



# NEWSLETTER

Our Value for this half term is



Friday 31st January 2025

Welcome

You may have noticed we've updated the style of our school newsletter. In addition to being sent out to parents and being on the website as usual, it will now also be displayed on the screen in the school office for everyone to read anytime. We hope this makes it even easier to access and keeps everyone informed. Let us know what you think—we're always keen for feedback!

School has been a hive of activity this week. Take a look at the school news section to see some KS2 Science fun for Science Week, Chinese New Year Celebrations and our MAT Winter Olympics team in action! It was also a pleasure to welcome our Year 2 Parents to our first Reading café today, thank you for your amazing support.



## Values—Zest

This half term we are focusing on our school value of zest.

Some of the children in Year 2 and Year 5 have enjoyed some extra zest lessons from visiting teachers this week. I have also seen and heard lots of zest on show in our KS2 MAT showcase auditions!

Here is a reminder of our zest value story:

We sparkle with energy, eager to start the day. Pausing to admire a new display, we feel a swell of pride for the vibrant tapestry of learning woven by our school community. Each stroke of colour represents not just knowledge, but the joy of discovery and the bonds forged in exploration.



# Attendance

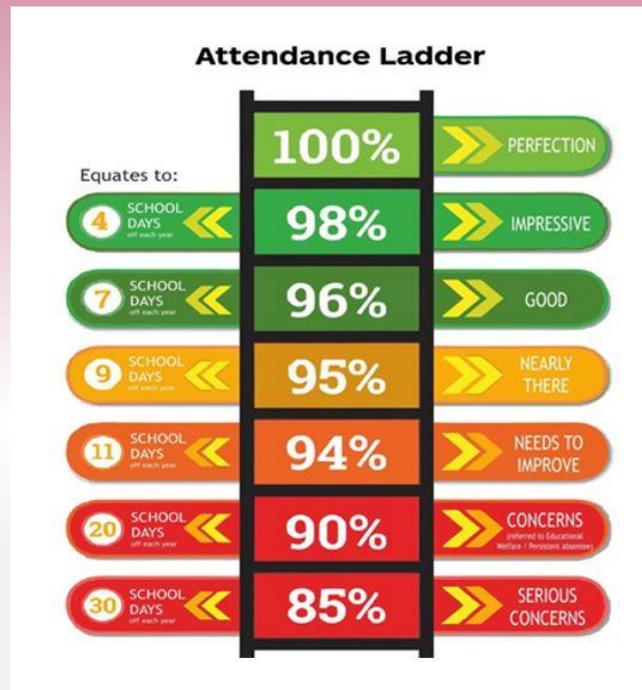
Our whole school attendance this week is 95.5%.

Congratulations to the Attendance Cup winners: shared between 1ZP, 3FT, 5SS with 99.3% - 2 marks missing

Silver: 1EM with 98.2% - 5 marks missing

Bronze: 2JRKE and 4LC with 97.9% - 6 marks missing

Well done everyone!



# Save the date!



Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> February – Year 6 Residential meeting

Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> – Friday 7<sup>th</sup> February – Children's Mental Health Week

Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> February - Year 3 Roman Day

Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> February - Year 1 Trip to Hartlebury Castle, Kidderminster

Friday 7<sup>th</sup> February - SEND Wellbeing Cafe

Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> February - Safer Internet Day

Thursday 13<sup>th</sup> February - Reception and year 6 height and weight check

Friday 14<sup>th</sup> February - Reception and year 6 height and weight check

Friday 14<sup>th</sup> February - Deadline for MAT showcase audition submissions

Friday 14<sup>th</sup> February – Zest Value Day and Ambassadors assembly

Friday 14<sup>th</sup> February - End of Spring Term 1

Monday 24<sup>th</sup> February - Spring Term 2 Starts

Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> February – School Disco

Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> March - Year 3 Trip to Think Tank

Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> March – Friday 7<sup>th</sup> March – Book fayre

Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> March – World Book Day



# Opal

One OPAL vision is that every child in every school has an amazing hour of high-quality play every day – with no exceptions.

If one child is not enjoying playtimes, then things still need improving.

This week in OPAL, the children have been thoroughly enjoying using our large loose parts to create their own obstacle courses. Using jumps and turns to get across the course, the children were able to put a fun twist on exercise!

This week the children have been extremely imaginative and creative with their play. From superhero and citizen role play using our climbing frame, to a Rainy Restaurant! Again, it has been so lovely to see the children mixing with other year groups, taking the time to nurture and care for each other through play times.

We are in the process of building our new large loose parts storage. We would be extremely grateful if you have any donations of large loose parts, such as tyres, rope, tubing, rugs, blankets etc, or even toys such as diggers, trucks, buckets and spades, please could any donations be left in the car park at the end of the service road, Thank you!

Miss Evans is planning something very exciting for Opal...watch this space!



## Y5 Wonderdome

Last week, Year 5 explored outer space by having a planetarium come into school. It was a great addition to our science lesson and the children thoroughly enjoyed it!

Read some of their thoughts:

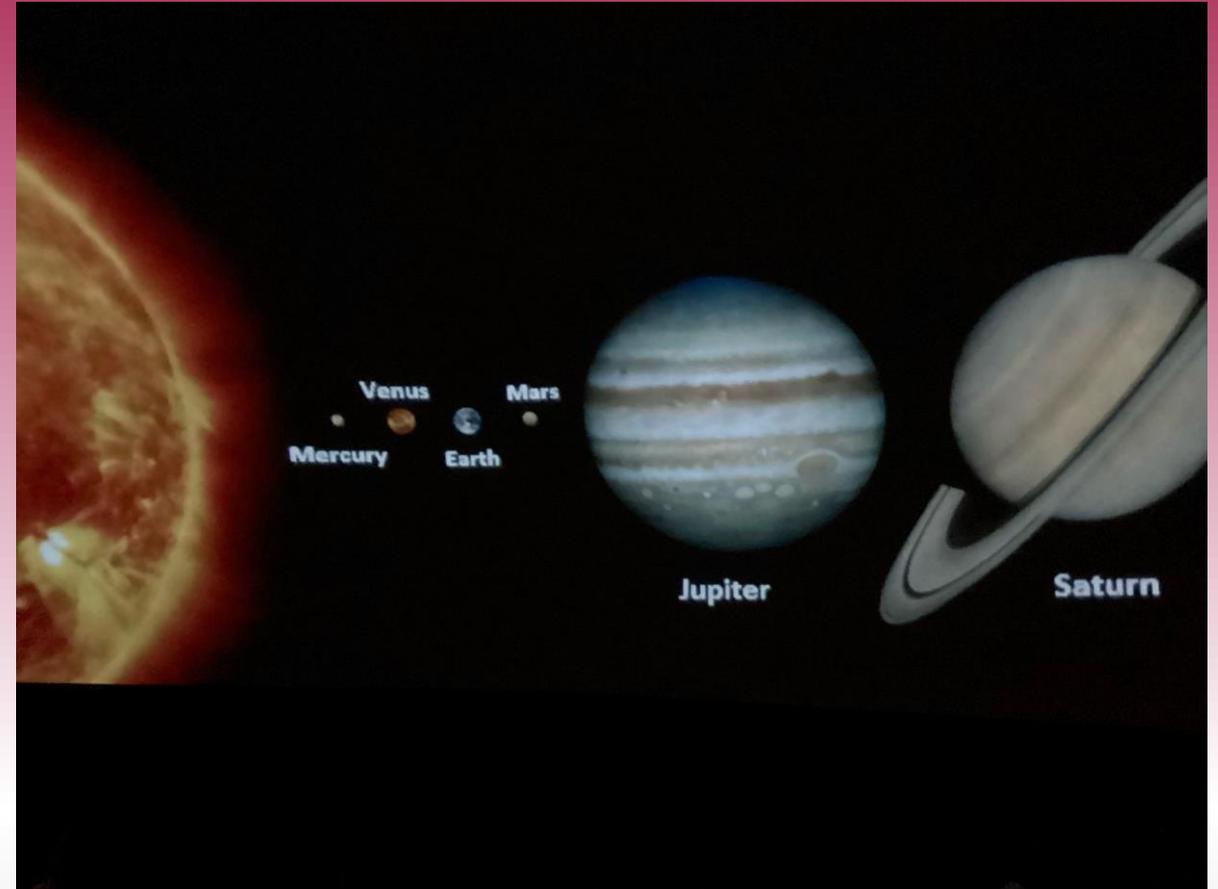
'I'd love to do it again!' - Chester

'I loved seeing how big the planets were!' - Emily

'I liked how we could get comfy, lay down, and stare into outer space.' - Tobias

'It was so cool when it zoomed in on the planets.' - Louis

'I found out that next year, NASA are planning to put 4 people on the moon.' - Ethan



# KS2 Science Week

Year 3 and 4 had an amazing day filled with science this week! Moving around four different activities, the children explored magic milk, rocket mice, curly wurlies and magnetic racing. Lots of fun was had as our budding scientists explored the science behind the experiments. We can't wait for the next science day!



Year 5 and 6 had a fun filled Science Day taking part in some interesting experiments including; fruity batteries, paper horses, fixperts and the curly wurly test. The children all worked as teams to complete the investigations and shown zest and great perseverance even when some of the experiments did not go as planned.



# Reception Chinese New Year

This week Reception welcomed a special guest, Suyen (Kyra's Mum), who told them all about celebrating Chinese New Year. The children were fascinated by the decorations, food and especially the dragon dance. Suyen and Kyra kindly gave the children a red packet for good luck.



## MAT Winter Olympics

On Thursday some children from key stage 2 took part in the first Shires MAT Winter Olympics.

We had a fantastic day filled with indoor athletics events such as: speed bounce, long jump, high jump, shotput and track events. All of the children participated really well and gave 100% effort. They represented the school amazingly and it was great to come away with 2nd place! Well done to all involved!



## Community News

### HOW CAN I GET ADVICE?

Benefits Money Housing finance Work Debt  
Family Confidential advice Tenancy advice

**Would you like to find out about groups, activities and services available locally?**

Drop-in to one of the following safe and supportive spaces, where people are available to offer support, advice and connect you to the right help!  
No need for an appointment.

#### Redditch Library

15 Market Place, Redditch, B98 8AR

Monthly on a Monday, 11am - 2pm on the following dates in 2025:

27th January	28th April	28th July	27th October
24th February	19th May	18th August	24th November
24th March	30th June	29th September	22nd December

(Printer, telephone, scanning & computer access available)

The 'Your Health' bus will also be at this venue.

#### The Old Needle Works Foundation

Britten House, Britten St, Redditch, B97 6HD

Weekly on a Wednesday, 9.30am - 12pm



We look forward to welcoming the children back after the weekend for the first week of February, when we will be celebrating children's mental health week with some very special art projects courtesy of the Friends!

Have a lovely weekend

Mrs Heffernan