



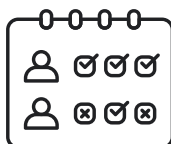
Weekly

NEWSLETTER

27 February 2026

Headteacher's Message: Mrs Marks

This week in our assemblies we have been thinking about the British Value of Individual Liberty. The children have been learning about the freedom to make choices, express beliefs, and live their lives within the law while respecting the rights of others. We were joined on Wednesday and Thursday by 16 Teach East Trainee Teachers as part of their Intensive Teaching and Practice focus on SEND and scaffolding. They spent time observing lessons and then put their learning into practice by teaching groups from Year One. We had lots of wonderful feedback about our children, staff and school as well as hearing that our school has a wonderful warm sense of belonging. The Book Fair has arrived at MDPA, please do come and browse the selection of books on offer. The school gets a percentage of what we are able to sell, meaning we can purchase more books for the children in school.



Class Attendance

The class with this week's highest attendance is:



Bears Class
96.7%



Emus Class
95.4%



Raccoons Class
97.8%



Penguins Class
91.8%



Elephants Class
96.2%



Yaks Class
92.9%



Geckos Class
96.3%



Roadrunners Class
97.9%



Macaws Class
97.1%



Hummingbirds Class
96.3%

Stars of the Week

Reception

Olivia Parker

Kaiden Mandair

Key Stage One

Emily Ward

Ellaline Edwards

Rebeka Ozemblaускаite

Macauley Burns

Lower Key Stage Two

Amy Gintere

Ava Gati

Eadie Esmond

Upper Key Stage Two

Monika Chorna



Dates for your Diary

School Events

MDPA World Book Day
Friday 6th March
(Children come dressed as a book character)

School Disco
Wednesday 11th March
Reception and KS1 Disco
4.00 - 5.00pm
KS2 Disco
5.00 - 6.00pm

Yaks Class Assembly
Thursday 12th March
2.30 - 3.00pm
Parents - by invitation only

Geckos Class Assembly
Thursday 26th March
2.30 - 3.00pm
Parents - by invitation only

Term Dates

End of Spring Term
Friday 27th March

Summer One Term

Training Day
Monday 13th April
(no school)

School Opens
Tuesday 14 April

Bank Holiday
(no school)
Monday 4th May

Half Term Break
25th May - 29th May

I ♥ READING



Enriching Curriculum

Nursery Team

Our topic in Nursery has taken us on a journey to China and Asia as we introduced the children to Lunar New Year as a celebration observed in many Asian countries to mark the beginning of the lunar calendar year. We talked about how families prepare for this special holiday and learned about some traditions, such as cleaning homes, preparing special foods for family feasts, decorating the home in bright colours of red and gold, exchanging red envelopes of coins with close family, and how red symbolises good fortune and happiness for the year ahead. We listened to the traditional story of the Animal Race and how each year is represented by a different animal and that 2026 is the Year of the Horse. The children learned that China is a very large country and that it is far away from United Kingdom. In our sensory area, the children explored a tray filled with red-coloured rice by hiding animals and mark making firework designs in the rice. They created beautiful puppet dragons for their role play. The highlight of the week has been our special feast of different foods, including noodles and trying to eat them with chopsticks!

Reception Team

To start this term, Reception have been focusing on different animals. We have started by learning all about animals we have as pets, how we care for them and sharing pets we have at home! It's been lovely to see how engaged the children have been in our whole class discussions. In Phonics, we have started to learn the digraphs 'th' and 'ck', using these to build and read words. It's been lovely to see so many children playing outside in the wonderful weather this week. Exploring the mud kitchen, creating their own obstacle courses, and using different containers to move water and was the toy animals. It's been a great week!

Key Stage One Team

This week in Key Stage One, the children have immersed themselves into their new Writing focus book. Year One have been thinking about their hopes and dreams linking to 'Dinosaurs and all that rubbish' and Year Two have been thinking about where they would like to go in the world linking to 'Dear Earth' by Isabel Otter. In PSHRE, we have started our new unit on financial well-being, and we are thinking about where money comes from and what we use it for. In Geography we have explored the countries close to the equator and in Computing, we are looking at sorting and organising data.

Lower Key Stage Two Team

Year Three have started reading a new book, 'Cinderella of the Nile' by Beverley Naidoo. The Children have written a newspaper report and been learning about metaphors and similes. In Maths, we have been partitioning three-digit numbers using a range of resources. In P.E., we have started learning to play tennis by coordinating our hands to eyes in order to throw and catch a ball. In Year Four, the children have been creating their own versions of 'The Selfish Giant', by inventing new characters and settings. In Maths, we have been using distributive law to solve two-part addition and subtraction problems. In R.E., we have started exploring the relationship between Passover celebrations and the Easter Story.

Upper Key Stage Two Team

In Maths, the children have been solving problems involving comparison and change by using their knowledge of multiplication and division. For Computing we've been looking at databases by creating paper databases. Next week, we'll go onto look at computer databases. In Geography, we recapped longitude and latitude and used coordinates to locate the positions of significant cities across the world.

