Friday 28<sup>th</sup> November 2025

#### Dear Parents,

What an exciting day we've had in school today! We were fortunate to welcome Mike Mullen, whose incredible BMX skills and infectious enthusiasm captivated everyone—children and staff alike. Not only did he amaze us with his talent, but he also delivered an important message about the power of failing. Through every wobble, slip and retry, he showed our children that perseverance is a skill in itself, and that learning often happens most deeply when things don't go right the first time. Alongside today's excitement, our focus on learning remains as strong as ever. A recent book look with staff highlighted just how much progress the children are making across the curriculum. Their hard work, curiosity and growing independence shine through on every page. It's wonderful to see such enthusiasm for learning paired with memorable experiences like today's—together helping our children grow in confidence and resilience.



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY	
Thursday 4 <sup>th</sup> December	Parent Coffee Morning at 9:15am
Thursday 4 <sup>th</sup> December	Pantomime Production in School
Friday 5 <sup>th</sup> December	Daily Mile Santa Dash 3pm. All parents welcome
Wednesday 17 <sup>th</sup> December	Christmas Lunch. Please complete online form: Christmas Lunch 2025 – Fill in form
Friday 19 <sup>th</sup> December	Last day of term. School ends at 3:30pm
Monday 5 <sup>th</sup> January	INSET Day
Tuesday 6 <sup>th</sup> January	Children return to school after Christmas break

## **Daily Mile**

We are looking forward to welcoming you to school to join our Daily Mile Santa Dash on Friday 5<sup>th</sup> December. More information will be winging its way to you this week. In the meantime, classes have been walking, skipping and jogging the perimeter of the school field looking for different shapes this week. How many things could they find that were square, round etc as they went round? There were some interesting objects! We have managed 690 miles since the beginning of this half term and so we are travelling at speed through Europe. We have gone from Stuttgart in Germany, our last stop, to Warsaw in Poland. The old town is a UNESCO World Heritage site having been reconstructed; it is a city that has risen from the rubble as by the end of WWII, 85% of the city was irretrievably destroyed.



#### **Mandela Class**

We've had a wonderful week in Mandela. Students are getting more used to our lessons – our history project has included fictional and non-fictional accounts of the war, English, computing and art. In maths, we've been looking at shapes and fractions. We've also introduced rewards for good work, with a film, BMX workshop and trips briefly discussed – please look out for letters about our exciting trips, which will be great fun and a good bonding opportunity. Miss Goldup.

## **Cayuga Class**

We have a had a positive week in Cayuga Class. This week, we have used a variety of natural materials to create collages, encouraging careful observation and imaginative design. The young people also enjoyed working with clay, shaping it into different objects, and experimenting with texture and form. As part of our science learning, we grated chocolate to help us explore how sedimentary and igneous rocks are formed. This hands-on activity really helped bring our geology topic to life, showing how materials break down, layer, and change. Have a great weekend. Mr Noone.

#### **Butterfly Class**

What an exciting week the young people have had. It began with them making some marvellous cupcakes using a recipe from the BBC website, featuring the character Duggee. If you have read enough of my class news snippets over the years, then you will know how much I favour child led learning and this is another example of this; one of the boys special interest is all things CBeebies and he found the recipe during his laptop time and asked our resident cookery expert, Mrs Carter if the class could make the cakes in their Monday cooking slot. Always keen to oblige, she helped the young people make them, and I think you will agree from the photo that they look very cute. In maths this week, ruler skills have been our focus, and the young people have been using these new skills to find lines of symmetry on regular 2D shapes. We had a session on horizontal and

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vertical lines which even included a demonstration by myself on how I sleep horizontally rather than vertically! In even more happy news, the letters went home about a class trip which we are all very excited about. We rounded off the week with a splendid BMX skills show and workshop. What a fabulous range of learning experiences – life in Butterfly class is certainly never boring! Mrs Angell.

#### **Dahl Class**

Dahl class have been working on character's viewpoints in English this week. It was a challenge, but they rose to the occasion. In science, we are continuing with our rocket project and they have done a great job of refining their bottle rockets. In maths, we are continuing to look at comparing and ordering fractions and have started to convert them into percentages and decimals. In PE, we have been practising our Pickleball techniques, including a tournament so we were all able to play several games; the hard work is paying off, and we have now started to get some volleys! In art, we have been working with clay and the class made some amazing little thumb pots and other unique crafts. Lastly, we finished the week with the BMX workshop and were wowed by Mike's amazing tricks - lots of fun was had. Have a restful weekend Dahl Class. Miss Anderson.

## **Frenchie Class**

In Frenchie class this week, we have had an exciting week. We have worked hard in maths, learning about mixed fractions. In English, we have started looking at the Tempest by William Shakespeare. We have continued working on some very entertaining movie advertisements for the school in computing. The children made wonderful sourdough bread on Thursday. Today, they enjoyed and laughed at the presentation from Mike about BMX riding, before having fun and taking part in a workshop. Have a lovely weekend Frenchie Class. Miss Borgeson and Mr Prince.

#### **Hamilton Class**



With another week whizzing by, Hamilton class have enjoyed making and cooking pasta, playing badminton with our new net and marked out court in the atrium building. We have also delved further into our class text, becoming more engaged in the storyline and another key theme for 1930's America, The American Dream. Sadly, we had to say goodbye to our amazing TA Miss Abbs, however, Hamilton pupils have shown their resilience as we welcomed new staff who will be supporting us with our work from now on. Discussions with regards to our class reward system have also been a top priority as all pupils are





collecting credits and then merits for their hard work each week. Please discuss any appropriate reward ideas that you think they will like and email them to me so we can discuss in class next week. Have a lovely weekend, Miss Rixson.

#### **Darwin Class**

Darwin class has worked incredibly hard this week, showing maturity, curiosity, and real commitment to their learning. In English, one of their major focuses was investigating the global impact of waste—an issue which they realised covers ethical, environmental, and humanitarian concern. Through discussions and research, they explored how waste affects communities around the world and how even small individual actions can contribute to meaningful change. Their engagement with this topic showed a growing maturity and empathy for others, especially those less fortunate. We continue to be impressed with their attitude to topics like this. Science saw the students carry out an experiment using vinegar and bicarbonate soda. It was great to see the young people independently carry this out. They also learned about atoms in equations and how they rearrange in chemical reactions. In cookery, the young people prepared traditional soda bread alongside sausages and creamy mashed potatoes and they made a rich gravy to bring all the elements together. Everyone worked well as a team, following each step carefully and helping one another. Afterwards, the group reflected on their dishes, discussing what went well and what they could improve next time—whether it was kneading the dough more evenly, perfecting the mash, or making the gravy from scratch. The students showed great awareness of one another this week, offering support to their peers and stepping back when a class member needed space. They continue to communicate respectfully, creating a calm and positive environment for everyone. By recognising each other's needs—whether it is encouragement or help with a task, they continue to make the classroom a supportive environment for all. Miss Joy.

# **Otzi Class**

We've had a lovely week in Otzi, which finished off with a fantastic game of football and some incredible dancing. Continuing on with our study of WWII, we looked at how the Allied forces ended up stranded at Dunkirk and learnt about Operation Dynamo. We have been exploring the use of metaphors, similes and poetic devices, using an amusing poem about our class becoming animals. We have been carrying on with simplifying fractions in maths and were treated to a fun cooking and art lesson by Mrs Carter. We might begin our Christmas decorations next week! Have a lovely weekend. Mr Nightingale.

## **Final Thought**

As we move toward Advent, this time of year invites us all to pause, reflect and find moments of calm amid the excitement building toward Christmas. In school, we know that this season can bring great joy but also big feelings and lots of change for our children. That's why we will continue to keep our routines steady, predictable and consistent— providing the structure our children rely on to feel secure and ready to learn. We look forward to sharing the coming weeks with them, supporting each one through this special, reflective time of year.

Wishing you a lovely weekend.

Yours faithfully

Rebecca Pine Headteacher