



Weekly

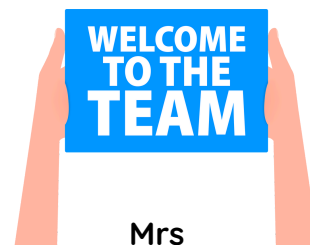
NEWSLETTER



30 January 2026

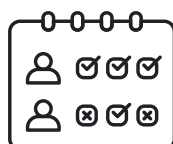
Headteacher's Message: Mrs Marks

This week at MDPA, our assembly focused on inclusion, it was truly heart warming to witness how confidently the children expressed their ideas on including others in their play and learning. They thoughtfully connected this to our school value of kindness, recognising that demonstrating kindness helps everyone feel valued and that each individual truly matters. I also had a delightful meeting with our School Council representatives to share ideas for enhancing our reading areas both inside and outside the school. Our goal is to make these spaces even more inviting and to foster a genuine love for reading. A big congratulations to the Raccoons class for their wonderful assembly on 'Astro Girl'! Special thanks to Miss Rowe for her support in guiding the children through this experience; it was thoroughly enjoyable. Thank you to all the families who attended, I'm sure you felt immense pride in your children's achievements.



Mrs
Debonnaire-Wilson
Nursery Assistant

Mr Firth
Site Officer



Class Attendance

The class with this week's highest attendance is:



Bears Class
97.41%



Emus Class
97.04%



Raccoons Class
98.41%



Penguins Class
96.14%



Elephants Class
97.54%



Yaks Class
91.15%



Geckos Class
95.20%



Roadrunners Class
91.91%



Macaws Class
94.44%



Hummingbirds Class
97.04%

Stars of the Week

Reception

Klara Klaczak
Millie Mclees

Key Stage One

Kajus Kavaliauskas
Luke Jackson
Lily Braczyk
Ruben Mandair

Lower Key Stage Two

Hanna Ostrowska
Isabelle Burns
Hunter Faragher

Upper Key Stage Two

Noah Milasius



Dates for your Diary



School Events

Children's Mental Health Week
Week Commencing:
Monday 2nd February

Health & Weight Checks
Reception Children
(Bears & Emus)
Monday 2nd February

Non Uniform Day
Wear bright colourful clothes!
Friday 6th January

£1 voluntary contribution via MCAS

Parent Consultation Evenings
Tuesday 10th February
&
Wednesday 11th February
3.30 - 6.30pm

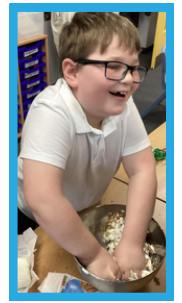
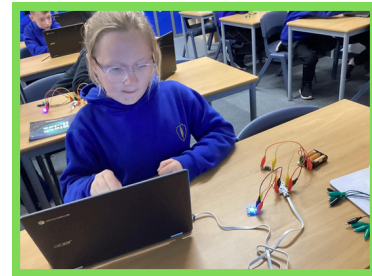
Spring One Honours Awards
Friday 13th February
2.30pm
Parents - by invitation only

Term Dates

Spring Term 2026

Half Term Break
Monday 16th February
to
Friday 20th February

End of Spring Term
Friday 27th March



Enriching Curriculum

Nursery Team

This week our learning in Nursery took us into the world of hibernation and Winter survival. We watched some amazing films on "BBCiplayer Winter Watch" of nature in all its Winter glory! The children explored how animals adapt to colder weather, keep warm, and where they rest during winter and how fur, fat, and shelters help them survive. The children created beautiful hedgehogs using dried leaves. Inside the children worked together to build winter dens for animals using magnetic bricks, leaves, wooden blocks and lego. Outside the children converted our wooden teepee into a winter shelter insulated with pine branches, encouraging teamwork and problem-solving while thinking about how animals stay warm. The children enjoyed pretending to be animals curled up in cosy winter homes. We made sensory snow, allowing the children to explore texture and change through hands-on play, developing their sensory awareness. Our adventure walks have given the children opportunities to explore the wonderful nature around us, sparking conversations about plant growth and seasonal change...observing decaying leaves, tiny buds on branches, berries still available for the birds to feed on, and even new shoots of spring bulbs are beginning to appear!

Reception Team

Reception have started learning all about the people who helps us. We started this looking at the police and firefighters. It has been lovely to see the wonderful roleplay with children helping others as police officers and making sure everyone is safe. In Maths, we have started to look at the numbers 6 and 7, showing that these numbers are made from '5 and a bit'. We have had a real focus on letter formation this week and really impressed with how hard the children are trying. Finally, it has been lovely to see lots of posts on Tapestry with children completing the zip up your own coat challenge. We are so impressed!

Key Stage One Team

This week, the children have started a new focus book in their Writing lessons. Year One are starting to read 'Leo and the Octopus' by Isabelle Marinov and thinking about what it means to be unique and Year Two are starting their new Writing unit on 'The Minpins' by Roald Dahl. In Computing, we have been exploring different artists to give us ideas on creating our own art online as part of our 'Digital Painting' unit. In History, we have been exploring the life of David Attenborough. As part of our Science lessons, we have been continuing to think about the different animal types and their features. Finally, in PSHRE, we have been learning how to keep ourselves safe if we ever become lost.

Lower Key Stage Two Team

The children in Year Three have begun exploring the text 'Small in the City'. We examined the author, Sydney Smith, focusing on what inspired him to become an author and his use of limited text to convey meaning. We also discussed how illustrations can be powerful in communicating ideas and emotions. In Year Four Writing lessons, the children have been editing and finalising their own stories. They have completed the publishing process and produced a final version of their work. In Science, we have been exploring fossils. We researched a variety of fossils, made predictions about how long the organisms had been deceased, and identified what they may have been. They then applied their investigation skills by taking on the role of pathologists, carefully searching for fossils in soil, mud, bark, and sand using a range of tools.

Upper Key Stage Two Team

UKS2 have had a lively and engaging week of learning. In History, we continued exploring the fascinating world of the Mayans, focusing on their remarkable inventions. The children were especially intrigued by the Mayan number system, which showed just how advanced this ancient civilisation was. In Science, we investigated water resistance and explored how being streamlined can help objects move more efficiently through water. The children enjoyed experimenting, predicting outcomes, and discussing how shape affects movement. In Writing, we began our new text 'Freedom Bird' by Jerdine Nolen. This powerful story prompted thoughtful discussions about what freedom truly means and how it can look different for each person.