



## #5 April 2026

### Message from Mrs Norman

The weather is definitely warming up and making us all feel happier. Please remember to send children with sun hats and water bottles, and suncream applied when necessary.

The children in Acorn class have been enjoying their new classrooms, and we are looking forward to getting the areas decorated. Don't forget, if you are handy with a roller or paint brush....let us know 😊

Children, as always, are working hard and later in the term we have KS2 SATS, year 1 phonics check and the Year 4 multiplication check. I know the children will continue to apply themselves and successfully showcase their skills.

Mrs Gourley and I are planning some fundraising events for later in the term, such as a quiz night, fashion show, sponsored walk and summer fayre. Dates are available on Dojo and I will provide further details as and when we have them. I am so grateful that you are such an enthusiastic and supportive group of parents and carers. It allows us to do the additional 'nice' things and enrichment activities for the children.

Please can I remind you about our PE uniform which is black shorts/tracksuit and white t shirt. If children are not wearing 'LEAF' hoodies on a Friday it needs to be the PE uniform please.

Have a wonderful Bank Holiday weekend, let's hope that if the weather is not sunny that it is at least dry!

Mrs Norman



Calendar dates



## **P.E days**

Acorn Class - MONDAY

Oak Class - TUESDAY

Maple Class - SWIMMING WEDNESDAYS (wear school uniform to school please)

Rowan Class - THURSDAY

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

**Please remember to remove earrings and any other jewellery before your child comes to school on PE and swimming days.**

## **LEAF days (Let's Enjoy Active Fridays)**

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

## **Dates for the diary -**

**May 11th - 14th - SATs for Year 6 pupils**

**May 21st - 'Great British Munch' - Thursday 21st May is school census day, so we will have a different lunch menu for this day. Information coming soon.**

**May 22nd - Sports Day and family picnic**

**June 19th - Village Litter Pick and Sponsored Walk 1:15 - 2:30. Grown -ups invited to cheer everyone along on route. Map to follow.**

**July 9th - Acorn class Rocket Party 9:00 -10:00 am**

**July 10th - Acorn Class 'Space Theme' dressing up day.**

**July 10th - School Summer Fayre 1:30 - 3:30.**

## **Attendance Information**

'Food for thought' for us all.

Why attendance matters...

A child with **95% attendance** at the end of the academic year has missed 9 days of school, which is almost **2 weeks of learning**.

A child with **90% attendance** has missed 19 days, which is almost **4 weeks of learning**.

A child with **80% attendance** has missed 38 days, which is almost **8 weeks of learning**.

And a child with **70% attendance** has missed 57 days, which is almost **11 and a half weeks**.

It is so important that home and school work together to improve attendance and give children the best possible start on their learning journey. School isn't simply about statistics and academic achievement. It's so much more!

As a parent or carer, you have an important role in making school attendance a priority. Only keep your child off school when they are genuinely too ill to attend. Book medical appointments and holidays outside of school time whenever possible. And please do talk to us if you're having difficulties with attendance and we will work with you to provide tailored support that meets your child's needs.

We are here to help.

## Acorn Class



We LOVE our new classroom space!

Acorn and nursery have really been making the most of the glorious sunshine. Lots of outdoors activities since the start of the summer term.

Staff were very pleased to report that a spot of pond dipping went without anyone losing their net or in deed their footing! The children were very pleased to see that seeds that were sown last summer had produced some beautiful flowers in the class flower bed. Weeding was a big hit too, even if it is sometimes tricky to determine the weeds from the flowers.



## Maple Class



What a busy start to the summer term. The weather is fantastic and the children continue to work incredibly hard. So far this term we have written stories about Easter eggs, our own poems, and performed our poems to our class friends. The children were amazing!

In art, we are taking inspiration from the art of the indigenous people of Australia. We used cotton buds instead of paintbrushes, and produced some truly wonderful pieces of artwork using limited colours of white, black, red and green.

In maths, we have been learning about 'equal' and 'unequal' groups. Sometimes using counters or cubes, but that can become a little boring so we used small marshmallows instead!

Last Friday the class enjoyed planting some herbs. We just need to remember to water them to see how quickly they will grow.



*1 - This is what they looked like when they arrived.*

We are very excited to have caterpillars in our class at the moment. We are hoping that they will soon make their cocoons and we cannot wait to see the gorgeous butterflies that they will become. However, they still have no names...suggestions are welcome!

Thank you, Mrs Kuvikiene

## Rowan Class



Since returning from Easter break, Rowan have been very busy, working hard and enjoying the lovely weather. In our writing this term, we have been looking at persuasive letters and speeches from the likes of Malala Yousafzai and Greta Thunberg. We were astonished to find out about these impactful young people and the difference they have made in the world. We decided to follow their example and write letters of our own about issues in our local community. We have had children writing about littering, slowing down traffic outside of school and even adding more parking spaces. We have sent these letters to our local MP Steve Barclay and eagerly await a response...

In maths this term, our Year 4's have tackled the daunting topic of decimals with determination and perseverance. They have also been working hard to practice their times tables in preparation for the multiplication check. While our Year 3's have been learning all about measuring mass and capacity, using terms like centimetres, metres, millilitres and litres. We will be moving onto the topic of Time next week.

In our topic lessons this term, we have explored electricity in science, learning how circuits allow the flow of electricity and how cells can power things like lights. We even had an experiment on LEAF Day to test the myth that potatoes can generate electricity and had so much fun connecting loads of potatoes into a circuit. In computing we have been exploring data handling and how this is used in weather forecasts. The children spent time making databases of weather in various places and recorded a weather forecast as if we were on the news!



## Oak Class



In History we have been learning about Henry VIII and his many wives. We enjoyed listening to the Horrible History song about them and Miss Radford has been heard singing this around the school. We have also been using a song to learn the days of the week in French. Singing helps things stick in our brains and helps us to remember.

In D/T we have been cooking. We have made our own pitta bread from scratch and then made dips. They were fun to make and delicious.







News Extra..



**Staff and children return on Tuesday 5th May.**

Reminder.


Please remember to call the office to speak to a member of staff with important messages. Be aware that messages sent via Dojo are not always seen the same day.

The school office is open from 8:30 - 3:00 Monday to Friday. Messages can be left on the schools answerphone outside of these hours and when staff are unavailable. Staff aim to respond as soon as possible.

## Useful information

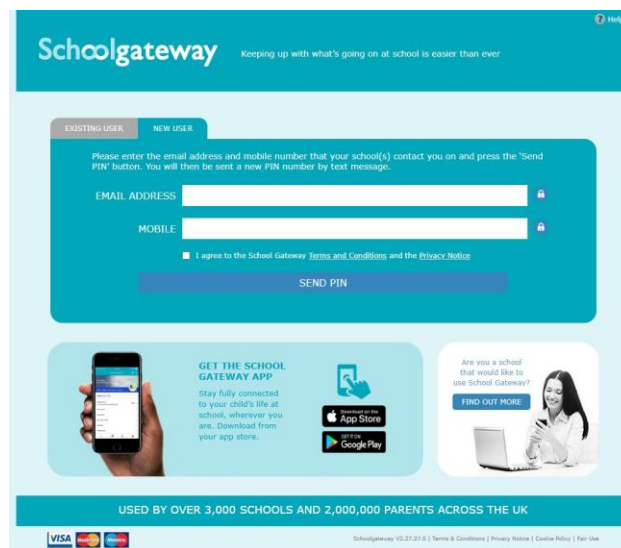




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
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# PENALTY NOTICE FINES FOR SCHOOL ATTENDANCE IS CHANGING

## FIRST OFFENCE

1

The first time a Penalty Notice is issued for Term Time Leave or Irregular Attendance the amount will be:

£160 per parent, per child if paid within 28 days  
Reduced to £80 per parent, per child if paid within 21 days.

2

## SECOND OFFENCE (WITHIN 3 YEARS)

The second time a Penalty Notice is issued for Term Time Leave or Irregular Attendance the amount will be:

£160 per parent, per child to be paid within 28 days. No reduced rate will be offered.

The following changes will come into force for Penalty Notice Fines issued after **19th August 2024**.

3

## THIRD OFFENCE AND ANY FURTHER OFFENCES (WITHIN 3 YEARS)

The third time an offence is committed for Term Time Leave or Irregular Attendance a Penalty Notice will not be issued, and the case will be presented straight to the Magistrates' Court. Magistrates, fines can be up to £2500 per parent, per child. Cases found guilty in Magistrates' Court can show on a Parents future DBS certificate, due to failure to safeguard a child's education.

## 10 SESSIONS (5 DAYS) OF UNAUTHORISED ABSENCE IN A 10-WEEK PERIOD

Penalty Notice Fines will be considered when there has been 10 sessions of unauthorised absence in a 10-week period.

Please follow the link for the Publication that will start from 19th August 2024.  
[www.gov.uk/government/publications/working-together-to-improve-school-attendance](https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/working-together-to-improve-school-attendance)