



# NEWS & VIEWS

Achievement & Enjoyment

Headteacher Mr S Bowsher



## Mr Bowsher's Headteacher Comment:

This week I was delighted to be shown a Blue Peter badge earned by one of our children. When I was growing up, winning a Blue Peter badge was a special prize, and I was so pleased to see that this child clearly felt the same way. What made it even more special was how it had been achieved. It wasn't for winning one of their competitions, but for reading. I was incredibly proud that this young man's love of reading had inspired him to write to Blue Peter and complete the task required to earn one. It really highlights how our ongoing focus on encouraging a love of reading is having a genuine impact. Developing strong reading habits is such a vital life skill, and it is wonderful to see children embracing it so enthusiastically.

It is also fantastic that each week I have the pleasure of sending a text message to several hundred children who have read at least five times during the week. Well done to all of you—this is a brilliant achievement and something to be very proud of. However, what is less positive is receiving the list (which I do get) of around 20 children who have not met the minimum expectation. As I have said before, this is not good enough. Reading regularly is essential, and we need all children to be making this a priority at home as well as in school.

On another very positive note, for the third half term in a row, I received a report from the Department for Education about our attendance and how it compares with other schools. This report compares us with 20 schools of a similar size and demographic, including levels of special educational needs and economic factors. Out of all 21 schools, we had the best attendance. This is a fantastic achievement. Our overall attendance for the year also remains above the national average. Thank you to all of you who ensure your children attend school every day (health permitting). It does make a difference to their learning and progress.

My third highlight this week has been the time that I, along with other senior leaders, have spent visiting classes and talking to children about their learning. In every class we visited, children were able to explain clearly what they were learning and why it was important. We saw music lessons where children were learning guitar chords that could one day inspire them to become rock stars, maths lessons on rounding that will help them in everyday situations like shopping, and writing lessons where children are developing the skills to entertain others and perhaps become authors in the future. These were their reasons, not ours, and they knew why it was important.

My final positive this week is the Big Wheel and Walk initiative. As the weather has improved and the sun has made an appearance, more children have been coming to school by bike, scooter, or on foot. We are currently sitting at around 250th place out of 1,163 schools, which is great. I even managed to cycle in on Thursday! I'm hoping that even more children will get active in week two of the challenge.

Finally, the silly hair and silly socks today have looked fantastic. Thank you for supporting such worthwhile causes and for your generous donations. You will have the pleasure of reading the winning jokes in next week's News and Views!



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## Times Table Rock Stars (TTRS) Battle of the Bands

We have the result! Well done to class 5L who are the overall winners. Congratulations to all the children who took part from Year 3 to 6, your times table knowledge has improved lots and it will help with lots of your other maths work.

## School Dinner Bookings

If your child is having a school dinner, please ensure that it is booked on ParentPay. Even if your child is entitled to a free school meal in the lower years, meals still need to be booked by midnight the night before. This is becoming increasingly time-consuming for the office when bookings have not been made, so your support with this is very much appreciated.



## Mr Bowsher's Superstar Award

Tabitha in RA for demonstrating the value of friendship.



## Stars of the Week

RA	RE	1B	1G	2C	2P	3LM
Freddie	Noah	Nylah	Harrison	Hannah	Willow	Liliana
3T	4CH	4J	5L	5P	6H	6R
Sophia	Ada	Carly	Abhivman	Tilly	Harrison	Logan



## Reading at Home

Well done to 6R, 5P, 3T and 2P - 100 % of children read at least 4 times this week. Particularly well done to 6R because 93% of you read 5 times.

Class	Table shows numbers of children and percentages who read from Monday 16 March to Friday 20 March			Percentage Read 4 & 5 times %
	Less than 4	4	5	
RA	6 (23%)	6 (22%)	15 (55%)	21 (77%)
RE	4 (16%)	6 (23%)	16 (62%)	26 (84%)
1B	4 (14%)	3 (10%)	22 (76%)	25 (86%)
1G	5 (18%)	2 (5%)	23 (77%)	26 (82%)
2C	3 (9%)	6 (20%)	21 (71%)	27 (91%)
2P	0 (0%)	4 (16%)	21 (84%)	25 (100%)
3LM	3 (10%)	10 (33%)	17 (57%)	28 (90%)
3T	0 (0%)	13 (45%)	16 (55%)	29 (100%)
4CH	2 (7%)	9 (31%)	18 (62%)	27 (93%)
4J	2 (6%)	11 (35%)	19 (59%)	30 (94%)
5L	0 (0%)	8 (28%)	21 (72%)	29 (100%)
5P	0 (0%)	4 (14%)	25 (86%)	29 (100%)
6R	0 (0%)	2 (7%)	27 (93%)	29 (100%)
6H	2 (7%)	3 (11%)	23 (82%)	23 (93%)
Total				92.1%



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# Diary Dates

Tuesday 24 March	Year 4 'come dine with me'
Tuesday 24 March	Year 3 trip Chelmsford Museum
Tuesday 24 March	Reports sent home
Thursday 26 March	LPPA Easter Discos
Friday 27 March	Boys Langhelt Cup Final
Friday 27 March	Break up for Easter
Monday 13 April	Return to school
Tuesday 14 April	Year 6 'come dine with me'
Thursday 16 April	Don Rae in Year 4
Tuesday 21 April	Year 5 'come dine with me'
Tuesday 28 April	Reception 'come dine with me'
Tuesday 5 May	Year 2 'come dine with me'
Wednesday 6 May	Year 2 trip to Thorndon Park
Monday 11 May	Start of Year 6 SATs week
Friday 22 May	Break up for half term



# Weekly Attendance

## Weekly Attendance – week commencing Monday 16 March 2026

Class	RA	RE	1B	1G	2C	2P	3LM	Whole school
Attendance	93.9%	91.7%	97.6%	99.6%	98.0%	95.0%	98.6%	
Class	3T	4CH	4J	5L	5P	6H	6R	95.8%
Attendance	95.6%	91.5%	96.5%	95.6%	98.6%	91.3%	97.9%	

1 <sup>st</sup>	2 <sup>nd</sup>	3 <sup>rd</sup>
1g	3LM & 5P	2C



# Yearly Attendance

## Yearly Attendance – from 1 September 2025

Class	RA	RE	1B	1G	2C	2P	3LM	Whole school
Attendance	93.8%	92.8%	96.7%	96.8%	97.3%	94.5%	96.3%	
Class	3T	4CH	4J	5L	5P	6H	6R	95.9%
Attendance	96.4%	95.2%	96.5%	96.4%	96.4%	95.3%	97.3%	

1 <sup>st</sup>	2 <sup>nd</sup>	3 <sup>rd</sup>
2C	1G	1B



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