

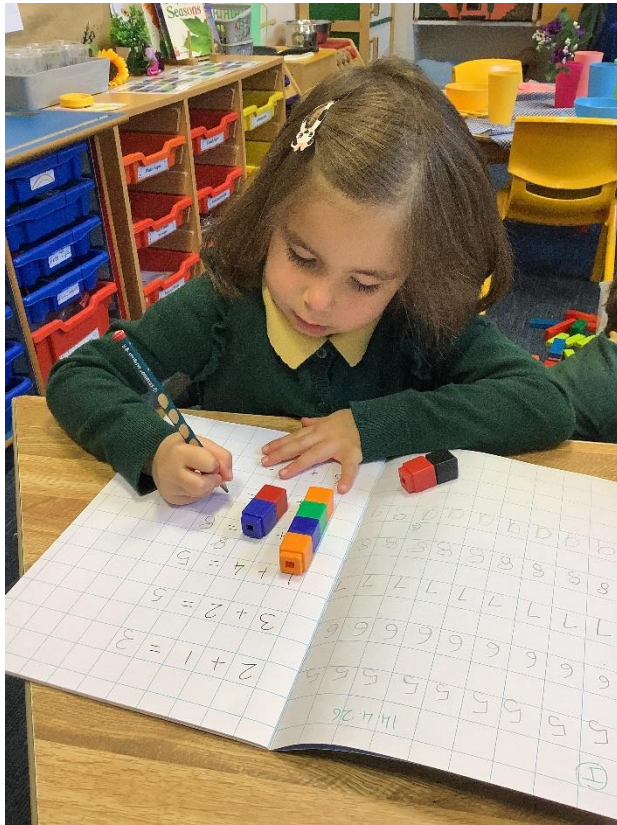
PARKEND NEWSLETTER



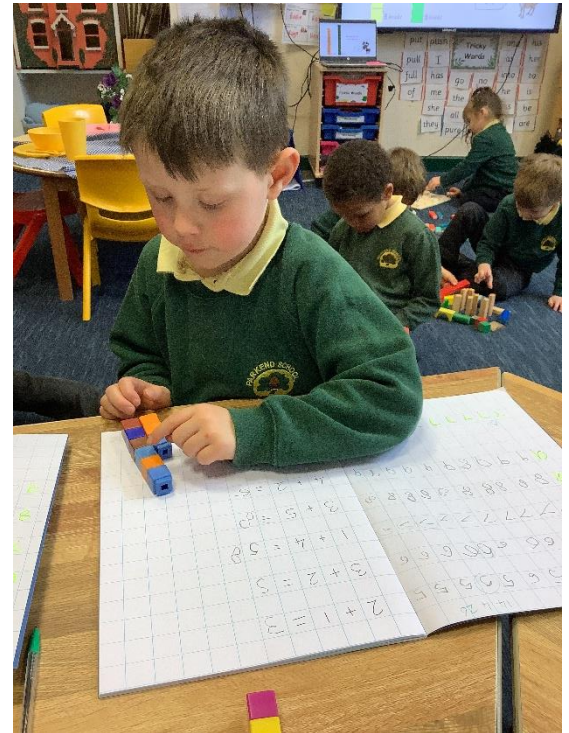
Issue 66: 8th May 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

Reception have made a fantastic start to using their maths books as part of their transition into Year 1. They are becoming increasingly confident in recording their ideas and are taking great pride in their work. In maths, they have been focusing on number bonds to 10, helping the children to develop a secure understanding

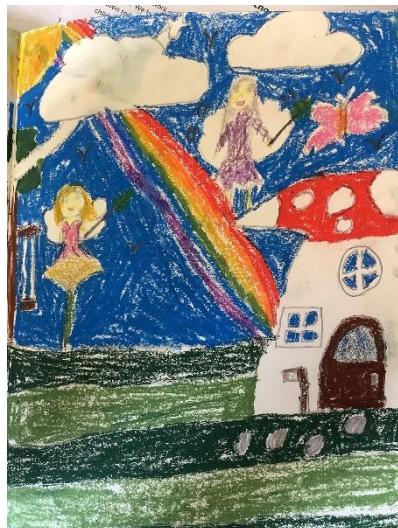


of how numbers combine and relate to one another. Alongside this, they have been continuing to practise correct number formation, with a strong emphasis on forming numbers clearly and accurately. It has been wonderful to see the children's growing independence and enthusiasm as they prepare for the next stage of their learning journey.



Telling Stories Through Drawing and Making

This term, the children in Foxes Class have been exploring the art topic 'Telling Stories Through Drawing and Making.' They began by investigating the work of 3D illustrators, carefully observing how shape, texture, colour and form can be used to bring stories to life beyond the page.



Inspired by these artists, the children explored the poem 'Where the Fairies Are', using its rich language and imaginative imagery as a starting point for their own creative ideas. They first produced detailed drawings to capture the mood, characters and magical settings described in the poem.

The children then developed their ideas further by creating 3D models. Using clay, they transformed their drawings into imaginative sculptures, thinking thoughtfully about structure and detail, and how their models could tell a story from all angles. The finished pieces showed creativity, care and a wonderful sense of storytelling.



"I liked how the art linked in with our poetry" Leo

"I enjoyed using the different tools to mould the clay" Maia

Well Done Wild Boar!

Year 6 have been working exceptionally hard in preparation for their upcoming SATs. We have been incredibly impressed by the determination they have shown as they have tackled past paper after past paper, demonstrating real resilience during what can be a slightly stressful time. Staff are extremely proud of the perseverance and positive attitudes they have brought to their learning.

It has also been wonderful to see the Year 5 children learning alongside them and offering constant encouragement, helping to create a positive and supportive classroom environment. Regardless of the outcomes, every child should feel proud of the effort, dedication and teamwork they have shown throughout this process.



Star of the Week and Lunchtime Stars:

Week Ending 24th April



Lunchtime Star = Otilie

Congratulations to Narah, Eloise and Arthur

Week Ending 1st May



Lunchtime Star = Jasper G

Congratulations to Nathaniel, Henry and all Year 5's

House Points:

Week ending 24th April = Green 82, Red 73 and Yellow 69

Week ending 1st May = Yellow 113, Red 99 and Green 67

Attendance Really Matters:

Current Whole School Attendance = **93.86%**

Class name	Attendance week ending 24.4.26	Attendance week ending 1.5.26
Hedgehogs	90.51%	95.57%
Foxes	90%	93.57%
Wild Boar	97.14%	87.62%

Sporting Updates:



Six children from Years 4/5 took part in an exciting Archery Competition at The Christian Adventure Centre at Viney Hill. Competing against four other schools in their round, they showed excellent behaviour and impressive skill, achieving a fantastic second-place finish. With a total of 24 schools taking part overall, this was a wonderful achievement and we are very proud of them.



Kind regards,

K. Burke

Mrs K Burke
Executive Headteacher
Forest of Dean Community Schools
Federation

Pride in ourselves, Achieve the best we can, Curious thinkers, Everyone together
The small school with BIG ideas

Out of School Celebrations:

Congratulations to Lily, who was chosen as the flag holder for her Squirrel Parade on St George's Day - a wonderful achievement and a big honour.

Well done also to Leo, who was awarded *Coach's Player of the Week* in recognition of his excellent focus and commitment. We are very proud of you both.



Community Links:

Forest New Life Church - Parkend Presents...

A Tale of Two Kings

HOLIDAY BIBLE CLUB
MONDAY 27TH - FRIDAY 31ST JULY

A FREE EVENT 10AM - 2PM

More info and registration coming out soon.
Email: jonathan@forestnewlife.org.uk

Rotary Club of the Royal Forest of Dean

FOREST YOUNG PHOTOGRAPHER COMPETITION 2026

£200 first Prize
Entries open May 1st to August 31st 2026
Age Groups 4-11 And 11-18

Original photograph on the subject "Life in the Forest of Dean"

Entry free. Limit of two photographs per entrant
Digital entry only

Full details and Entry:
www.rotary-rfod.org.uk/photocomp
or QR

Rotary Royal Forest of Dean

Rotary Club of the Royal Forest of Dean Trust Fund Reg. Charity No 264832

IMPORTANT DATES: We will add new dates each Newsletter in red

Autumn Term 1	
Mon 11 th May - Thurs 14 th May	KS2 SATs week
Tues 19 th May	Final Eco Club After-school
Wed 20 th May	Foxes and Oberon's Federation trip to Caerleon.
Thurs 21 st May	Mountain Biking at Wydean *Letter to follow for selected children*
Thurs 21st May	Census Day - Special School Dinner Menu
Fri 22 nd May	End of Term 5
Mon 1 st June	Start of Term 6 - Children in
Mon 8 th June	Phonics Screening Check Week
Tues 9 th June	Parkend Sports Day 9am followed by family picnic (morning)
Mon 15 th - Weds 17 th June	Year 5 & 6 London Residential
Mon 22 nd June	Father's Day (Hedgehog Class) Share a book with a special person 8.35-9am
Mon 22 nd June	Five Acres High Primary Maths Challenge Day *Letter to follow for selected Year 5/6 children*
Wed 24 th June	Wydean Transition Day - Year 6
Wed 24th June	Home Visits for September Reception Intake
Tues 30 th June	Year 5 Taster Day at The Dean Academy
Tues 30 th June	Five Acres Transition Day - Year 6 (Day 1)
Wed 1 st July	Five Acres Transition Day - Year 6 (Day 2)
Fri 3 rd July	Wellbeing Champions to Viney Hill
Mon 6 th July	The Dean Academy Transition Day - Year 6 (Day 1)
Mon 6th July	Moving up Morning 9am-1pm inc September Reception Intake
Tues 7 th July	The Dean Academy Transition Day - Year 6 (Day 2)
Tues 7th July	Moving up Morning 9am-1pm inc September Reception Intake
Wed 8th July	September Reception Intake Parent Information Evening 5pm
Tues 14 th July	Written Reports out to Parents
Fri 17 th July	End of Term 6 - School finishes 1.15