



Istead Rise Primary Celebration Newsletter

Friday 16th January 2026



Headteacher Mr S Payne

Acting Head of School: Mrs M Clark

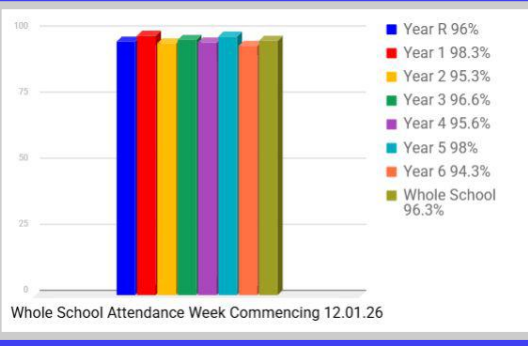
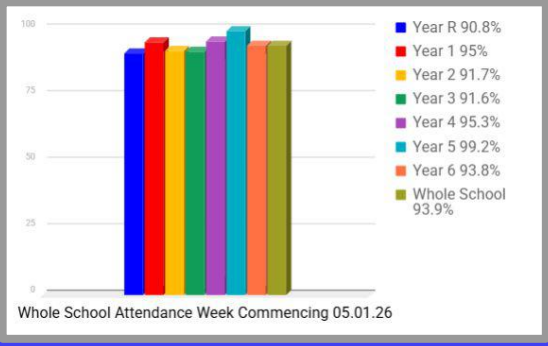
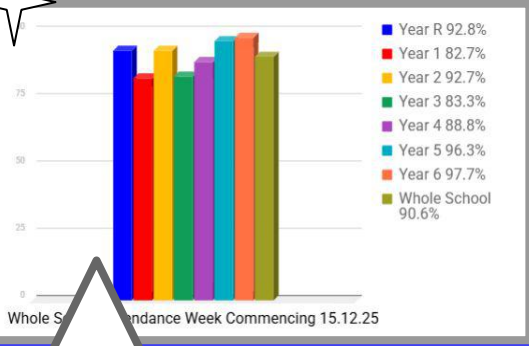
Telephone: 01474 833177

Email: irpoffice@swale.at

Website: www.isteadrise.org.uk

Facebook: [Facebook](#)

The official school presence on 'X' (Twitter) has now ended



SAVE THE DATE

Wednesday 21st January
Parent Drop in Session Years 1-6

Friday 30th January
NSPCC Maths Day Whole School

Friday 13th Spanish Day
Whole School

Friday 13th February
End of Term 3

Monday 23rd February
Term 4 Begins

Attendance Class Awards

W/C 15.12.25

KS1 - Year R

KS2 - Year 6

W/C 05.01.26

KS1 - Year 1

KS2 - Year 5

W/C 12.01.26

KS1 - Year 1

KS2 - Year 5



Number Day 2026

Whole school Number Day in support of the NSPCC

Friday 30th January you will find full details via [this link](#)

Spanish Day
Friday 13th February

For full details please use [this link](#)



NOURISH +
Veganuary Month
22ND JANUARY

Green Pea Pesto Pasta 1vo
BBQ Bean Burrito 1vo
Jacket Potato and Baked Beans 1vo

Paprika Roast Wedges
Side Salad
Sweetcorn

Parship Brownie 1vo
Me Nourish Biscuit 1vo
Fruit Pot

Stay Active

Order marked with any of the following numbers contains the matching allergen: 1-Without Gluten 2-Without Dairy 3-Without Nuts 4-Without Soy 5-Without Eggs 6-Without Shellfish 7-Without Mustard 8-Without Sesame 9-Without Alcohol 10-Without Pork 11-Without Lamb 12-Without Pigeon 13-Without Shellfish 14-Without Mustard 15-Without Sesame 16-Without Alcohol

Online Safety Newsletter January 2026

Instagram Teen Accounts - update

Playing games online

Can you please take the time to read our January online safety newsletter. It contains important and helpful information to keep your children safe online

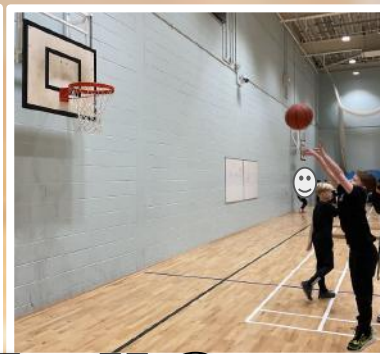
Online Safety Newsletter



Year 3 & 4 Basketball Competition



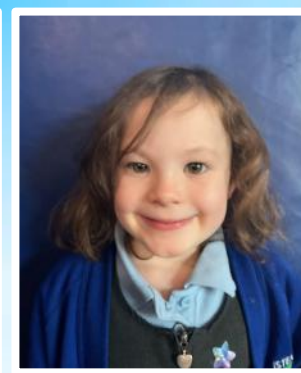
A huge congratulation to all the members of Year 3 and 4, who represented the school at the School Games Basketball competition for Year 3 and 4. The competition started off with a few losses against some tough competition, but they managed to pull it back with some fantastic teamwork and finished the competition in first place. Well done, we are all very proud of you.



Year 3 & 4 Basketball Competition



Eco-Warriors



Congratulations to these children for being elected as their class Eco-Warriors. They will be representing the school at various times supporting the school's Sustainability Plan. This will include making a promo video, being good role models for the rest of the school and delivering assemblies. This week the Key Stage 2 Eco-Warriors were very confident and passionate when delivering their first assembly ahead of Eco Day. Watch out for more Eco-Warrioring in the future.

Go Eco-Warriors!!!





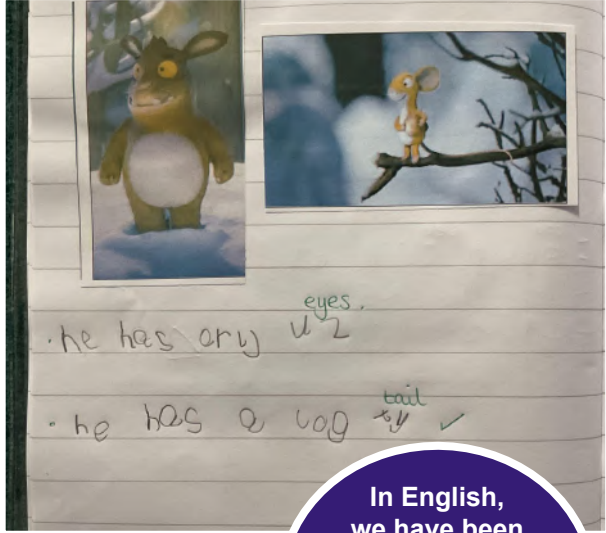
The children have settled back into class really well. They have enjoyed their learning in Continuous Provision involving trying to rescue the polar bears from the ice, retelling stories through role play and enjoying time with their friends.



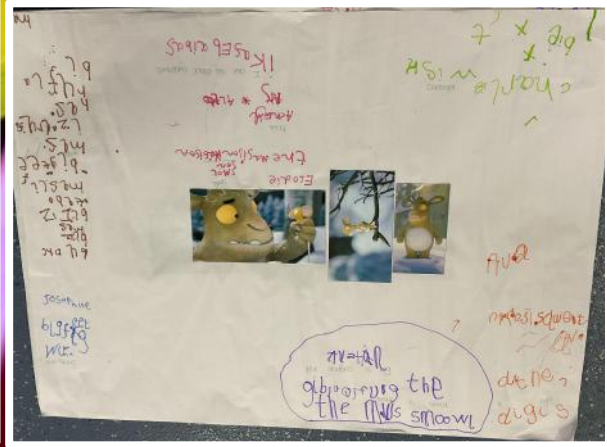
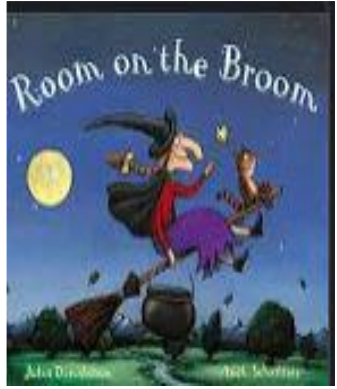
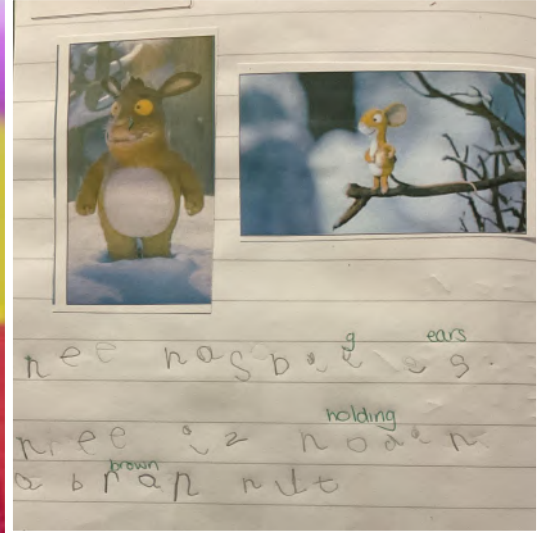
Year R



During Maths, we have been learning about zero and numbers to 5.



In English, we have been using adjectives to describe the different characters in the stories.



Year R



We had so much fun with this activity!
The children mixed together some bicarbonate of soda, food colouring and washing up liquid to see a chemical reaction for their potions.

The children used homemade bubble mixture to make their own art pieces, inspired by Jiří Georg Dokoupil.

Year 1



The children finished last term with their fabulous show. We were very proud of each and every child for their acting and singing. Thank you to the parents/carers for providing their fabulous costumes. Year 1 were able to celebrate their Superclass with hot chocolate, cookies and a movie. As well as some dancing. They had lots of fun!



The children have returned to school full of enthusiasm and keen to learn. So far in science, the children have started to learn about different materials and what a material is.



Year 2



WARBLERS, NIGHTINGALE, GOLDCREST, DUNNOCK AND WREN	TREECREEPER, NUTHATCH, TITS AND SPARROWS
<p>Blackcap <i>Sylvia atricapilla</i> ♀ Males and brown-capped females often seen feeding on ivy berries. Mainly a summer visitor but now increasingly common in winter. JFMAMJJASOND ***</p> <p>Garden Warbler ▶ <i>Sylvia borin</i> Short billed and rounder bodied with no obvious features. Widespread in woodland and thickets but, despite name, not gardens. Drowsy-melodious song. JFMAMJJASOND **</p> <p>Sedge Warbler ▶ <i>Acrocephalus schoenobaenus</i> Breeds above all in wetlands. Varied draw-out song sung from perch or in flight. Breeding numbers affected by drought in winter quarters in West Africa. JFMAMJJASOND ***</p> <p>Willow Warbler ▶ <i>Phylloscopus trochilus</i> Despite declining, its downward trilling song is still heard in many woods in summer. JFMAMJJASOND ***</p> <p>Chiffchaff ▶ <i>Phylloscopus collybita</i> Growing in numbers and increasingly common in winter, its onomatopoeic song is heard in woodland. JFMAMJJASOND ****</p> <p>Goldcrest ▶ <i>Regulus regulus</i> A small, hard-to-spot bird that lives in the tops of conifers; quiet, very high-pitched song. JFMAMJJASOND ***</p> <p>Reed Warbler ▶ <i>Acrocephalus reedensis</i> Breeds in reed beds, where males emit noisy slow-paced song, interspersed with mystery, from top of reed stem. JFMAMJJASOND ***</p> <p>Dunnock ▶ <i>Prunella modularis</i> Unobtrusive ground-dweller found in small numbers in wooded areas with thickets and scrub, including gardens. Pleasant melodious song sung from exposed perch. JFMAMJJASOND ***</p> <p>Whitethroat ▶ <i>Sylvia communis</i> A sturdy warbler that is quite common in heaths, moorland and scrub over much of Britain. Scratchy song given from perch in bush or in wing flight. JFMAMJJASOND ***</p> <p>Nightingale ▶ <i>Luscinia megarhynchos</i> Almost incompatible as songster in Britain. It sings from the depths of thickets and so is hard to see. Getting rarer as lowland scrub is lost. JFMAMJJASOND **</p> <p>Willow Warbler ▶ <i>Phylloscopus trochilus</i> Despite declining, its downward trilling song is still heard in many woods in summer. JFMAMJJASOND ***</p> <p>Chiffchaff ▶ <i>Phylloscopus collybita</i> Growing in numbers and increasingly common in winter, its onomatopoeic song is heard in woodland. JFMAMJJASOND ****</p> <p>Firecrest ▶ <i>Regulus ignicapillus</i> Very tiny, moves around in the tree canopy; has a high-pitched song. JFMAMJJASOND **</p> <p>Wren ▶ <i>Troglodytes troglodytes</i> Moves mouse-like through the undergrowth. Powerful song; spherical nest. JFMAMJJASOND ***</p>	<p>Treecreeper ▶ <i>Certhia familiaris</i> Climbs tree trunks in search of invertebrate prey; song a quiet downward rill of notes. Widespread in woodland with fairly mature trees. JFMAMJJASOND ***</p> <p>Nuthatch ▶ <i>Sitta europaea</i> Descends and climbs tree trunks searching for insects but also feeds on nuts that it breaks open with sharp bill. Noisy repeated calls give its presence away. JFMAMJJASOND ***</p> <p>Pied Flycatcher ▶ <i>Ficedula hypoleuca</i> Found in mature forests in W Britain. Hunts from perches in clearings; often flicks one wing up when perched. Females brown. JFMAMJJASOND **</p> <p>Coal Tit ▶ <i>Periparus ater</i> Widespread and common, above all in conifer woods, but will come to gardens to feed. Strident, oft-repeated, duple call. JFMAMJJASOND ****</p> <p>Blue Tit ▶ <i>Cyanistes caeruleus</i> ▲ Highly familiar garden bird, but also found in many types of woodland. In winter found in groups with other tits. Wide range of calls including typical 'siskit', 'siskit', 'siskit'. JFMAMJJASOND ****</p> <p>House Sparrow ▶ <i>Passer domesticus</i> Once familiar but undergoing mysterious decline in many urban areas. Confiding, after feeding, chattering groups of birds congregate in bushes to digest food. Males have duller winter plumage. JFMAMJJASOND **</p> <p>Long-tailed Tit ▶ <i>Aegithalos caedulus</i> Characteristic 'ball of fluff' appearance. Often seen in large family groups that emit constant high-pitched contact calls. Builds spherical nest. JFMAMJJASOND ***</p> <p>Crested Tit ▶ <i>Lophophanes cristatus</i> Highly sedentary and found only in a few mature Scottish pine forests. JFMAMJJASOND *</p> <p>Great Tit ▶ <i>Parus major</i> The most striking of all British tits, males have wider breast bands. Broad array of penetrating calls. JFMAMJJASOND ****</p> <p>Marsh Tit ▶ <i>Poecetes gramineus</i> Discreet tit with plain but smart plumage. Favours mature deciduous woodland rather than marshes. JFMAMJJASOND **</p> <p>Tree Sparrow ▶ <i>Passer montanus</i> Found locally in parts of E England in wooded arable land but not generally around human habitation. <small>Sees similar.</small> JFMAMJJASOND **</p>

This term in Year two, our learning is centered around animals. We have been writing fact files about animals that we like in our English lessons.

With Eco-day approaching, we have been looking at how we can encourage wildlife to visit the school. We have started by setting up some bird feeders on the KS1 playground to feed the birds, and recycling our snacktime fruit and veg for birds and bugs to eat.

We hope to keep track of the different animals that we see coming to our playground over the weeks of the term.



We are looking forward to our trip to Port Lympne on Wednesday 11th March 2026. This will be a great experience for the children. Thank you to all of you who have already completed the google form, you can find all the information regarding the trip via the link below.

**Port
Lympne
Trip**

Year 3

Year 3 have started the new year well and are trying hard in class. We have started our new sequence of learning in English - writing a newspaper report. In maths, we are finishing a unit on multiplication and division, we have been learning the column method with and without exchange. In history we are learning about Ancient Greece and in science we are learning about rocks. PE this term is gymnastics and table tennis.





It's been a busy start to Term 3 in Year 4. In English, we have been looking at writing a narrative based on *The Time Machine* by HG Wells, with a focus on correctly punctuated speech and using the dialogue to move the story forward. In Maths, we have been learning how to multiply and divide by 10 and 100, learning how it is not just adding or removing zeroes, as this doesn't work with decimal numbers. The children have been very successful with this and we have now moved on to looking at related multiplication and division facts, eg. $2 \times 3 = 6$ so $20 \times 3 = 60$. In History, we have started our unit on the Vikings, looking this week at where they came from, when they came and why they came to Britain. We also looked at two Viking leaders and how this is related to the work we did last term on the Anglo-Saxons and Alfred the Great. In Art this week we made printing blocks and used them to print patterns. In PE we are learning the skills needed to play table tennis, and this has been great fun! In Spanish this term, we are learning the vocabulary for pets and how to say if we have or do not have certain pets. Next week, we have the next MTC World Cup qualifiers. Please continue to encourage and remind your children to make sure that they are practising/learning their times tables every night, as this is incredibly important not only in the day to day maths we are doing, but also for them to be successful in the Multiplication Tables Check later this year.

Year 4



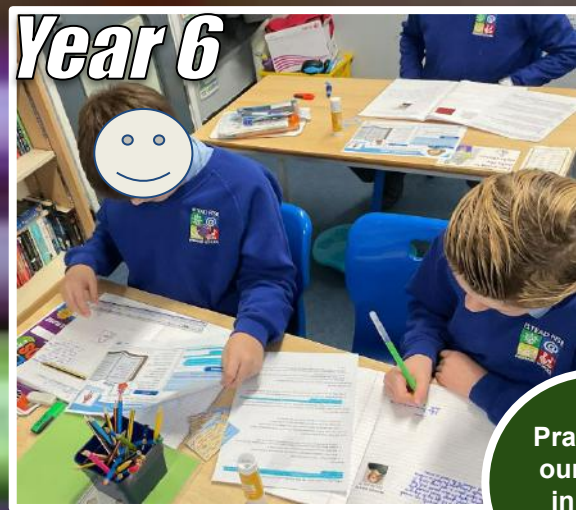
Year 5



Year 5 have made a great start to term 3, the children have been busy starting a range of new topics. In English, the children have been writing travel brochures about a country of their choice in Eastern Europe (linked to our geography), researching famous landmarks, holiday hotspots and what delicious cuisine you would be able to sample. In geography, we have used the atlas and google earth to locate a range of famous physical and human features in Eastern Europe. In maths, the children have been working exceptionally hard on multiplication. They have all shown great resilience and perseverance when they have found the task tricky, which I am very proud of them all for. In PE this term our sports are table tennis and gymnastics. In table tennis, the children have learned soft hand, backhand and rallying. In gymnastic, they have been working on movements and shapes, creating routines using a range of movements and shapes. We also had our first careers lesson of the term, looking at the job of an MP. The children discovered that it wasn't an easy job, and that you would need a range of essential skills such as being able to manage conflict, take responsibility, be calm under pressure and be clear when speaking and writing.



Year 6



Practising our skills in table tennis.



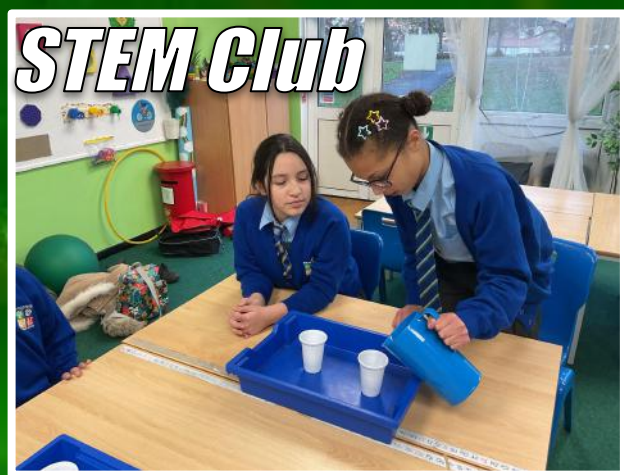
Year 6 have had a busy start to the new term. In English, we finished writing our formal letters of complaint about 'The Great Stink', linking our learning to the Victorians work we completed in History.

We have now started a new sequence of writing which is a descriptive narrative named 'Sanctuary in the Snow'. So far, we have looked at the features of a high quality example text and also created a bank of sophisticated language that we can use in our final writing piece. In Maths, we have completed some work on position and direction. So far, we have recapped plotting and reading on a coordinate grid and also, translations.

This week, we have carried out some practice SATs papers which will enable us to be prepared for our SATs tests in May and also, give us some great opportunities for revision. In Geography this term, we are focusing on rivers. We have looked at the water cycle so far and will soon be looking at the formation of rivers, dams and hydroelectric power!



Researching in Science



Happy New Year - This term we will be looking at chemical changes to make eruptions. This week the club has looked at how mixing some everyday items such as, white vinegar, baking soda and water can cause eruptions. Over the next few weeks, the club will be building structures with an eruption element to it. They have started to plan them and I am sure they will be explosive. Be sure to check out the next Newsletter to see how they got on.





W/E 19.12
Winning Class
 1st Year 6
 2nd Year 4
 3rd Year 2

W/E 19.12
Most Valuable Player
 1st Tyler G - Y4
 2nd Khenrab - Y2
 3rd Rajan - Y6

W/E 09.01
Winning Class
 1st Year 4
 2nd Year 3
 3rd Year 5

W/E 09.01
Most Valuable Player
 1st Khenyang - Y4
 2nd Tyler G - Y4
 3rd Keira - Y5

W/E 16.01
Winning Class
 1st Year 3
 2nd Year 4
 3rd Year 5

W/E 06.01
Most Valuable Player
 1st Ellie - Y3
 2nd Khenyang - Y4
 3rd Jaxon - Y3



Bronze Peg Up Points

W/E 19.12

All of Year R!, Emilia of Year 5

W/E 09.01

Chace & Pixie Belle of Year 4, Samuel Yanis of Year 6, Kaspia, Amari, Louie, Belle, Lillie, Aria, Florence, Nellie, Oliver, Willow, Cara, Jaxon, James, Willow, Vinnie, Khenrab, Mazie, Leo, Melissa, Evie, Ikyro, Piper & Jeremias, Joshua, Harper, Ava, Rosie & Eden of Year 2

W/E 16.01

Rajan, Martin & Delphine of Year 6

Silver Peg Up Points

W/E 09.01

Louie, JJ, Jacob F, Carter, Belle, Ava, Charlie, Jaxon, Milan, Neda, Archie & Oscar of Year 3

Mathletics

Gold Mathletics

Mathletics

W/E 19.12

Samuel Y, Samuel L & Matilda of Year 6, Charlie & Olivia of Year 3, George, Charlie, Henry, Saskia, Sienna, Jack L & Harry of Year 5, Elodie & Jason of Year R, Albert, William, Harry, Leyla & Tris of Year 1

W/E 09.01

Niamh, Jonas Year R, Tris, Sophia, Leyla, Clark, Kayla, William, Adrian, Albert Year 1, Cara, Ava Year 3, Daisy Year 3, Freya Year 4, Jack L, Charlie, Lyla, Harry, Sienna Year 5, Matilda Year 6

W/E 16.01

Matilda of Year 6, Jack L, Charlie, Harry, Saskia & Sienna of Year 5, Freya, Sophie, Raelie, Leo H, Aria, Ronnie & Felix of Year 4, Niamh & Jonas of Year R

Platinum Mathletics

W/E 09.01

Kayla, Harry Year 1, Jaxon, Leo Year 2, Eliza, Neda, Jaxon Year 3, Tyler Year 4, George Year 5, Samuel Yanis Year 6

W/E 16.01

Jacob, Seren, Aubany, Lennon, Archie & Arlo of Year 3, George of Year 5, Khenyang & Tyler of Year 4

Emerald Mathletics

W/E 09.01

Khenrab of Year 2

Core Values Congratulations To All Our Winners



Week Ending 19.12

Year R

Rosie for Respect,
Joshua & George for Independence

Year 1

Noah, Frankie & Cruze for Independence

Year 2

Ava for Independence, Rosie for
Perseverance & Mazie for Respect

Year 3

Daisy & Lennon for Respect,
Aubany for Perseverance

Year 4

Bobby, Aria & Emilia for Respect

Year 5

Stanley for Perseverance,
Sujaan & Saskia for Respect

Year 6

Ruby WN, Matilda & Samuel L for Respect

Week Ending 09.01

Year R

Ava for Independence, Liberty for Respect &
Charlie for Perseverance

Year 1

Clark for Independence,
Chantelle & Harry for Perseverance

Year 2

Eden for Self Reflection, James for Respect
& Evie for Independence

Year 3

Adriana for Self Reflection, Jaxon for
Independence & Jacob F for Perseverance

Year 4

Zachary, Sophie & Chace for Independence

Year 5

Alf for Respect, Darcey & Lyla for
Perseverance

Year 6

Katelyn for Self Reflection, Oliver F for
Perseverance & Samuel Yanis for
Independence

Week Ending 16.01

Year R

Maeve for Perseverance, Max & Josephine for
Self Reflection

Year 1

Albert for Self Reflection, Adrik for
Respect & William for Perseverance

Year 2

Belle for Independence, Willow E for
Self Reflection & Vinnie for Respect

Year 3

Annalise for Respect, Benjamin for
Independence & Charlie for Self Reflection

Year 4

Devan for Respect, Tyler for Perseverance
& Henry for Independence

Year 5

Elliott & Harry for Perseverance,
Keira for Respect

Year 6

Otis & Martin for Independence, Kai for
Self Reflection

Guitar Tuition

Available in school on a 1-1 basis

£10 a lesson

For children in Years

3,4,5 & 6

Contact Chris
07940 046124 or downschris6@aol.com

At The heart of the New Story Theatre Company is storytelling through theatre and provides space for creativity and collaboration. Children are involved in the writing and performing an original production, including prop making, costume design and set design. They are also involved in making decisions on staging, lighting, visuals effects, soundtracks. The project culminates in a performance for parents later in the school year.

New Story Theatre Company meets every Tuesday in the school from 3.15pm until 4.45pm. For further information, please email: martin@newstorytheatrecompany.co.uk

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FREE PARKING! SEE WEBSITE FOR DETAILS

WHAT'S ON THE MENU?

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY

THURSDAY

FRIDAY

WEEK ONE

3 Nov
24 Nov
15 Dec
19 Jan
9 Feb
9 March
30 March

Chicken Pie 1
Pesto & Pea Pasta 1,7 V
Jackets with a Choice of Toppings 7,8,9

Crushed Potato
Cauliflower,
Carrots

Strawberry Mousse 7
Mr Nourish Biscuit 1 VG
Fruit Pots VG

Margherita Pizza 1,3,7 V
Bean Biryani VG
Jackets with a Choice of Toppings 7,8,9

Rainbow Pasta 1
Seasonal Vegetables

Toffee Apple Pudding 1 VG & Custard 7
Mr Nourish Biscuit 1 VG
Fruit Pots VG

Roast Turkey & Gravy
Broccoli Tots 1,7 V
Jackets with a Choice of Toppings 7,8,9

Rustic Roast Potatoes or Jollof Rice
Cabbage,
Peas

Fruit Jelly VG
Mr Nourish Biscuit 1 VG
Yoghurt 3,7, Fruit Pots VG

Beef Bolognaise Pasta Bake 1,7
Loaded Bean Chilli Wedges VG
Jackets with a Choice of Toppings 7,8,9

Green Beans
Grated Carrots

Parsnip Brownie 1 VG
Mr Nourish Biscuit 1 VG
Yoghurt 3,7, Fruit Pots VG

Chicken Sausages 1,3,6
Vegetable Sausage VG
Jackets with a Choice of Toppings 7,8,9

Chips,
Sweetcorn, Baked Beans
Cucumber Sticks

Oaty Cookie 1,15 VG
Yoghurt 3,7
Fruit Pots VG

WEEK TWO

10 Nov
1 Dec
5 Jan
26 Jan
23 Feb
16 March

Caribbean Brown Chicken
Tomato Spaghetti 1 VG
Jackets with a Choice of Toppings 7,8,9

Rice,
Carrots,
Peas

Chocolate Ice Cream 7
Mr Nourish Biscuit 1 VG
Fruit Pots VG

Cheese & Broccoli Pasta Bake 1,7 V
Buffalo Cauliflower Wings
& Wedges VG
Jackets with a Choice of Toppings 7,8,9

Seasonal Vegetables

Plum Pudding 1VG & Custard 7
Mr Nourish Biscuit 1 VG
Fruit Pots VG

Roast Chicken & Gravy
Ratatouille Puff 1,3 VG
Jackets with a Choice of Toppings 7,8,9

Rustic Roast Potatoes or Jollof Rice
Broccoli,
Carrots

Crispy Cake 1,3,7,16
Mr Nourish Biscuit 1 VG
Yoghurt 3,7, Fruit Pots VG

Beef Stew & Dumpling 1
Pesto Pasta Bake 1,7 V
Jackets with a Choice of Toppings 7,8,9

Cauliflower,
Green Beans

Apple & Cinnamon Pinwheel 1 VG
Mr Nourish Biscuit 1 VG
Yoghurt 3,7, Fruit Pots VG

Salmon Bites 1,8
Margherita Pizza 1,3,7 V
Jackets with a Choice of Toppings 7,8,9

Chips,
Peas,
Coleslaw 9

Marble Cookie 1 VG
Yoghurt 3,7
Fruit Pots VG

WEEK THREE

17 Nov
8 Dec
12 Jan
2 Feb
2 March
23 March
27 Oct

Macaroni Cheese 1,7 V
Sweet Potato & Chick Pea Curry VG
Jackets with a Choice of Toppings 7,8,9

Rice,
Green Beans,
Mixed Salad

Peach Crumble 1 VG & Custard 7
Mr Nourish Biscuit 1 VG
Fruit Pots VG

Chicken Noodles 1
BBQ Vegetable Burrito 1 VG
Jackets with a Choice of Toppings 7,8,9

Sweetcorn,
Peppers

Chocolate Rice Pudding 7
Mr Nourish Biscuit 1 VG
Fruit Pots VG

Savoury Minced Beef & Yorkshire
Puddings 1,7,9
Vegan Sausage Roll 1 VG
Jackets with a Choice of Toppings 7,8,9

Rustic Roast Potatoes,
Green Beans,
Carrots

Fruit Jelly VG
Mr Nourish Biscuit 1 VG
Yoghurt 3,7, Fruit Pots VG

Beef Cottage Pie
Herby Tomato Pasta 1 VG
Jackets with a Choice of Toppings 7,8,9

Seasonal Vegetables

Beetroot Cake 1 VG
Mr Nourish Biscuit 1 VG
Yoghurt 3,7, Fruit Pots VG

Fish Fingers 1,8
Cheese, Carrot & Tomato Swirl 1,7 V
Jackets with a Choice of Toppings 7,8,9

Chips,
Peas, Baked Beans,
Grated Carrot

Caramel Flapjack 1,7,15 V
Yoghurt 3,7,
Fruit Pots VG

*Primary 3-16†

1 Wheat Gluten 2 Crustaceans 3 Soybean 4 Mustard 5 Sesame 6 Sulphites/Sulphur Dioxide 7 Milk 8 Fish 9 Egg
10 Peanuts 11 Molluscs 12 Celeriac/Celery 13 Nuts 14 Lupins 15 Oat Gluten 16 Barley Gluten VG Vegan V Vegetarian

**AVAILABLE
DAILY**

Selection of Salads 9, Homemade Bread 1,3. Some of our schools may use pre prepped potatoes or vegetables on occasions. These may contain sulphites and celeriac. Please discuss with your manager.

