



**Friday 13<sup>th</sup> February**

Thank you to those of you that attended Parents evening this week.

As we draw to the end of this half term we wish you all a restful Half Term break ready to return to school on Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> February.

### **Girls Football tournament**

On Wednesday, we attended the year 5/6 girl's football tournament hosted by Cranford House. We dodged the rain and the sun shone for us. The girls put in a superb performance, some of whom haven't played football before. They were so supportive of each other and played some excellent football that the lionesses would be proud of. A special shout out to Mya, who volunteered to play a game for Cranford as they were short on players, and, by her own admission played her best football. Nancy and Rose were true leaders on the pitch, sorting their teammates at every turn and Rosie scored an absolute cracker of a goal. Cara and Mya were our goalkeepers, who between them only conceded one goal the whole tournament. Ella, Martha, Ada and Maud played with such determination and resilience. Mrs Wibberley and Mrs Snowdon were so very proud of each of the girls and even prouder when they were declared winners of the tournament. Well done to all of the girls that took part!



### **Indoor Athletics**

On Tuesday the 10<sup>th</sup> February, eighteen pupils from year 5 & 6 represented Woodcote Primary School at the Indoor Athletics held at Langtree School. It was an extremely competitive and enjoyable event including, relay races, obstacle races, soft javelin throws and long jump. Our pupils took part with lots of enthusiasm and determination. They cheered each other on displaying true team spirit and came 2<sup>nd</sup> in the competition. Well done to all the children who took part.




## From Last weeks newsletter

### **Parental Contributions to support the school**

Thank you very much to those families who have kindly donated to the school it is very much appreciated. You can still donate via ParentMail.

## Class Updates

<b>Acorns</b>	<p>Happy Half-Term break! I think we all agree we need a week to reset, rest and get ready for Term 4. Please take time to have a lazy day and have lots of fun! The children have been learning the focus words: <i>inside, on top, underneath, he</i> and <i>she</i>. Please have a go at home and use books and puzzles to describe what is happening.</p> <p>The children have made sparkly Chinese lanterns, enjoyed our Chinese restaurant, dressed up, and watched and joined in with the dragon dance using our very own lion headdress.</p> <p>For Valentine's Day, we made heart-shaped biscuits and then decorated them using our homemade icing. In the afternoon, we made a huge pink and purple heart collage using heart stampers.</p> 
<b>Oak</b>	<p>The children have loved learning about Chinese New Year this week. A huge thankyou to Aviana's mum who came in and told the children all about it. The children will be bringing home a red envelope today and Aviana's mum explained that it is traditional for families to write a blessing and put it into the envelope and keep it for the coming year. In phonics, we have learnt the letters j and v and have carried on with our writing and practised our reading. We have also been thinking in PSHE about all the different people who help us and keep us safe. We are sending home a counting sheet and a rhyming words sheet to have a go at over the holiday. We have run out of spare socks so if anyone has a school pair at home and could bring them back in that would be great, or if anyone has any old socks they could donate. We hope you all have a lovely half term break. Hopefully the sun will come out!</p>
<b>Hornbeam</b>	<p>Hornbeam have really enjoyed being authors this week. After reading 'Oi frog (and friends)' last week, the children have taken on the challenge of writing their own versions of the story. The children have considered the rhymes that they can use and how to sequence the story so that it makes sense to the reader, we hope that we are able to share this with you soon! In RE, we have continued learning about the story of creation, comparing the stories from the Torah (Judaism) and the Bible (Christianity) and the introduction of Adam and Eve. Elsewhere, we have learnt about the polar expedition conducted by Ernest Shackleton across the Antarctic trying to reach the South Pole. Finally, in maths, we have been looking at subtraction. Firstly, using tens frame and counters to</p>

	<p>'physically take the number away', before progressing onto the pictorial and abstract using number lines and writing number sentences.</p>
<b>Beech</b>	<p>Beech class were so excited to create their habitat boxes. Everyone worked so hard to research and make their habitats using a range of craft materials. Everyone was so creative. I think you will agree that they look amazing! In English, we reminded ourselves of the story of <i>The Enormous Crocodile</i> by Roald Dahl. We then wrote book reviews and drew pictures. They are now displayed proudly in our book corner. We then made new bookmarks which we laminated to take home. In maths, we have continued to add and subtract and solved some tricky problems. We also spent some time practising our 2x table and understanding the relationship between dividing by 2 and halving. Have a lovely half term everyone!</p>
<b>Ash</b>	<p>This week in Ash, we have attended 'Mummy school' to learn about the mummification process and thinking about the objects we would take with us to the afterlife. This included lots of gaming items, toys and books along with a few parents and pets. In PSHE, we have discussed the theme of Children's Mental Health Week 'This is My Place' and how we belong as a class. We are creating a class mosaic, each with a positive element that we contribute to our class. And in D.T. we have been accurately measuring and sawing wooden dowels to make our final shaduf designs. We needed to assess our final project, thinking about making our shadufs stable, with working pivoting arms to attach a bucket and weights. We hope you all have an enjoyable half term.</p>
<b>Rowan</b>	<p>In English, the children researched different countries and used their findings to write detailed chronological reports. We also completed a comprehension task about Chinese New Year and practised spotting conjunctions in a text. In Maths, we have been working hard on multiplication, aiming to build both accuracy and speed. During music, the class enjoyed performing body percussion to <i>Winter</i> by Vivaldi, keeping in time with the dramatic rhythms. In RE, we learned about how Jewish people observe the Sabbath each week and discussed how challenging it would be for us to put aside our devices from Friday night to Saturday night! Our PSHE work focused on being a good friend and showing kindness, which inspired the children to write their own stories about friendship, kindness, and love. Finally, in dance, we've certainly been working up a sweat while learning some energetic choreographed routines to both classic and modern music.</p>
<b>Maple</b>	<p>It's been a fantastic final week of the term here in Maple Class. In English we've been reading a book by the author Christopher Edge and, as we've enjoyed all the twists and turns so much, we decided to write letters to him. Children wrote about cliff-hangers, mysteries, code-breaking and a rather enjoyable (though occasionally sad) epilogue! We've got a few books by him in the classroom so children are looking forward to exploring some of his other books. In Maths we have taken a small break from the world of fractions, to instead dive into statistics and line graphs. We have explored how to collect information from line graphs, including those that go into negative numbers, before then plotting our own line graphs. In RE, we spent some time looking at the Christian story of creation, comparing it against the Muslim story we'd explored a few weeks before. Later in the week, during D&amp;T, we got the chance to practice our sewing skills, looking at running stitch and back stitch in preparation for working on our flag designs we made a few weeks ago. Finally, we wrapped up our week with some Science where we spent some time debating whether the Earth is flat or a sphere. We're pretty sure it's a sphere but a couple of members of the class promised to become astronauts and let us know for sure! Hope you all have a fantastic half term break!</p>

<b>Willow</b>	<p>Thank you for all the parents who attended parents evening, it was great to meet you and chat about your students. Homework and spellings are pausing for half-term but will resume after the break, working towards SAT's after Easter. We've been really busy in Willow this week – In English, we've finished our writing sequence with a formal letter to the Governor of Joya expressing our displeasure at the events on the island. These have been published to complete our display surrounding the book. In Maths – we been looking at Algebra with varying degrees of success but an awful lot of persistence and perseverance , we'll pick it up again after half-term. In Science, we completed our work looking at Light, identifying what colours make up light. Next term we're moving onto Electricity and circuits. Geography, we looked at the Biomes and Environments that cover the Earth and they created posters to display the different information they gathered. After half-term, we will be looking at Jabberwocky and The Hobbit in English. Have a wonderful and restful half-term.</p>
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### Important dates

Monday 16 <sup>th</sup> – Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> February	Spring half term
Monday 23 <sup>rd</sup> February	All children return to school
Monday 2 <sup>nd</sup> March	National Offer Day for Secondary school places
Monday 2 <sup>nd</sup> – Friday 6 <sup>th</sup> March	World Book Week
Thursday 5 <sup>th</sup> March	Year 1 and 2 trip to Rushall Farm
Friday 6 <sup>th</sup> March	World Book Day in School – dress up as your favourite book character
Friday 13 <sup>th</sup> March	8.35 – 9.00 Oak parents invited to stay & play in Oak classroom
Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> March	Red Nose Day – Comic Relief
Saturday 21 <sup>st</sup> March	FOWPS Community Coffee Shop & Second hand uniform sale
Friday 27 <sup>th</sup> March	End of term – 1.00pm finish
Monday 30 <sup>th</sup> March – Friday 10 <sup>th</sup> April	Easter Holiday – School closed
Thursday 16 <sup>th</sup> April	National offer day for reception class September 2026
Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> May	Bank holiday – school closed
Monday 25 <sup>th</sup> May – Friday 29 <sup>th</sup> May	Summer Half Term
Monday 1 <sup>st</sup> – Friday 5 <sup>th</sup> June	Year 6 Residential to Liddington
Wednesday 1 <sup>st</sup> July	INSET day – School closed
Monday 20 <sup>th</sup> July	INSET day – School closed
Tuesday 21 <sup>st</sup> July	School summer holidays begin – school closed
Tuesday 1st September	INSET day
Wednesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> September	INSET day

Thursday 3 <sup>rd</sup> September	All children return to school for the Autumn term
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## **FOWPS**

Thank you to all our bakers, helpers and patrons for last Saturday's Coffee Shop. We raised £350!

Coming up: BINGO!

Friends of Woodcote Primary School are proud to take on the mantle of the Cabin Bingo night following their merger with Woodcote Primary School.

Friday March 20th, Woodcote Village Hall. Doors and bar are open from 7:00pm, eyes down by 8pm.

1 game card and snacks are included with your ticket. Additional cards available to purchase on the door. <https://www.pta-events.co.uk/fowps-events/index.cfm>

To find out more about how the PTA support your children's education or to get involved, please contact your class rep or fill out this form: [FOWPS - I'd like to help](#)

We need **your help** to continue running discos, fairs, and events to raise funds for trips, visits, equipment and classroom essentials.

Thank you.

Caroline Tye (Chair, Friends of Woodcote Primary PTA)

## **Other News**

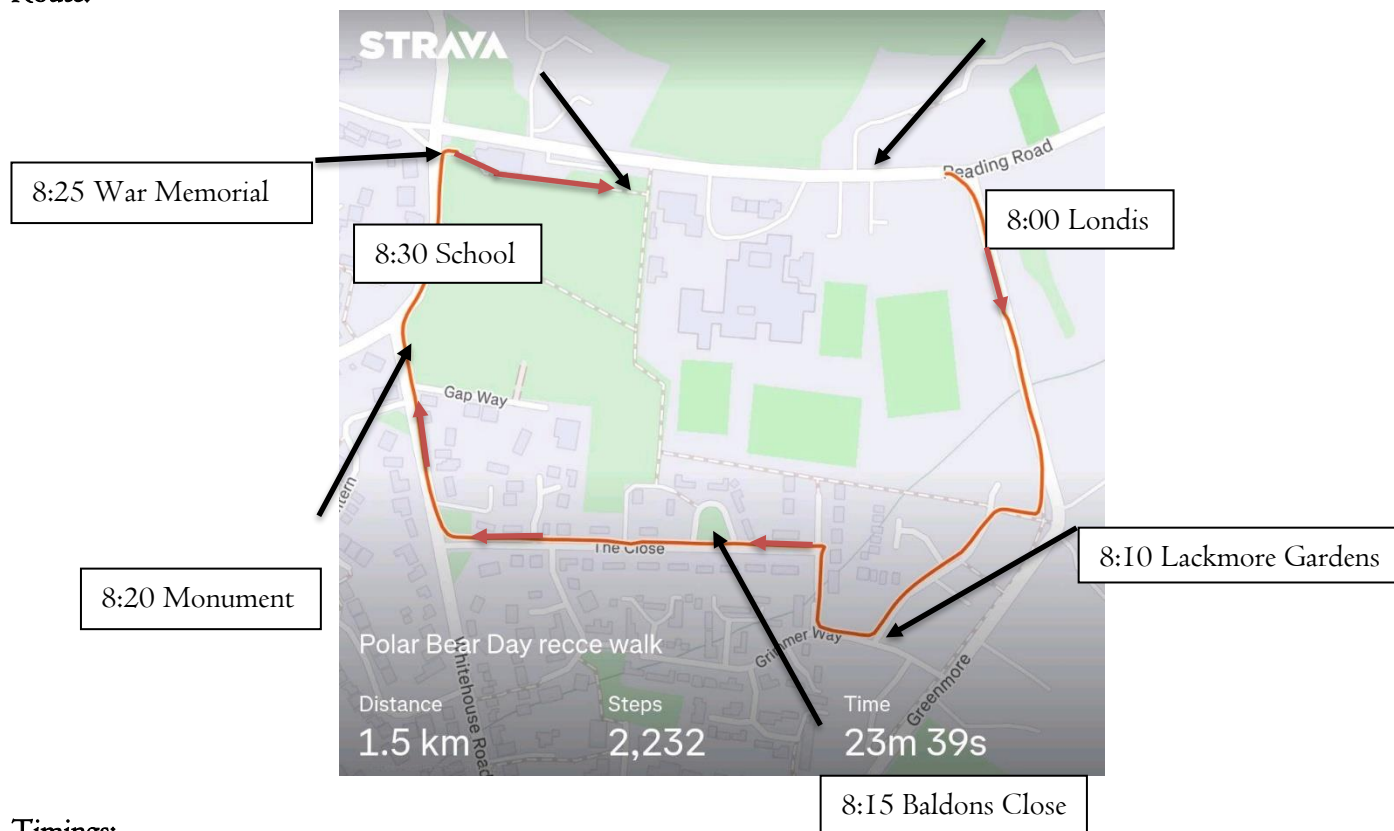
Please see below:

International Polar Bear Day Walk

Freyja (Ash Class) would like to invite you to join us on a joint walk to school on Friday 27 February for International Polar Bear Day to highlight the effects of climate change and what we can do to help.

We have planned out a 1.5km route taking in Greenmore, Lackmore Gardens, The Close and Whitehouse Road with meeting points for people to join us en route:

**Route:**



**Timings:**

- 8:00 Londis
- 8:10 Lackmore Gardens
- 8:15 Baldons Close
- 8:20 Monument at end of Whitehouse Road
- 8:25 War Memorial
- 8:30 School

If you would like to get involved, join us at one of the meeting points or even organise your own route to join up with ours. Bring polar bear related books, teddies or signs if you would like to.

Donations can be made directly to <https://www.wwf.org.uk/> or join as a member to support the work they