

Newsletter Friday 13th February 2026

It is the last day before the half term break. Thank you everyone as always for a wonderful half term in school and we look forward to welcoming you all back on Monday 23rd February. Have a lovely week!

Wellbeing, Safer Internet Day and Online Safety

It has been Children's Mental Health Week this week, as well as Safer Internet Day, and all children have taken part in activities to support both of these things.

We teach the children how to be safe and kind online throughout our Computing and PSHE curriculum, teaching them about both the positives and potential hazards of an increasingly digital and online world. This week's "Wake up Wednesday" poster which we shared on Class Dojo yesterday, had some really good, simple key messages on it, regarding not sharing personal data, keeping an eye on our screen time, and pausing before you post online, asking is it kind and would I say it if the person was there in front of me? – all messages that are included in what we teach the children in school.

As always, the children have been fantastic and showed a very good understanding of how to be safe and respectful to others – two out of three of our school behaviour policy's *Safe, Respectful* and *Ready* motto.



Harrington Nature Reserve

On Tuesday, KS1 visited Harrington Nature Reserve as part of their Geography learning. They showed impressive knowledge of human and physical features, and super vocabulary when talking about what they could see; it was great to see how much they enjoyed exploring the outdoors and seeing what makes our world wonderful right on our doorstep. We particularly loved "Snowdrop corner" and learning about the many different types of snowdrops. Did you know that snowdrops possess remarkable natural antifreeze properties, enabling them to survive freezing temperatures and, according to historical accounts, were used during World War I to protect machinery?



Y5 visit to Beacon Hill for Technology Day

Last week, Year Five enjoyed a super Technology morning at Beacon School, and had a great time making their own Pop Art creations. They were brilliant ambassadors for the school as always.

FIDS Groups

Our FIDS (Feel, Imagine, Do Share) groups have been very productive lately too and are achieving and planning great things together:

- **Our School Environment Group** have turned their focus to the school library this half term. They noticed that lots of children wanted more books by certain authors and that the library was not quite organised in a way that made it easy for them to find more books by the same author, so they took time to reorganise, discard and donate any books that were ripped or that we did not need, and they have now purchased new books, based on the requests of the other children, and they are already in circulation!
- **Our Global Group** have been very industrious in working to plan a workshop for other schools to come to, in order to teach them more about plastic pollution and the impact it has, particularly on our own local marine environment. They invited two coastal experts and a marine biologist to come in and talk to them to help them get planning and organising, which was very informative and productive!
- **Our Community Group** have been keen to link up more with the local community and so they invited our Chair of Governors in to talk to them about the village community as well as the parish council's plans to celebrate the 400th birthday of another village called Bothel, in Germany! The children had lots of ideas for how we could join with the community to celebrate this together in the summer term.
- **Our Wellbeing and Spirituality Group** are keen to create spaces in our outdoors for calmness and connection with nature. They have plans to install bat-boxes and have been making plans to raise money to potentially buy a Trail-Cam which will help us see the animals and birds that use our grounds when we are not there.

FIDS is a fantastic way for the children to all have a voice about what matters to them and to see their ideas turn into actions which solve the problems they see around them. We are really proud of how brilliant they all are!

Football Club

Next half term, we will begin weekly after school football club sessions once again for KS2 with Dan, and this should be bookable on your Arbor app if your child would like to take part. The club will start on the second week back after the half term break.

Toddler Group

Did you know that we hold a weekly baby and toddler group on Monday mornings from 9:30am to 11:00am during term time? This is run by our wonderful PTA, The Friends of St Michael's and is going from strength to strength.

It is for anyone who has a baby or child up to 3 years old and they do not need to have a connection to school. If you know anyone who might like to come along, just let them know!

Dates for your diaries so far this term - More details and dates will follow

Monday 23rd February – Back to school after half term break

Thursday 5th March – World Book Day

Friday 6th March – Mobius Loop VR Digital Creation Day

Friday 13th March – Whole school outdoor learning sessions

Tuesday 17th March – Year Five Science Day at Beacon Hill School

Friday 27th March – EYFS and KS1 Multi-skills session at Beacon Hill School

Friday 27th March – Last day of Spring Term

EASTER HOLIDAYS

Monday 13th April – First day of Summer Term

Tuesday 14th April – Parents' evening appointments

