



Highlight of the week: Stingray and Pufferfish

What an incredible and busy half-term we have had in Year 3 and 4! It has been wonderful to see the children so thoroughly engaged in our World War II topic: The Blitz.

We began our journey by stepping into the shoes of children in the 1940s. The class has learned all about the evacuation, discussing what it must have felt like to leave home with only a gas mask and a suitcase. We then explored the different types of bomb shelters (Anderson and Morrison) and we discussed the strict rules of the blackout. We also discussed rationing, realizing just how precious sweets and sugar were back then!

In English, we are reading Michael Morpurgo's classic novel, *Friend or Foe*. Using the text as inspiration, the children have produced some outstanding writing. They have written diary entries from the perspective of an evacuee, and formal newspaper articles reporting on the main events from the book; the German bomber crash landing over the moor and then the capture of the injured German pilot by the two boys.

In art, the children created stunning Blitz sky paintings. They used silhouettes of the London skyline against fiery backgrounds to create some truly striking pieces of art.

A huge highlight of the half-term was our visit from the Alive and Kicking Theatre Company. The children took part in a fantastic drama workshop that brought the reality of wartime Britain to life, allowing them to act out scenarios and deepen their understanding of life during wartime.

We are very proud of the way the children have approached learning about this period of history with maturity, curiosity, and a great deal of empathy. Thank you for your continued support his term. We hope you have a restful break!



Stars of the week

6th Feb

- Albie Spaven
- Archie Rogers
- Rowan Graham
- Rome Gray
- Alex Simionescu
- Lilly Whitfield-Walmsley
- Reeva Elliott
- George Brooks
- Maya Simionescu
- Ivy-Willow Sampson

Class

- Orcas
- Turtles
- Seahorses
- Dolphins
- Stingrays
- Pufferfish
- Sharks
- Whales
- Sea Otters
- Headteacher's Award

13th Feb

- Halia Wilbraham
- Ava Rose Scott
- Oliver Train
- Stanley Hynes
- Issac Winter
- Alfie Saville
- Alexis-Mae Neal
- Elif Karacay
- Phoebe Walker & Daisy Bailey

Calendar

| Date | Event |
|----------------------------------|--------------------------|
| Friday 6 th March | World Book Day |
| W/B Monday 9 th March | Open Doors |
| Thursday 19 th March | World Down Syndrome Day |
| Friday 27 th March | School closes for Easter |
| Monday 13 th April | School re-opens |

Mrs Robinson's Update

As we reach the end of this half term, I wanted to take a moment to celebrate the incredible progress our children have made. It has been a busy, productive, and truly wonderful few weeks across the whole school.

Living Our "REACH" Values

This term, we have placed a significant focus on our core school values: REACH. These are the pillars we want every child to carry with them long after they leave our halls, shaping them into kind, capable, and well-rounded citizens: **R**espect, **E**ffort, **A**ttitude, **C**are and **H**onesty.

The children have responded brilliantly! There is a real buzz of excitement when someone earns a "Wow Postcard" or a special prize for demonstrating these values in action. Even our youngest learners in Nursery are getting involved; they have been busy learning sign language to communicate these values, ensuring that our school's ethos is accessible to everyone from the very start.

A Growing Community

A huge thank you to all our Early Years parents who have been attending our Stay and Play sessions. It has been heartening to see so many of you in school. These sessions are about more than just play—it feels like we are truly building a supportive community where we can all help one another.

Attendance Updates

We would also like to thank you for your ongoing support with school attendance. We know how much effort goes into getting children through the doors every morning. In line with Department for Education (DfE) expectations, we will continue to send our weekly attendance notification, showing you your child's attendance percentage. This is designed to help you track attendance accurately, just as we are required to do as a school. If you need any support with your child's attendance please contact our web team, we are always here to help and support.

Looking Ahead

We are so pleased with how hard everyone is working. After the break, we will be sending out information regarding Parents' Evening. This is a vital opportunity for us to sit down and discuss how your child is progressing both academically and socially.

We hope you all have a lovely, restful half term break with your families!

Inhaler Update

To help us keep you informed about your child's asthma health during the school day, any child who receives a dose from their asthma inhaler in school will be given a blue paper wristband to wear home.

This wristband is to simply let parents and carers know that a dose has been administered. This will start from Monday 23rd february after half term.

If you have any questions, then please contact the SEND team via the school office.

Class Attendance

| 2nd - 6th | | 9th- 13th |
|-----------|------------|-----------|
| 91% | Orcas | 91% |
| 90% | Turtles | 92% |
| 94% | Seahorses | 93% |
| 93% | Dolphins | 93% |
| 93% | Stingrays | 93% |
| 96% | Pufferfish | 95% |
| 95% | Sharks | 95% |
| 93% | Whales | 93% |
| 95% | Sea Otters | 94% |



WORLD DOWN SYNDROME DAY

World Down Syndrome Day is officially on the 21st March but we will be celebrating in school on **Thursday 19th March**. All children and staff are to wear the biggest and brightest and most mismatched socks they have!

We will be having a sock fashion show, sock competition and designing and creating socks in class. We will also be holding a bake sale, **can each child please bring in a baked good as a contribution and 50p to spend.**

See link for information below.

<https://www.worlddownsyndromeday.org/lots-of-socks-campaign>

Being asked why you're wearing #LotsOfSocks is the perfect opportunity to explain: 'I'm wearing them to raise awareness of Down's syndrome.'

