

Weekly Newsletter
Friday 6th March 2026

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WEEK BEGINNING 9th MARCH

Sunday 8th March

International Women's Day

Tuesday 10th March

Y5 Stations of the Cross

Y3 begin Recorder Lessons

Wednesday 11th March

Y3 Educational Visit. Eltham Palace

Y5 Stations of the Cross

Friday 13th March

Y6 Educational Visit. Houses of Parliament

PA Event. Mother's Day Gift Sale

MESSAGE FROM OUR HEAD OF SCHOOL

A Thought for the Week

The Dalai Lama teaches: "*Be kind whenever possible. It is always possible.*"

During this season of Lent, we reflect on the quiet power of kindness — in the way we speak, in the way we listen, in how we respond to challenges, and in how we care for one another as friends and colleagues. These values of patience, gentleness, and dignity help create an environment where children feel safe, supported, and at home.

As we move through Lent, I encourage all members of our school community to pause and consider how small acts of kindness can make a big difference in the lives of those around us.

Happy International Women's Day for Sunday 8th March!

Have a restful weekend

Best wishes

Mrs J Hansen

Head of School

Y6 RESIDENTIAL TRIP

The Y6 children had a wonderful residential week at Kingswood! The children's attitude and behaviour were excellent as they attempted new challenges. It was a privilege to see our students conquer their fears, try new experiences and eat so well! We are so proud of them.

Without the commitment and dedication of our school staff, the trip would not have been able to go ahead. Please join me in thanking Mrs Williams, Miss Brophy, Mrs Thornton, Mrs Everett, Mrs Prescott and Mrs Whitewood, who spent time away from their own families to ensure the children could experience a lifelong memory.

Many thanks for your emails of thanks and support – we really appreciate it.

SCHOOL VALUES: FAITH, MERCY, TRUTH, RESPECT, RESILIENCE, LOVE

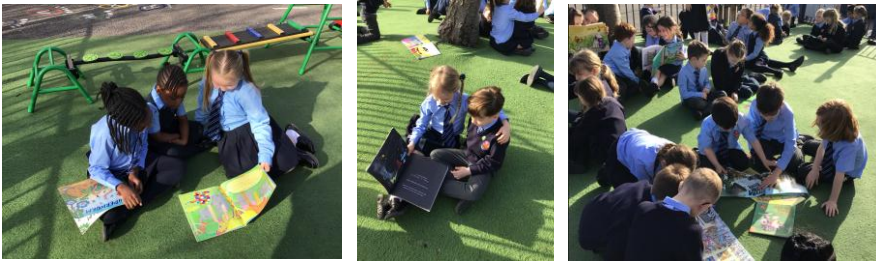
WORLD BOOK DAY

Children in every class celebrated World Book Day on Thursday 5th March. They shared books, wrote stories and poems and enjoyed being creative. Here is a cross section of the activities that took place.

Children in class 5K were reading buddies with children from class 2F.



Reception Class B and Y3 loved celebrating Book Day together today! They enjoyed reading with each other outside in the sunshine, sharing stories and supporting one another.



Class 1C were excited to finish their first class novel, 'The Enchanted Wood' by Enid Blyton. Emily was so inspired by the story that she made this wonderful model of the setting of the story, including the magic faraway tree! We were all so impressed by her creativity.



Ivy Maskell-Gibson, 41, wrote a lovely story after being inspired during our World Book Day!

Once upon a time, there lived 3 princesses. They were called Ruby, Sapphire and Gemstone. They were high up in the sky. The king walked up 1000 steps every day. He would say to Ruby I will rip your teddies even your sisters and all of the princesses all started to cry but what is special about their tears is that they cry magic gemstones. One day from the tower down below were 3 princes. The princesses shouted. Unfortunately they thought they would be stuck in the high tower forever. Luckily they had an idea. If they dropped gemstones on their heads they would look up and rescue them. Eventually all of the gemstones landed on the princes heads and they rescued the princesses and had babies.

WORLD BOOK DAY MORE ACTIVITIES

Children in KS2 have been practising their bilingual dictionary skills in French this week.

Y4 children have been looking up French words for different pets and Y5 children have been finding the French words for different classroom objects.



ROYAL BOROUGH GREENWICH SHORT STORY COMPETITION

In line with World Book Day, Royal Borough Greenwich has launched this year's **500 Word Short Story Competition**, inspired by the theme **THE UNEXPECTED**. Children are invited to write a short story, no more than 500 words, preferably typed, on the theme of **THE UNEXPECTED**.

All entries can be sent to Mrs Thaxter by **Thursday 23th April**. Please include your full name and class.

PRAYER AND LITURGY

Reception class B enjoyed a lovely Prayer and Liturgy this afternoon, reflecting on how we can see and feel the Holy Spirit in the kindness we show, the beauty of the world around us, and the love we share with others. It was a calm and thoughtful time of prayer and reflection for everyone.



FAITH FRIENDS

The Faith Friends from 4J told the story of Jesus talking to a Samaritan woman. This story reminds us that God loves all people no matter where they are from. We need to be like Jesus and respect and care for all people.

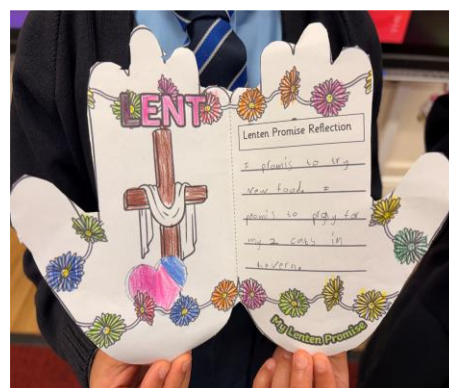
God of peace

You care for all people in our world. Move us to do the same and to work together to build a better world.



LENTEN PROMISES

The children in Class 1C worked hard writing down their Lenten promises and displaying them in the classroom. They have all promised to follow and keep their promises until Easter.



WORLD BOOK DAY COMPETITION

To celebrate World Book Day (Thursday 5th March) and the UK's National Year of Reading 2026, children are invited to design a National Book Token.

This year's theme, *Go All In*, is all about diving into the stories you love and exploring them even further through reading. Whether you are passionate about football, animals, space, fashion, gaming, history, music or making people laugh, books can bring your interests to life in exciting new ways.

For the competition, children are invited to create a bold, eye-catching gift card design. Their design should reflect their reading interests and show how books inspire them to explore ideas, spark their imagination, and go further through reading. I have reattached the template is for your child to use for their final design.

Many thanks for all the entries so far! They look amazing!

All entries should to handed to Mrs Thaxter by **Friday 20th March.**

CHILDREN'S CORNER

Margot Maitre, 41, recently completed her "Flocon" (3rd stage) in cross country skiing. Reaching Flocon Stage 3 shows you can: Ski comfortably on beginner tracks, manage small climbs and descents and use basic classic cross-country technique properly. Well done Margot!



Elliot Reeve Caballero, Nursery, won the "player of the week" for his football team. He is seen proudly showing his trophy.



PA EVENTS

Please put these dates on your calendar.

🎁 Mother's Day Sale 🎁

- ❖ **Friday 13th March** during the school day and at school pick up time.
- ❖ There will be a great choice of gifts from key rings, bracelets, card holders, notebooks and mugs.
- ❖ Gifts will range from 50p up to £4
- ❖ Children can bring their money to school in an envelope or purse and choose a gift of their choice for someone special in their lives.

🍀 St Patrick's Day Fundraiser - Tickets Still Available! 🍀

Don't miss out on tickets for our annual **St Patrick's Celebration** on **Friday 20 March, 6-9.30pm.**

This is a fun, **family** evening and one of the highlights of our social calendar. The evening will have:

- ❖ Live, traditional Irish music
- ❖ Fabulous Irish dancing display
- ❖ Paid bar and snacks

Tickets are available to purchase on: tiny.cc/stmaryspatickets

If you are planning to come along, please consider signing up for one of the volunteer slots (<https://volunteersignup.org/QAA4Y>).

We need lots of hands to help make events like this a success.

Volunteers get a free ticket!

SCHOOL UNIFORM

As the weather is changing, and children are wearing lighter coats to school, please ensure that they are clearly labelled. The children often take their coats, jumpers and cardigans off in the playground so encourage them to make sure they bring all their uniform home at the end of the day. If they mistakenly take home an item that does not belong to them, please return it the next day. Please check lost property for missing items of uniform.

The PA are planning a preloved uniform sale before the end of this term. We will send confirmation of the dates as soon as they have been arranged so, please look out for emails.

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