

HEADMASTER'S WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

SUMMER TERM WEEK 2
24TH APRIL, 2026



Dear Parents

The first full week of the Summer Term draws to a close, with the sun beaming through the windows as I watch Year 8 practising their hurdling technique out on the lawn, having just enjoyed a Friday assembly where we awarded more commendations and Headmaster's Commendations than I have ever seen in one assembly – testament to a lot of fantastic work across the curriculum and age groups within the school. One of the highlights of assembly was the two opening musical performances from Gabriel A and Simran T, each superb, which when combined with a number of music certificates awarded in assembly, and the lovely music that I hear from the practice rooms above my Study, make me very excited indeed for upcoming concerts this term.

It has been a busy week that followed on from a busy weekend, where our Adventure Skills Academy Camping experience lived up to the name of the programme with adventure and skills at the heart of the weekend's agenda, alongside a huge amount of fun! Our Years 5 - 7 campers were expertly hosted by Campfire Wild Adventures at Eaton Vale Scout and Guide Activity Centre where they learnt how to safely build a fire and cooked their own dinner over the open flames, before gathering together at a communal campfire for stories, hot chocolate and toasted marshmallows. On Saturday evening, our Year 4 pupils, again supported by Campfire Wild Adventures, pitched their bell tents on the Front Lawn, and capitalised on our incredible woodland site by utilising the Woodland Walk for their bush craft activities that included shelter building, camouflage, and fire building. The weekend also saw the first PTA Geocaching event at Whitlingham, which was great fun in glorious sunshine. This weekend sees the PTA ECO Litter Pick at 10.30am from Asda Hall Road to mark Eco-April.

Fresh off the back of our brilliant first ski trip, we had some further skiing success with our Town Close Skiing Team posting some incredible team and individual results at the ERSA - Eastern Region Snowsports Association Schools Competition last weekend at the Norfolk Snowsports Club. Our U10 and U12 teams both won their team events thus securing Town Close the overall title of 'Best School'.

This term, we enjoy welcoming you into school to support the House Swimming Galas. Last week, Year 4 impressed with their progress, determination, and energy at their event, and our Year 3 children were very excited to follow their lead this week, earning vital points for their Houses whilst revelling in the camaraderie these House events generate. Results can be found in the bulletin. This week also saw our summer programme of clubs and activities commence; and I enjoyed watching Pre Prep Football Club and Petanque Club after school on the lawn. This term also sees the return of Greenpower and it has been great to see Formula Goblin Club practicing on the playground ahead of their race later in the term.

We also celebrated three different special days this week. To mark Earth Day, our Nursery made their very own seed bombs! The children were excited to learn that these can be tossed into gardens or outdoor spaces, where they'll grow into beautiful wildflowers — helping bees, butterflies, and other pollinators thrive. This simple activity was a great way to introduce big ideas like sustainability and caring for the Earth. Our Year 1 children had a fantastic time getting creative for St George's Day by making their very own dragon sock puppets! They began by talking about the story of St George and the dragon, and the children loved sharing their ideas about what dragons might look like. Yesterday evening we marked World Book Night, celebrating with people across the country as part of the nation's drive to inspire a love of books and reading in the National Literacy Trust's Year of Reading!

Finally, I would like to say a huge thank you for joining us for Tea and Cake on the lawn, I hope you enjoyed the delicious spread of homemade treats in the sunshine - as ever it was lovely to catch up with so many members of the Town Close Community at the start of a new term.

I hope that you have a great weekend (good luck to those representing their hockey clubs at the Regional tournaments this weekend) and I look forward to seeing all of the pupils on Monday.



HB P. Van

Every Moment Matters

FRIENDLY REMINDERS

BOOK BANK

Over the Summer Term we will be collecting donations for the Bookbanks appeal. If you have any books you would like to donate, please drop them off in the boxes found in the Pre Prep entrance and Dearnaley Building.

UPPER PREP EXTENDED CRICKET PRACTICE

All Upper Prep boys are invited to stay at their games session on a Monday for extended practice. Alpha week will be at Main Field and Beta week will be at Great Melton. Pick up is 4.45pm at the venue or 5.00pm at school. We still have places available for girls extended cricket practice.

SUN PROTECTION

Having had glorious weather this week we can believe we are now in the Summer Term. This is your annual reminder to please send your children into school prepared for hotter weather. This includes, sun hats, sun glasses (optional), water bottles (Prep only) and sun tan lotion to be applied before school. We recommend using a 8 hour sun tan lotion of Factor 30 or higher. We do have a supply of sun tan lotion we can use at school when necessary, however, if your child needs a particular brand of suntan lotion please send the bottle into school and named.

WORLD BOOK NIGHT

Thank you to Mrs Guymmer for organising a wonderful 'World Book Night' celebration. We hope the children enjoyed their book and hot chocolate or biscuit. Thank you to all families who shared photos.

MATCH REPORT

GIRLS CRICKET

The U13A team made a brilliant start to their season with an impressive performance against Langley Senior School this week. Heading into the match full of confidence and enthusiasm, the girls bowled first and quickly set the tone for the game.

BULLETIN BOARD PRE PREP & PREP

The bowling unit delivered a consistently strong display, taking an outstanding 12 wickets across the innings, backed up by sharp and efficient fielding. Captain Matilda C led from the front with a superb spell, finishing with remarkable figures of 5 - 3 from her two overs. A special mention also goes to Isla S, who produced an incredible caught-and-bowled moment, and to Sephe V, who impressed in her first outing as wicketkeeper with a calm and secure performance behind the stumps. The team continued to shine with the bat. Every partnership contributed over 25 runs, demonstrating depth and teamwork throughout the batting order. The standout pairing came from Saskia T and Matilda C, who combined brilliantly to add 46 runs to the total and put the game firmly out of reach winning by 121 runs. Overall, it was a fantastic team performance and a great way to start the season, building confidence and momentum for the matches ahead. Player of the Match awarded to Saskia T. The U13B team made a solid start to their season with an impressive away victory in a softball pairs match. After electing to field first, the team made an immediate impact with the ball, taking five wickets in the opening overs. The bowling remained consistently accurate and disciplined throughout, restricting Langley to just 41 runs. Standout performances came from Annabelle Y, who claimed 3 wickets for 9 runs, and Sienna A who also took 3 wickets while conceding 15. The fielding effort matched the quality of the bowling, with players supporting each other well and taking several confident catches. Chasing a modest target, the team carried their momentum into the batting innings. Contributions came from across the side, with Harriet W leading the scoring on 25 runs. The batting display reflected a confident and composed approach, with the team posting an excellent total of 116 runs to take the win. It was a strong all-round team performance, with excellent communication and teamwork evident throughout. Annabelle H was named the opposition's Player of the Match.

DATES FOR THE DIARY

PTA Litter Pick

Sunday 26th April, from Asda Hall Road

Year 6 Humanities Trip Parent Information Evening

Tuesday 28th April, from 4.15pm in Read Hall

Parents' Evening for Reception, Year 1 and 2

Thursday 30th April, from 4.30pm in Read Hall

Informal Prep Soloists' Concert

Thursday 7th May, 4.15pm in the Read Hall

PTA School Disco

Friday 8th May, tickets via the PTA website

Year 8 Lake District Trip Parent Information Evening

Monday 11th May from 5.00pm in the Read Hall

Year 1 Assembly

Tuesday 12th May, 8.35am - 9.35am

Year 2 Concert

Thursday 14th May, 2.15pm in the Read Hall

Beech Class Assembly

Tuesday 19th May, 8.35am - 9.35am

Year 1 Concert

Wednesday 20th May, 2.15pm in the Read Hall

Oak Class Assembly

Thursday 21st May, 8.35am - 9.35am

Spring into Summer Show

Friday 22nd May 10.00am in the Sports Hall

Final Day of Half Term

Friday 22nd May

Please always refer to the live calendar on the Parent Portal or website for a full list of events and sports fixtures.

YEAR 3 & 4 GALA HOUSE RESULTS

Year 3:

Filby - 143

Ranworth - 130

Barton - 121

Upton - 107

Year 4:

Ranworth - 131

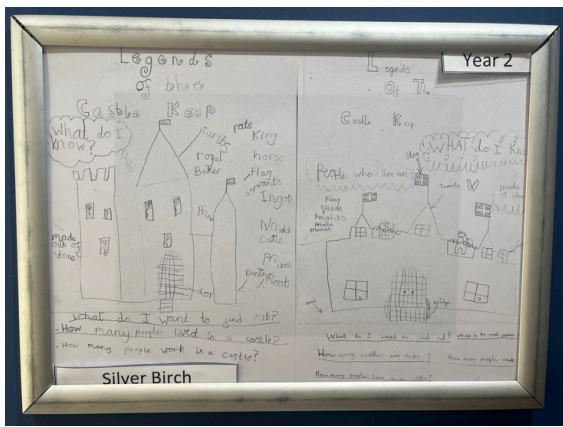
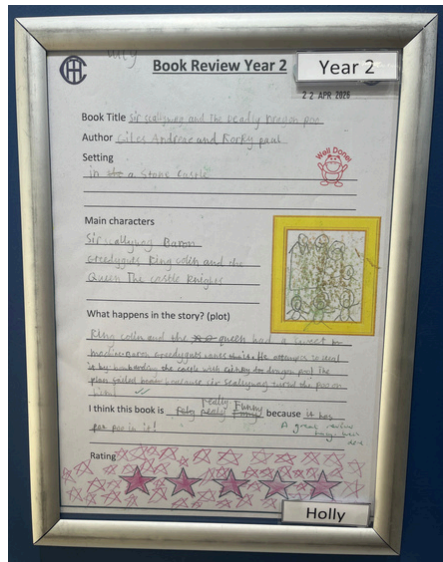
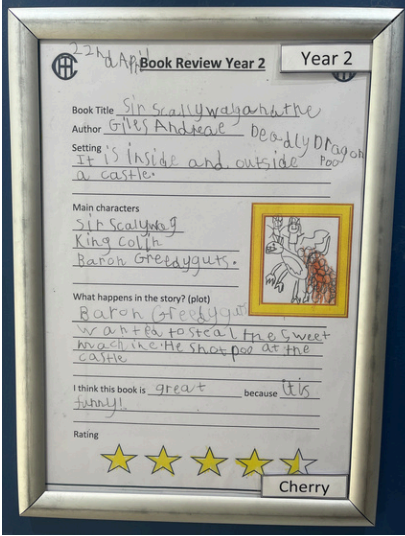
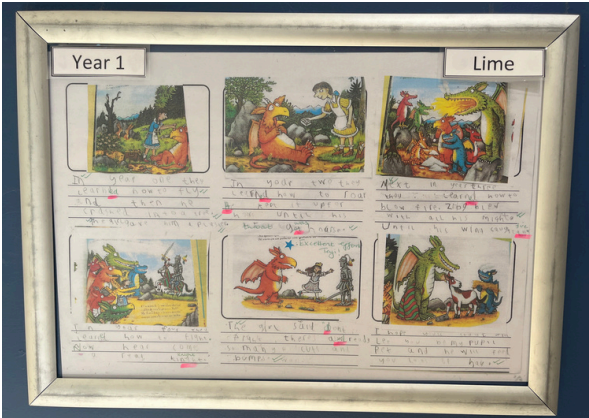
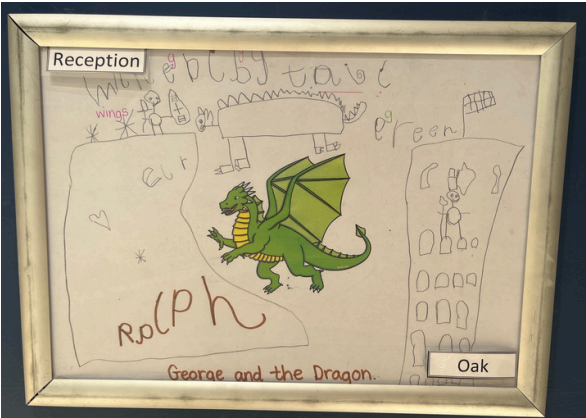
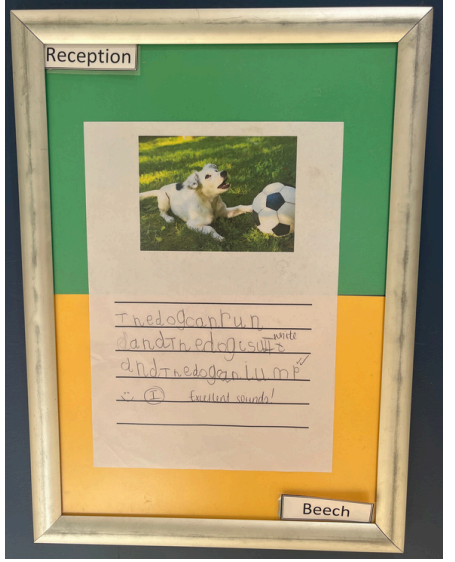
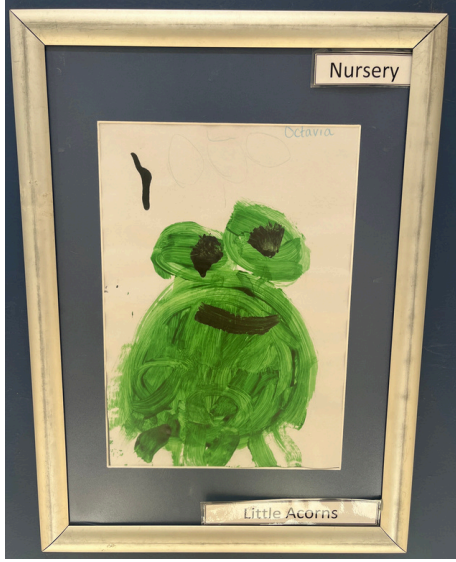
Upton - 127

Barton - 121

Filby - 113

BOYS CRICKET

The boys 1st XI travelled to Langley Senior School for the first match of the cricket season. Captain Edward G elected to bat first, after the loss of 3 early wickets Ben S scored 60 not out and Seb Minors 43 not out. They put on a century stand with both displaying powerful strokes all round the wicket. Town Close made an impressive 162 runs. The bowlers then produced excellent control of line and length bowling and were backed up with a strong fielding performance. The opponents were bowled out for 30 runs with Thomas McC and George W both taking 2 wickets. Player of the Match was given to Ben S.



- Little Acorns, Sebby, Frog Painting
- Little Acorns, Octavia, Frog Painting
- Beech, Esmae, Independent Writing
- Oak, Ralph, George and the Dragon
- Lime, Teyi, Zog Story Writing
- Maple, Delphine, Zog Story Writing
- Willow, Elijah, Zog Story Writing
- Cherry, Bertie, Book Review
- Holly, Lucy, Book Review
- Silver Birch, Autumn & Dot, Castles; What I already know



ECOAPRIL CHALLENGE 2026

**Join our Group Litter Pick this Sunday
26th for our final Eco April Event 2026**

Meeting Point: Asda Hall Rd. (What three words.

///covers.along.treat)

Time: 10:30am

Route: Lakenham Way - a lovely picturesque safe walking and cycle route that runs along the path of the former railway line.

Distance: Approx 1 mile each way. (Pram & scooter friendly)

Equipment: Litter picks and equipment can be provided or bring your own.

Eco Pin Badge: Every child taking part receives a pin badge & certificate

PLEASE REGISTER TO JOIN

AND TO BOOK ANY
EQUIPMENT NEEDED



REGISTER/BOOK YOUR EQUIPMENT HERE:
TOWNCLOSEPTA.CO.UK



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