowan Class sleepover

Monday 16th to Friday 20th - HALF TERM

Monday 23rd February - School starts back for the Spring term.

Wednesday 25th February - Rowan and Oak class in school cooking workshops

TBC - Parents evenings 9th and 12th March (details to follow)

Acorn Class

Acorns have enjoyed a visit to forest school. We played on the rope swing, had a hot chocolate and enjoyed the MUD!

Lots of happy children and adults headed back to school very muddy ready for lunch.

We have been working hard with our fine motor skills in nursery and turn taking. Reception have been practising their blending, segmenting and thinking about the sounds in words. We have been learning about houses and homes this term and last week we were

learning about the different parts of a castle. This week we are focusing on animals' homes and our final week we will think about homes in different countries.

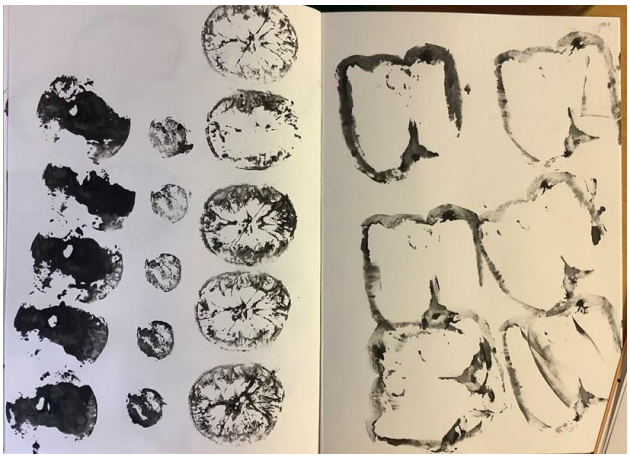
We have been working on our letter formation as well and showing off skills at home as well.

Maple Class

Maple class have been very busy over the past couple of weeks.

We had a 'Pajama day', for our class attendance reward. The children enjoyed being in school wearing their pajamas, (so did I). In the afternoon, we played musical chairs, and made some rice cakes with loads of sprinkles.

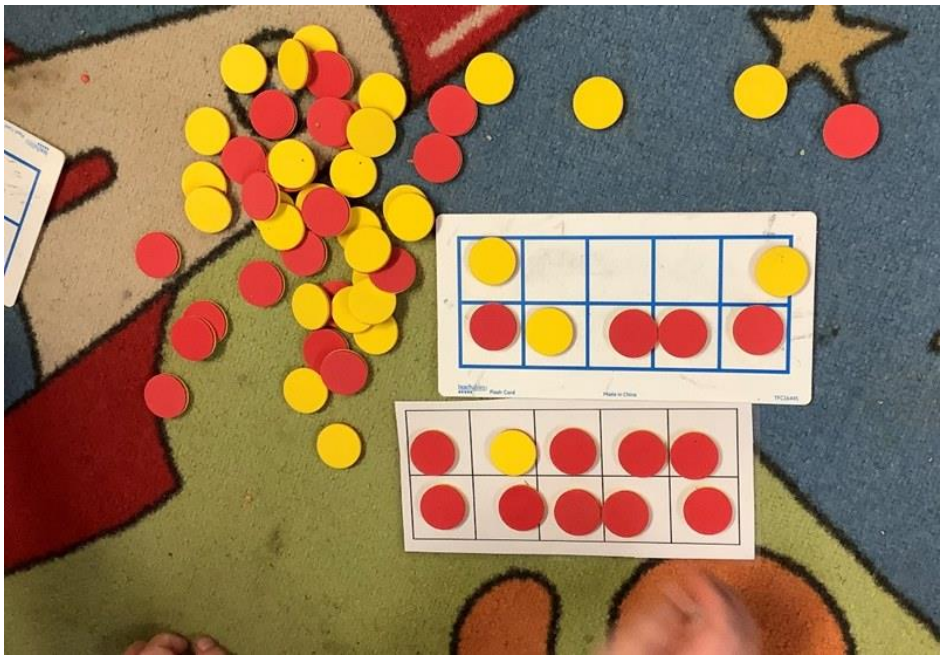
In art, we have been learning about printing. We used apples, pears, oranges, peppers, carrots and potatoes for making ink prints. The whole class helped to create one huge class display. Can you spot the different fruits and vegetables on our display?



Last week we had a handwriting day and created some wonderful ‘name’ art.

In maths, year 2 are learning about weights and measure, so the classroom has had lots of coloured rice and lentils to use for their practical learning. The floor has been very colourful!

Year 1 children are learning about number bonds to 10 and 20, using double sided counters and also creating some 10 maths monsters.



Rowan Class

Over the past two weeks, our class has been busy with lots of exciting learning. In English, we have been enjoying our class text Varjak Paw, using the story to inspire our reading and writing

work. In maths, we have been developing our understanding of division strategies as well as learning how to calculate area and perimeter.

In art, we explored textiles by learning about Kente cloth and traditional weaving techniques. The children then created their own looms and produced some fantastic paper weavings. We also celebrated National Puzzle Day with a fun afternoon of puzzles and games, encouraging teamwork and problem-solving skills across the class.

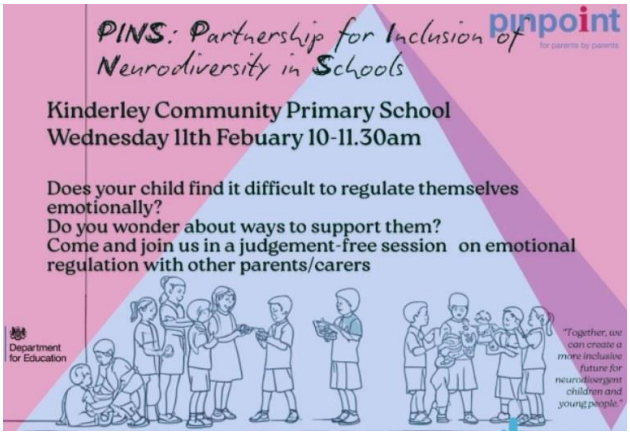
Some of the class have also received a bike ability award for becoming more confident riders.

It has been a very productive and enjoyable fortnight!

Oak Class

This week we have been using the picture book 'The Watertower' by Gary Crew to inspire our own writing. It is a very eerie book and we are not sure what happens at the end. We have been discussing what we think happens using clues from the illustrations – but it is very mysterious. In art we have been making 3-D art using plastic bottles, paint and tissue paper.

News Extra..



1 - Tea, coffee and cakes provided.

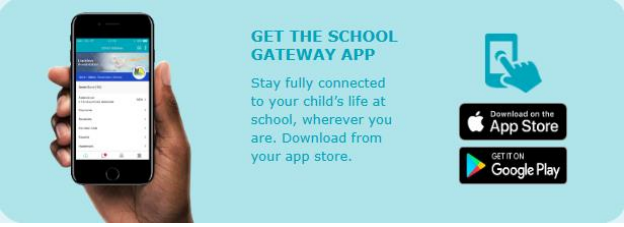
SEND update

Last year we signed up to the PINS project looking at neurodiversity in schools.

As part of this project PINPOINT parent supporters are leading sessions in school.

Next week we have a session about regulation. If you would like to join, please contact Mrs Bickerdike.

School Payments - School Gateway App



How to access School Gateway?

Download the Android or iPhone app.

1. Press 'Sign Up' then enter the email and mobile number your school has on record.
2. Press 'Send PIN'. ...
3. You're now ready to log in and start using School Gateway.