



PRIMARY WORD

We should be the best we can be for we are all God's Masterpiece

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Head Teacher - Neil Tyler

Events for week beginning Monday 5th February 2024

Day	Time	Event	Venue	Taken By
Monday 5th	15.30-16.30	YR1-4 Freestyle Soccer	School Field	Freestyle
Tuesday 6th	12.15-13.00 18.15-20.00	YR4/5 Home Learning Club Taekwon-do	Miss de Rossi's Room Main Hall	Miss de Rossi Mr Bonfield
Wednesday 7th	09.00-11.00 09.30-15.00	YR3, 5/6 Guitar YR5 Black Hole Planetarium Visit	Library Main Hall	Mr Smith Year 5 Teachers
Thursday 8th	09.00-11.30 12.45-13.05 13.10-14.10 15.30-16.15 15.30-16.30 17.30-19.45	YR4 Samba Drumming YR2 Choir Woodwind KS2 Choir YR1-4 Freestyle Dodgeball Taekwon-do	Small Hall Mrs Walter's Room Library Main Hall School Playground Main Hall	YR4 Teachers Mrs Walter Miss Retford Mrs Marsh, Devereux, Varrier Freestyle Mr Bonfield
Friday 9th	09.00-10.20 12.15-12.45 12.30-15.00 15.30-16.30	Violin Beginners Recorder Club Selected YR5 Swimming YR3-6 Freestyle Dodgeball	Library Miss Duckworth's Room The Mounts School Playground	Mr Ebrahim Miss Duckworth Mrs Reynolds Freestyle
Sunday 11th	10.30-11.30	Brixworth Community Church - Informal Service	Main Hall	Rev Andy Lloyd-Williams

Years 3 and 4 Athletics Club

Mrs Devereux will be running an Athletics club for years 3 and 4 after half term. This club will be held on a Tuesday afternoon from 3.30pm - 4.15pm.

The football club for years 5 and 6 held by Mrs Reynolds will also begin again after half term but will now be held on a Thursday instead of Tuesday.

Choir

Choir will now return to the original collection time of 4.15pm on Thursday afternoons.

Guitar - Thursday 8th February

Please note, if your child attends guitar lessons on a Thursday, their lesson on Thursday 8th February will be rescheduled to a catch up session at a later date due to Mr Smith attending a residential trip that day.

Babes in the Wood

Summer and Poppy will be performing

Babes in the Wood

at

The Castle Theatre

on

Saturday at 7.30pm

and

Sunday at 2.30pm



Assembly Theme Week Commencing 5th February 2024
Thoughts, Beliefs & Values
Social Action

Celebration Assembly

Congratulations to the following children who have won awards for consistently upholding one or more of the school values.



Socially

Aiden C

Academically

Bella D
 Ted H
 J'Ziah S
 Arthur C
 Florence W
 Scarlett C

Spiritually

Evelyn N

Praise Letters

Congratulations to the following children for receiving a praise letter from their teacher:

Summer D, Mason H, Ethan Y, Amelie R, Sophia L,
 Poppy S, Lewis N, Max S, Bronwyn T,
 Isla B, Heidi J, Bonny W, Thomas D, Ralph E, Rosie B

The Song of the Week This Week is...

Dancing in the Dark
 By
 Bruce Springsteen





On Friday 26th January myself, a team of willing staff and 100 members of the KS2 Choir arrived once again at the World Resorts Arena to attend the Young Voices mass choir experience! This was the largest group of children we had ever taken to this event and it was wonderful to see so many children enthusiastic about singing together... the excitement from the children clearly reflected this throughout the day! At the arena we were joined by over 5,700 other children from across the country who had eagerly been rehearsing a repertoire of songs and dances to perform with many famous artists, including MC Grammer, Natalie Williams and Urban Strides. As always we were incredibly proud of the children who not only behaved brilliantly but were a credit to our school and their parents. I have no doubts they have spent the last few days (as I have!) singing away to themselves their favourite songs and reminiscing on the lifelong memories that they have made. Many thanks must also go to not only the staff and parents but also to the generous PTA who funded part of the coach cost for this experience.

- Mrs Marsh



I thought the Mexican wave was so fun!
- **Macie B**

It was such a great day!
- **Gretel P**

I loved every minute!
- **Vesper M**

It is something I would love to do again
and I really want to go again next year.
- **Elsie K**





House Day Report

On Friday 26th of January, our school had our first house day. There are five houses: Red house, Yellow house, Green house, Blue house and Purple house. At the start of that day (in assembly) five children were picked from each house and came up to choose a scroll. Inside each scroll was a picture of a shield for each house.

Later that day, we were given the design of the shield that our house had got. Everyone decorated the shield design and each house voted for their best one. The five winning designs will be made into a banner and shield to hang in the hall. After lunch, we got ourselves into groups of 2-5 people then we were told to make marble runs out of different resources. Once we had built them, we timed them all and the longest timed marble run would go into the final.

At the end of the day, the final began. At the front of the hall there were five marble runs representing each house. Then we timed each one to see which one was the slowest. Green house was 12 seconds, Purple house's one didn't work, Red house was 4.2 seconds, Yellow house was 4 seconds and Blue house didn't work.

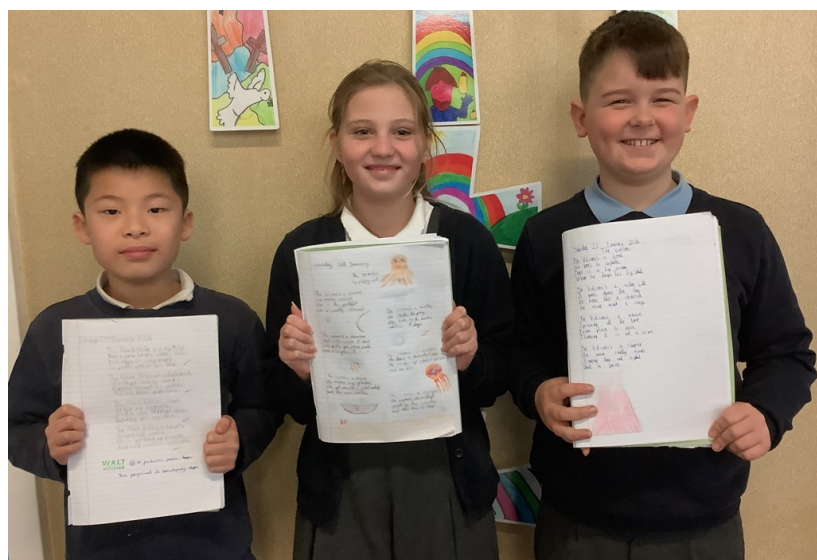
Everyone enjoyed this new activity and it meant that we could co-operate with different people in the school. This was also a very good day because it taught many people how to work together. We hope there is another house day coming up soon. It's got a five star rating already! - **By Sammy and Ivy, Year 6**



Year 5 Poetry Competition

This term, Year 5 have been exploring poetry in English. They used Valerie Bloom's poem 'The River' as inspiration to write their own poem about the natural world. Last week, Year 5 had a poetry competition, in which the winner from each class, Arthur, Mason and Poppy, performed their poem to Mr Tyler and our office staff.

All three poems were brilliantly written and presented but the overall winner was decided as Poppy S.



The Ocean

**The ocean's a dancer
She prances around,
She is a spotlight
She is worldly renowned.**

**The ocean's a hunter
She stalks the prey,
She hides in the bushes
Waiting all day.**

**The ocean's a monster
That hides under the bed,
She pulls you from under
And fills you with dread.**

**The ocean's a whirlpool
She does a beautiful spin,
She sucks up almost everything
Into her bin.**

**The ocean's a diver
She makes big splashes,
She got constant gold medals
And she never crashes.**

**The ocean's a voyager
She explores down deep,
Finding the wonders
And takes them to keep.**

By Poppy S

Year 5 & 6 Athletics District Final

On Thursday 25th January, the year 5 and 6 Athletics Team went to Daventry Athletics Finals. We went in the afternoon and made it there for the boys to start their track races and the girls to start their field events. The track events were: 1x1 relay, 2x2 relay, 6x2 relay, 4x1 relay, 4x1 hurdles and the 4x1 obstacle race. The field events were: standing long jump, triple jump, chest push, speed bounce and vertical jump. Overall, our school came 2nd place. We all cheered each other on and tried our best. Everyone was really happy with the results. It was great fun! At the very end, the teacher had an opportunity to compete in a soft javelin event. Unfortunately, we did not win but it didn't affect our score. We really enjoyed it and had lots of fun.

**- By Chloe T and Grace G,
Year 6**



Year 2 Character Descriptions

Our Year 2s have written some lovely character descriptions of the boy from our book this half term - 'The Black Hat' by Maia Walczak. We shared some of the descriptions with the author and she has sent a lovely email back.

The boy has a delicate face, stunning jumper and a lonely heart. He's as young as a cub. He is the happiest boy in the world at Christmas. His voice is as high as water splashing. The boy has brown shoes, dark green buttons and grey trousers. He is attached to the ripped black hat. His fingers are as wiggly as wibbly wobbly sausages. His knees are as twisty as cogs. His eyes are as round as Jupiter. He has brown hair, a kind heart and a cheerful smile. His heart is as bright as the sun.

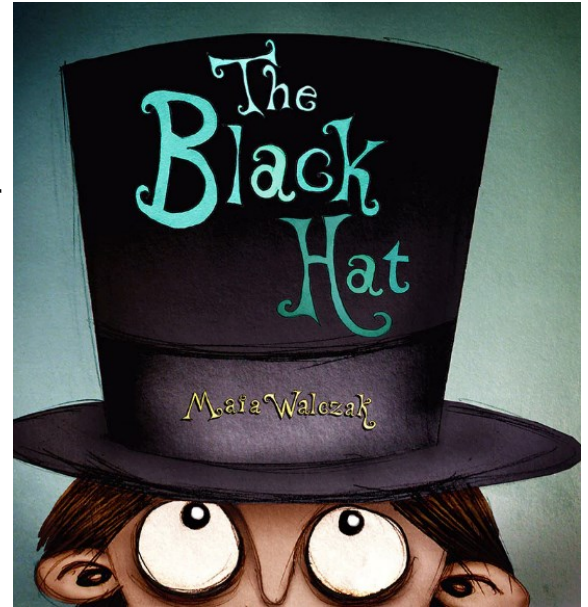
- **By Matthew R**

He is as kind as a puppy. He has round, tired, wide eyes. When he is around the magic animals he is really happy. He is most happy when he is around the rainbow and when he has the sparkly and glowing special animals. He has dull, floppy and oval ears. He has spirals on his knees. He loves his magic hat so much, he will never ever take it off until it is bed time. He loves his bird friends so much.

- **By Owen F**

The young boy as loved as a heart. The happiest boy in the whole world. A young boy as fearless as a tiger. The boy has the kindest heart in the world for then he can take great care of the animals. The boy has whirls on his arms and legs. A boy has big round eyes and long ears. He is the happiest most joyful and wonderful person on earth. He has his hands in his pockets. He has a yellow shirt and black buttons. The boy has red and brown shoes.

- **By Amelia S**



He has a blue top, a yellow coat and he lives in a cabin. His eyes are as big as his hat. The boy went to sleep and magic happened. The boy is ordinary, kind and helpful. His hat is as black as night. He is kind of a zombie.

- **By Ethan Y**

The boy found a black, shiny hat. He has shiny shoes and a blue t-shirt and a yellow coat. He has black shade around his eyes. He is the loneliest boy in the forest. His hair is as black as a shadow and he has a big rope around his black hat. He is as kind as a teacher. He loves his black hat and creatures come out of it.

- **By Hugo B**

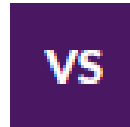
Below is the reply from Maia Walczak:

These were so wonderful to read! Thank you for sharing :) It's so sweet to see the book used in this way. I actually released a completely new revised version of The Black Hat only a couple of months ago (the same story but with new illustrations) as the original you used was created many many many years ago when I was first starting out on my journey creating picture books. So it's so sweet to see these descriptions of the original version of the character and to be reminded of him, and also to know that that version is still being enjoyed and inspiring the children like this with their creative writing!! :) I absolutely love these descriptions, they seemed so thoughtful and some of them very poetic, with such beautiful imagery!

Thank you for sharing, I hope the children keep up the inspiration and beautiful writing!

Maia

Loughborough
Lightning



Leicester
Tigers

Northampton Saints and Loughborough Lightning, supported and funded by Travis Perkins, have offered your school an allocation of 20 funded tickets to attend a double header fixture on Saturday 10th February at cinch stadium @ Franklins Garden (1400 KO). Loughborough Lightning women's team will be hosting Leicester Tigers Women's in the inaugural local derby fixture, followed by the Northampton Saints Under 18s hosting Newcastle Falcons Under 18s.

With the Women's Rugby World Cup just around the corner in 2025, and due to be hosted at cinch stadium @ Franklins Gardens, now is an exciting time to get behind your local Premiership Women's Rugby team, Loughborough Lightning, with some of the biggest stars in the game taking to the field.

Saturday 10th February will be a great day out for the family to come and support our elite women's rugby team in one of the best stadiums that rugby has to offer. To receive your x2 funded tickets, please complete the form below no later than **Monday 5th February 2024.**

Loughborough Lightning vs Leicester Tigers Funded Ticket Form - [Loughborough Lightning Girls Schools Rugby Development Programme \(marketing-pages.com\)](https://marketing-pages.com)

Should you have any queries please contact community@northhamptonsaints.co.uk or contact the Ticket Office on **01604 581000.**

We hope to see you there!

Regards,

Northampton Saints



WORLD BOOK DAY

To Celebrate **World Book Day** on Thursday 7th March we are holding a special Themed Menu.

Order a meal for your child in the normal way for that day to be in with a chance to win a Gruffalo Cookbook.

<p>Main - Gruffalo Terrible Tusks</p> <p>Served with Owl Eyes and Brave Beans (Pork Sausages with Saute Potatoes and Baked Beans)</p>
<p>Vegetarian - Poisonous Warts Pepper and Cheese Frittata</p> <p>Served with Owl Eyes and Brave Beans (Pepper and Cheese Frittata with Saute Potatoes and Baked Beans)</p>
<p>Plant Based - Knobbly Knees</p> <p>Served with Owl Eyes and Brave Beans (Vegetarian Nuggets with Saute Potatoes and Baked Beans)</p>
<p>Packed Lunch - Mouse's Favourite Cheese Roll, Mouse Droppings, Orange Eyes and a Log Pile House</p> <p>(Cheese Roll, Sultana and Raisin Bag, Cocoa Brownie and a Satsuma)</p>
<p>Pudding - Snakes Smoothie</p> <p>(Strawberry Smoothie)</p>

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At National Online Safety, we believe in empowering parents, carers and trusted adults with the information to hold an informed conversation about online safety with their children, should they feel it is needed. This guide focuses on one of many issues which we believe trusted adults should be aware of. Please visit www.nationalonlinesafety.com for further guides, hints and tips for adults.

Top Tips for SETTING BOUNDARIES AROUND GAMING

If your child loves video games, then you'll probably be aware that how long they spend gaming – and what they're actually playing – can occasionally become a source of concern or conflict. The UK's trade body for interactive entertainment, Ukie, has recently launched a campaign to promote safer and more responsible gaming among young people – with parents and carers helping by setting sensible and fair boundaries. Our guide has tips on key areas where you could agree some healthy ground rules for your child's gaming activity.

PROMOTE SAFER GAME CHOICES

Deciding which online games are OK – and which should be avoided – is tricky. Some titles allow children to cooperate or compete with strangers, which creates potential risks. Watching your child play online for a while could provide more insight into a particular game, while the parental controls on most consoles allow you to limit who can chat to your child or send them friend requests. Remind your child of the hazards around strangers online when you discuss this boundary with them.

ENCOURAGE REGULAR BREAKS

Help your child understand the need to take regular breaks, playing in shorter bursts rather than marathon sessions. Bear in mind that some games (such as role-playing games) require time investment from the player, while others (online team games, for example) can't be stopped or paused at a moment's notice. A quick break every hour or so is good practice, and you could suggest some things to do in these breaks, such as having a drink of water or getting some fresh air.

AGREE SPENDING LIMITS

There's no doubt that gaming can be expensive, and younger players often don't realise how much paying for digital items and subscriptions can add up to. Many young gamers love to buy new skins or upgrades for their character, so you could settle on a fixed amount that your child is allowed to spend on in-game items each week or month. This sort of boundary will not only help your child to manage their expectations but will also make you more aware of the price of these items.

DISCUSS AGE RATINGS

Children often ignore the age ratings on games – or are unaware they even exist. If you're happy with your child playing a particular game even though it's rated above their age, then establish that as a boundary: emphasise that you've made an exception, and talk about what age ratings mean and why they're important. You could add context to this boundary by browsing games' boxes together while shopping, discussing why some games might have earned certain age ratings.

18
CENSORED

FACTOR IN FRIENDS

If your child is a keen video gamer, the chances are that they'll have other gamers among their social circle, too. When friends visit, do they instantly dash to their console or computer? You could put boundaries in place before their guests arrive by agreeing on a length of gaming time. Bear in mind, though, that they may try to extend this once they're together. Try coming up with activities or challenges for them during screen breaks – if they join in, they earn a little extra time on their game.

ENJOY GAMING TOGETHER

Setting time aside to play video games together can be an enjoyable bonding exercise. Undeniably, some young gamers may be less enthusiastic about a parent or carer joining in, but it can be a productive way of encouraging them to share their hobby with you. Setting goals or tasks might be useful: if they love Minecraft, choose something to build together; if Fortnite's their favourite, ask to try out some of the fun game modes, like Prop Hunt, which don't require high skill levels.

TALK ABOUT EMOTIONS

Help your child to monitor their emotions as they play. Discuss what is (and isn't) an acceptable level of competitiveness to show while gaming. Are they allowed to trash talk other players, for example? Can they notice when they get angry if they lose? Do they think these emotions are healthy? Some games can provoke anger, but others can bring joy, humour and the thrill of overcoming a challenge. Try to steer your child towards games that tend to produce these more positive feelings.

BE PREPARED FOR TROLLS

A frequent problem when gaming online is other players who are deliberately troublesome. Make sure your child knows how to report and block someone who makes their experience a negative one. Between you, decide if or how they should deal with these online trolls. Talk about where your child's boundaries are in terms of what they think is acceptable: what behaviour by other users is merely frustrating, and what crosses the line to become upsetting or abusive.

Meet Our Expert

Daniel Upscombe is a writer specialising in technology, video gaming, virtual reality and Web3. He has also written 15 guidebooks for children, covering games such as Fortnite, Apex Legends, Valorant, Roblox and Minecraft. With work published by the likes of PC Gamer, Kotaku, Pocket Gamer and VG247, he has reviewed more than 50 games and products over the past year.



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