

City Academy Whitehawk

An aerial photograph showing the City Academy Whitehawk building, a large brick structure with a red roof and a central tower, surrounded by a dense residential area with many houses and green fields in the background.

Headteacher's Newsletter 11
February 10th 2023

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www.caw.brighton-hove.sch.uk

Thomas McMorris	Headteacher
Russell Wood	Deputy Headteacher
Sally Singh	Welfare Manager
Angela Dolan	Business Manager
Tina Reynolds	SENDCo
James McAdam	Assistant Headteacher
Florella Scozzafava	Assistant Headteacher

Friday 10th February

Dear City Academy Whitehawk Families,

Happy Half Term!

Thank you so much for your support over the past 5 and a half weeks. This final fortnight has been superb with NSPCC number day, Safer Internet Week, trips to the jubilee library and a visit from the Planetarium. It's been great to see so many of you at our Family Engagement Events. Big thanks to all the families who downloaded the Arbor App and booked to come to hear about their children's successes at this week's consultations too!

Please read each page of this newsletter to ensure that you're up to speed with everything going on here at school in Spring 2, including an update on planned industrial action.

Strike Action in Spring 2

The National Education Union (NEU) has declared strike action. These strikes due to take place on:

- **Thursday 2nd March,**
- Wednesday 15th and Thursday 16th March 2023.

These strikes are happening because of a national dispute between the Unions and the Government over how schools are funded and teachers' pay and conditions.

Due to the likely disruption to be caused around staffing arrangements, it is highly likely that City Academy Whitehawk will be closed to all pupils on Thursday 2nd March. I will finalise this decision on Tuesday 21st February. I am communicating this now to allow families as much time as possible to make childcare arrangements for the day.

We are committed to providing a safe and secure environment for our pupils. For this to be achieved, we require a minimum number of trained colleagues to be on site and this cannot be guaranteed on Thursday 2nd March.

Our Trust-wide INSET day will still have to go ahead on Friday 3rd March. I fully understand that this situation may be frustrating for you as families. I recognise the impact that this is likely to have on our families and I regret the disruption that will be caused. We are planning the term meticulously to ensure that we can make the most of every moment at school.

As ever, I thank you for your continued support.



Thomas McMorris

Please click [here](#) for an update about what your children are up to this term!



Nursery
Hatchlings



Year Three
Kites
Kestrels



Reception
Robins



Year Four
Jackdawes
Magpies



Year One
Puffins
Woodpeckers



Year Five
Barn Owls
Hérons



Year Two
Goldfinches
Greenfinches



Year Six
Eagles
Falcons

coffee on the gate

Early Years



Hatchlings and Robins Parents and Carers

Weather permitting, we hope you will join us for a coffee and a chat on the gate after the morning drop off.

We hope this will provide an opportunity to talk with your child's teacher about how your child is getting on at school and at home.

Promoting relationships between home and school is an essential part of the Early Years curriculum and is something which is very important to us.

Thank you to everyone who joined us last month!

Monday 27th February, 8:30 – 9:00am

Running on a Monthly Basis



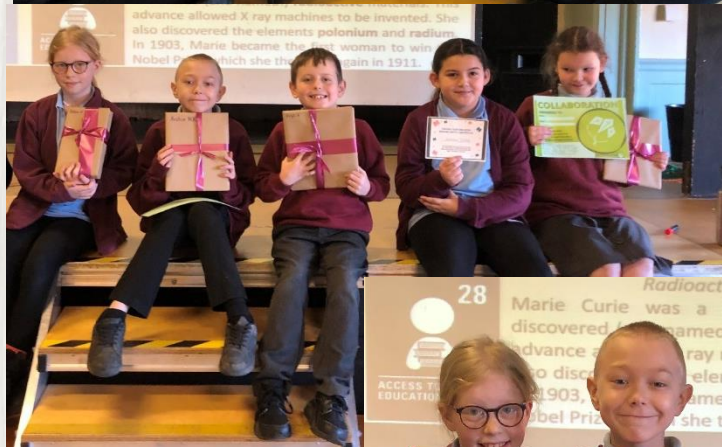
World Book Day 2023



We are busy getting ready for our World Book Day celebrations, which we will be celebrating on **Wednesday 1st March**! This is what children can look forward to...

- **Come to school dressed up as a book character! See [this website](#) for some easy (and budget friendly) ideas – there is no expectation that new outfits are worn!**
- **Enjoy a special assembly launching our World Book Day Whitehawk Book! In the past we've done: The Enormous Crocodile, Journey and Charlie Cook's Favourite Book!**
 - **Take part in a Whitehawk Word Challenge throughout the day!**
- **Create special artwork which will go on display in Whitehawk Library or our own school library!**
 - **Take home the World Book Day Book that you have ordered!**
 - **Come along to Whitehawk Library after school for an exciting World Book Day event!**

Reading Raffle 3 Winners



...and Harper-Rose and Archie H



Reading Raffle

3 results

RR3 Highest ticket-earning classes were...

1. Red Robins (71)
2. Magpies (64)
3. Barn Owls (53)

Huge well done to Red Robins and Magpies for knocking Barn Owls off the top spot. A second well done to Barn Owls for continuing to be in the top 3!

Well done you!

601 tickets were entered into reading raffle 2 ... that's a huge **3,005** reads!

We've also beat our total compared to this time last year!

September – January last year	September – January this year
1,718	1750

Book Votes

Book	Total
Choose your own book	207
Octopus Shocktopus	141
Head Kid	33
Traction Man (Double Book Prize)	35
Luckiest Kid In The World	27
Into the Volcano	54
Poppy Goes Wild	31
Marcus Rashford	73

An extra congratulations goes to all 56 children who had 4 or more raffle tickets in the raffle (which has been live since 12th December). Each of these children had the chance to choose a book from a selection we had at school to take home as a well done for their immense effort. Thanks also to all the families who support reading at home with their child!

Reading Raffle 4 is here!

Click the link to hear more about each book!

I really really need a wee Book Trailer

<https://www.yout-ube.com/watch?v=8S5gn2TT0fM>

Space Blasters: Suzie Saves The Universe

<https://www.booktrust.org.uk/book/s/space-blasters-suzie-saves-the-universe/>

The Lost Whale

<https://www.yout-ube.com/watch?v=TZ3oNlvpChk>

Like a Charm

<https://www.yout-ube.com/watch?v=Nkwww8ApaOc>

Dinosaur Department Store

<https://www.yout-ube.com/watch?v=sNnvMYtTI38>

Kensuke's Kingdom

<https://www.yout-ube.com/watch?v=pAqIVRiCVvw>

Goodnight Stories for Rebel Girls

https://www.yout-ube.com/watch?v=jt_QrASqYLo



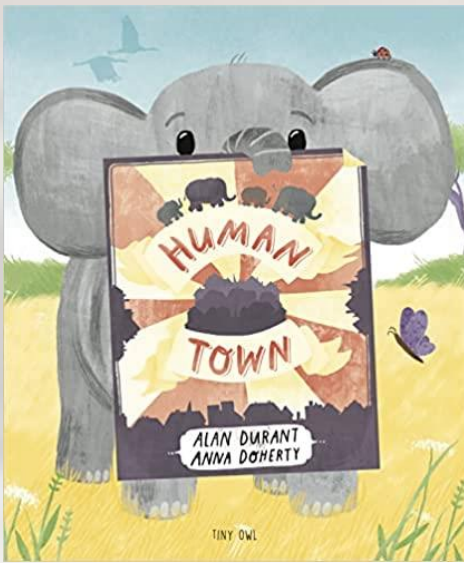
Year 5 Trip to Wakehurst

Year 5 visited Wakehurst Botanical Gardens as part of their science topic on plants and animals. We took part in three activities: exploring the Millennium Seed Bank, Tremendous Trees walk across their beautiful grounds and dissecting and viewing flowers under a microscope. We had a great time!



Y1-4 Author Visit

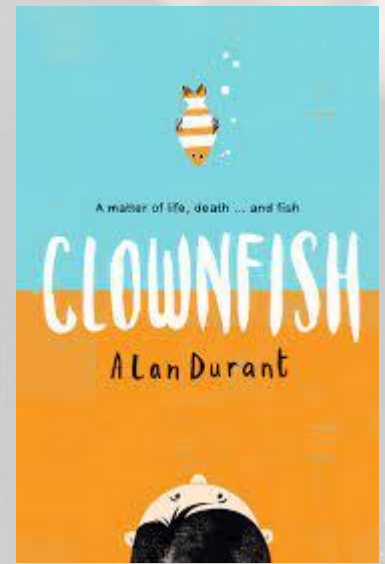
Year 1 – 4 families will have received an email this week from Miss Delaney all about a special author visit on 7th March. Please read this and get onto ParentPay if you'd like to pre-order a book!



Year 1 & 2



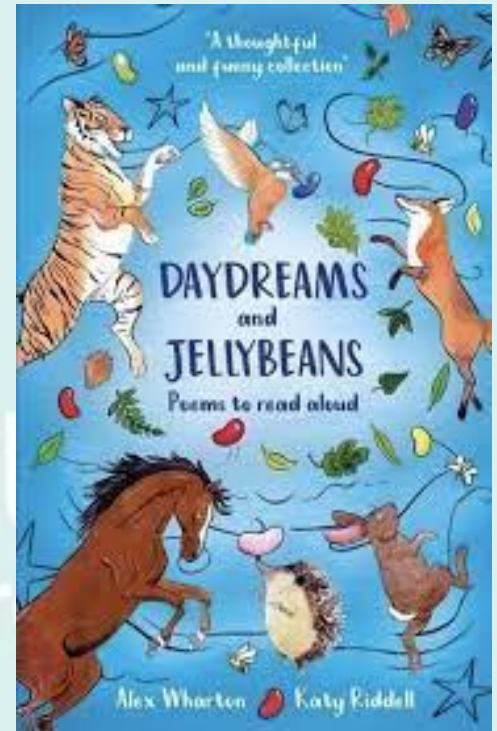
Alan Durant



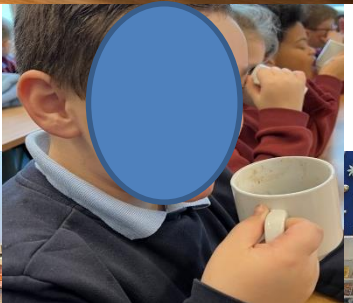
Year 3 & 4

Y5 and 6 Author Visit

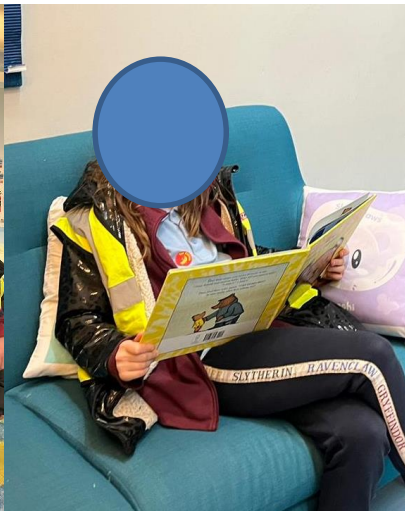
The Book Trust are continuing their work with us by providing an amazing author experience for Year 5 and 6. Poet and author Alex Wharton is visiting on Tuesday 21st February to give us a special assembly and gift each child a book of his poetry! Alex is a huge advocate of children's literature and local libraries so we love him already!



<https://libraries.wales/aotm/alex-wharton/>



Year 4 Trip to Jubilee Library





We're using Arbor's free Parent Portal and Arbor App

We've chosen Arbor to help us manage our school.

Arbor is a simple, smart and cloud-based MIS (Management Information System), which helps us work faster, smarter and more collaboratively as a school. The Arbor App and Parent Portal mean we can keep you informed about your child's life at school in a much more accessible way. Log into Arbor to see and update your child's information, get live updates and make payments or bookings on the go!

The Parent Portal works on Google Chrome (computer or laptop) and you can download the Arbor App from the App Store or Google Play Store on your phone (Android 5.0; iOS 10.0 and upwards).

How to get started

1. Wait for your welcome email from us telling you Arbor is ready - you won't be able to log in before
2. Click the link in your welcome email to set up your password
3. Go to the App or Google Play Store on your phone and search 'Arbor'
4. Click 'Install' on Android or 'Get' on iPhone then open the App
5. Enter your email, select the school, then enter your password
6. Accept the Terms & Conditions and enter your child's birthday

The Sunnyville School of Magic
W10 5BN, London, GBR

Enter your password

Log in

Forgotten password?

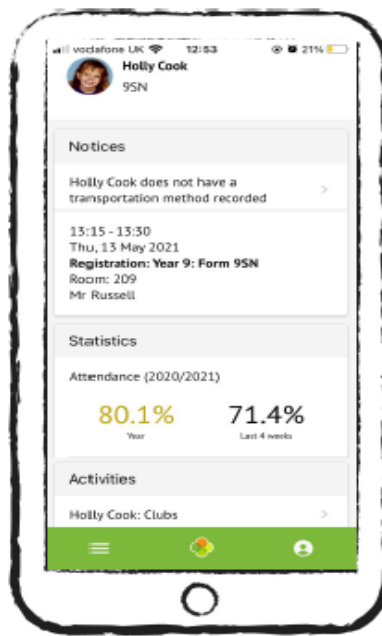
Need help using Arbor?

Contact the school office if you have questions about Arbor, the App or Parent Portal. Tell us the type and model of your phone, e.g. an iPhone SE, and include screenshots or screen recordings.

To safeguard student data in line with General Data Protection Regulations (GDPR), Arbor only works directly with schools.

Some tips to try:

1. Ensure your username is the email address you use for Arbor. Ask us to **check the email address** linked to your account.
2. **Reset your password** from the login page, or ask us to do this.
3. If the login email was sent to you more than 96 hours ago, the **password link will have expired**. Ask us to send it again.
4. Ask the school office to check that your email address has not been used twice - e.g. on another guardian or child's profile.
5. **Enter the birthday** of one of your children to log in.
6. Only relatives who are **Primary Guardians** of a child can access the Arbor App. Ask us to check you can access Arbor.



So far 83% of our parents/carers have signed up to use the App.

You should have received the activation email, if you are having any problems activating the App please contact the school office.

We are aiming to use this Portal as our main Communication channel, this will help reduce the amount of paper used in school.



Ambassadors with Early Years



Year 6 with Year 2 and 3



Year 1 and Year 5

Number Day 2023

On February 3 the entire school celebrated NSPCC Number day. This was so much fun to plan the Year 6s ran a fantastic day! In the morning, the older children paired up with younger children to play maths games and the afternoon saw a fantastic range of “mathletics” taking place! Well done to everyone that took part and we are so excited for 2024!

For more information about NSPCC Number Day please [click here](#)





Ambassadors with Early Years



Year 6 with Year 2 and 3



Year 1 and Year 5

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For more information about NSPCC Number Day please [click here](#)



Hi Everyone,

I just wanted to remind you all about our amazing Oxford Owl eBook library. There are so many books to choose from and take quizzes on. This can be recorded in your child's Reading record.

Login information is accessible on the school's website. Click Pupils / Reading / Oxford Owl




After half term, you might notice some additions to your child's Reading folder. A slip like this will tell you how frequently to expect a new story book.

Your child is in Purple group.

They will receive a new book to take home **every 3 days**. Please read this story at home and keep it safe in their Reading folder. Please record this in your child's reading record. If you read a story to your child, this can be recorded too.

Please send your child's Reading folder into school with them every day. This will allow your child's Reading teacher to check their Reading record, and swap their book every 3 days.

Thank you,
Miss Varco




A slip like this will remind you to return your child's folder, or request a new one to be made if it is lost. It will also tell you what book your child is currently reading, so you can access it online.

Thank you for supporting your child to read!

Miss Varco



 Your child's folder wasn't in school today, so please access _____ online using their group's Oxford Owl log in. Please see the school's website to find out how-
Visit www.caw.brighton-hove.sch.uk Then click- Pupils- Reading- Oxford Owl.
Please bring their home Reading folder in on the next day of school.

If your child's folder is lost, please complete this slip and return it, so that we can make them a new one.

I _____ (name) in _____ (class) need a new folder and Reading record please.

If you have any questions, please ask your child's class teacher. Thank you.



City Academy
Whitehawk



Attendance at City Academy

To celebrate the amazing attendance of most of our children we
love our

FULL CLASS STARS

which classes collect to display on their doors
to show that everyone is at school that day!

**WEEKLY CLASS WINNERS ARE PUFFINS AND BARN OWLS THIS WEEK
AND WINNERS FOR THE WHOLE HALF TERM WILL BE ANNOUNCED IN
ASSEMBLY ON MONDAY 20TH FEBRUARY...**

MAY THE BEST CLASS WIN!



Attendance at City Academy

UNEXPLAINED ABSENCES

Our registers show that there are unfortunately an increasing number of “unexplained” absences; where children are absent but we have had no contact from home to provide a reason.

If your child is unable to come into school please call the office **before 9.00am** to let us know.

If we do not receive a reason for an absence, it is recorded as **unauthorised** and these are the absences that can lead to fines from the council.

Mrs Storey will be contacting families individually where this is an issue, but please help us by letting us know every time your child is going to be absent.

Thank you!

Inclusive Access to the School Car Park

Please can I politely request that families **do not** park in the school section of the car park in the morning (**shown in the red box on the photo below**). This is to ensure that families with blue badges are able to get to the disabled parking space.

We are looking at lots of ways to improve access to the school for everyone...watch this space!


















Did you know that in our recent Parent Survey, 90% of families reported that they agreed / strongly agreed that their child had 'lots of opportunities to take part in school clubs and activities'? We were very pleased with this feedback and we're pleased to publish our club offer for the Spring Term. Our 'first come, first served' ParentPay sign up process opened at 18:00 on Wednesday 4th of January and we are thrilled with the uptake. With the exception of karate, we are very proud of our commitment to funding all after school clubs for children.



CAW Spring Term Clubs 2023

If your child would like to join one of these clubs, please register on Parent Pay

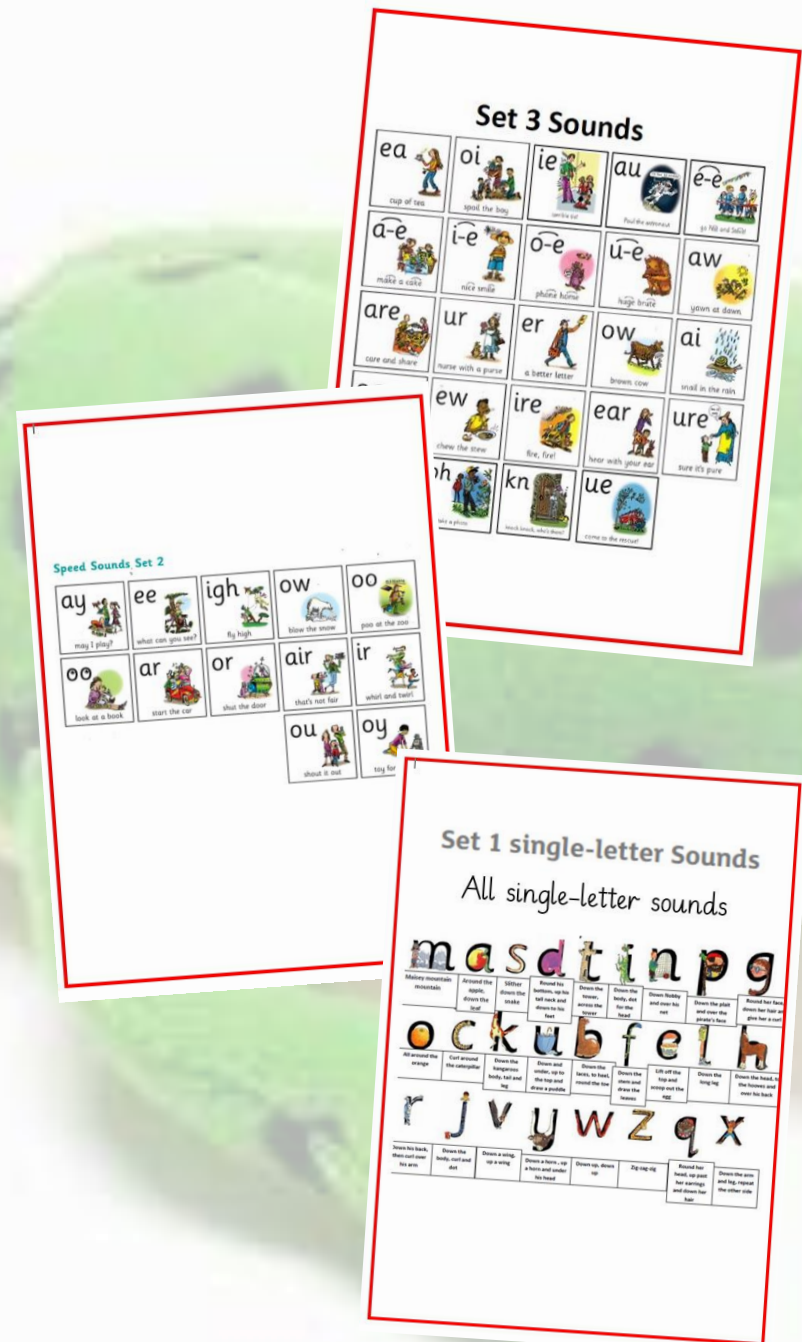
MONDAY		Girls Football Club Y4, Y5 & Y6 3:10-4:10 Mrs Al-Hattabi South Playground/Gym 	Art Club Rec-Y2 3:10-4:10 Miss Varco Y1 classroom 	Glitter Art Club Y3-Y4 3:10-4:10 Miss Woodward Room 7 	
TUESDAY		Cricket Club Y3-Y6 3:10-4:10 Liam - Sussex Cricket North Playground/Gym 	Lego Club Y1-Y6 3:10-4:10 Mrs Linehan & Mr Marshall Hall 		
WEDNESDAY		Football Club (RMA) Y1-Y6 3:10-4:10 Josh & Jacob - RMA South Playground/Hall 	Basketball Club Y5-Y6 3:10-4:10 Mr McAdam Gym 	Music Club Y3-Y6 3:10-4:10 Mrs Elliott Music Room 	Board Games Y3-Y6 3:10-4:10 Miss Reynolds Y4 Classroom 
THURSDAY		Italian Club Y4, Y5 & Y6 3:10-4:10 Miss Scozzafava Y5 Classroom 	Chess Club Y3-Y6 3:10-4:10 Mr Wood Y2 Classroom 	Multi-Skills Club Y1-Y2 3:10-4:10 Mr McQuillan Gym 	
FRIDAY	Running Club Y3-Y6 8:00-8:35 Mrs Al-Hattabi South Playground 	Netball Club Y4-Y6 3:10-4:10 Miss Briggs & Mr Issacs North Playground/Gym 	Karate Club (SAMA) R-Y6 3:10-4:10 Charlie - SAMA Hall 		

Hi Everyone,

Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 children will be sent home with a sound booklet this week. This contains sound practice sheets which match the sounds they are learning in their Phonics lessons.

These booklets can stay in your child's Reading folder, or stay at home. When your child practises a sound with you, you can record it as a read in their Reading record.

Thank you,
Miss Varco



Children's Parade:

artistic volunteers needed!

We are looking for an army of creative volunteers to help us make the City Academy Whitehawk Children's Parade float! It's going to be made from a structure of withy sticks.

We need as much help as possible. Please don't worry if you don't have any experience of this...there will be experts who can show us how it's done!



Please contact the school office at cawadmin@auroraacademies.org or speak to Mr. Wood on the playground to register your interest!



The Children's Parade will take place as part of **Brighton Festival on Sunday 7th May 2023**

House Points

Huge congratulations to **FIRE HOUSE** for their triumph in the Spring 1 Learning Ticket competition. Children from Years 1 to 6 enjoyed a DODGEBALL AND CRAFT session, accompanied by some absolutely BANGING TUNES! There are some snaps on the next slide...



Air
4512 points

Earth
4968 points



Fire
4976 points

Water
4946 points

Each week there are two classes who win a Class Reward. Congratulations to these previous winners:

	Year 1 to 3	Years 4 to 6
Week 4	Puffins	Eagles
Week 5	Kestrels	Barn Owls
Week 6	Woodpeckers	Herons

House Celebration photos



Congratulations to Fire House!

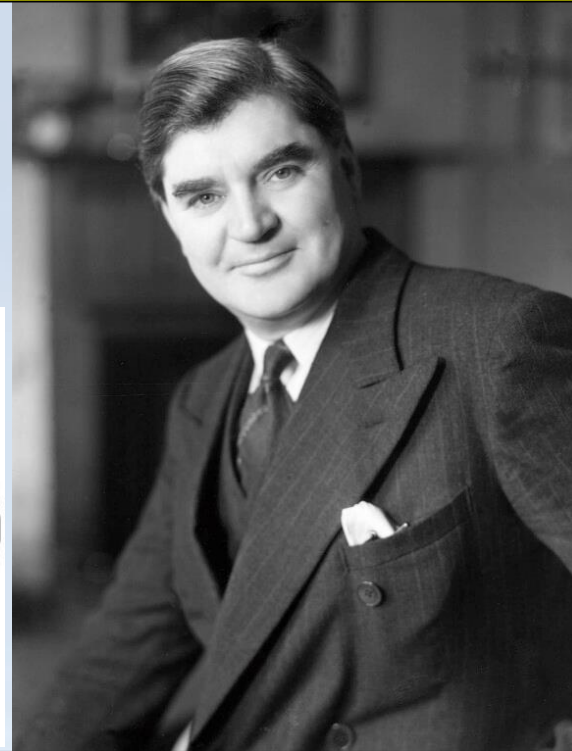
C**Collaboration****A****Aspiration****R****Resilience****E****Effort****E****Excellence****R****Respect**

Spring 2 Week 1 CAW Quality of the Week: RESILIENCE

What is the NHS?
(Newsround)

Life-saving NHS
(Newsround)

Who was Nye Bevan?
(for older children)



unicef
UNITED KINGDOM



RIGHTS
RESPECTING
SCHOOLS

24

HEALTH,
WATER, FOOD,
ENVIRONMENT

Article 24

You have the right to the best health care possible, clean and safe water to drink, nutritious food, a clean and safe environment and information to help you stay well.

CAW Significant Figure of the Week

Nye Bevan (1897-1960)

Co-creator of the NHS

Nye Bevan was Welsh politician who worked hard to help create the National Health Service (NHS). It is free to see a doctor or go to hospital in the United Kingdom, which is truly amazing, as people need to pay for healthcare in most other countries in the world. Health workers show true RESILIENCE to keep us all well!

RESILIENCE

AWARDED TO

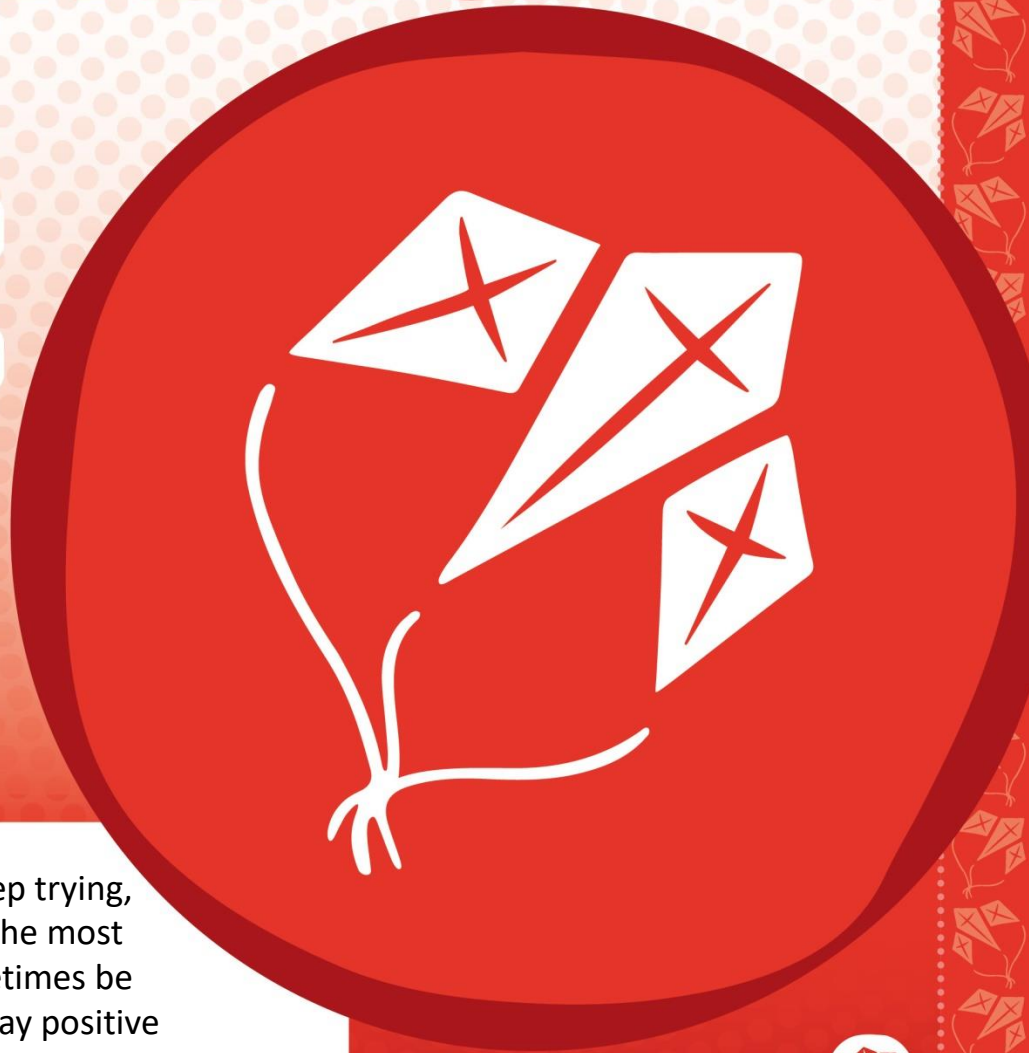
Name:

Class:

- Try hard
- Practise lots
- Keep going
- Try new strategies
- Ask for help
- Start again
- Take a brain break

Teacher's Comments

RESILIENCE is the ability to keep going and keep trying, even when things are difficult. This is one of the most important of the CAW Qualities, but can sometimes be one of the most challenging. It's important to stay positive and remember that you will reach your target if you keep working hard!



C Collaboration

A Aspiration

R Resilience

E Effort

E Excellence

R Respect



Spring 1 Week 6 CAW Quality of the Week: EXCELLENCE



[Who was Marie Curie? \(BBC Bitesize video and fact file\)](#)

[Biography of Marie Curie](#)



CAW Significant Figure of the Week

Marie Curie (1867-1934)

Radioactivity researcher

Marie Curie was a gifted Polish scientist who discovered (and named!) **radioactive** materials. This advance allowed X ray machines to be invented. She also discovered the elements **polonium** and **radium**. In 1903, Marie became the first woman to win the Nobel Prize, which she then won again in 1911.

EXCELLENCE

AWARDED TO

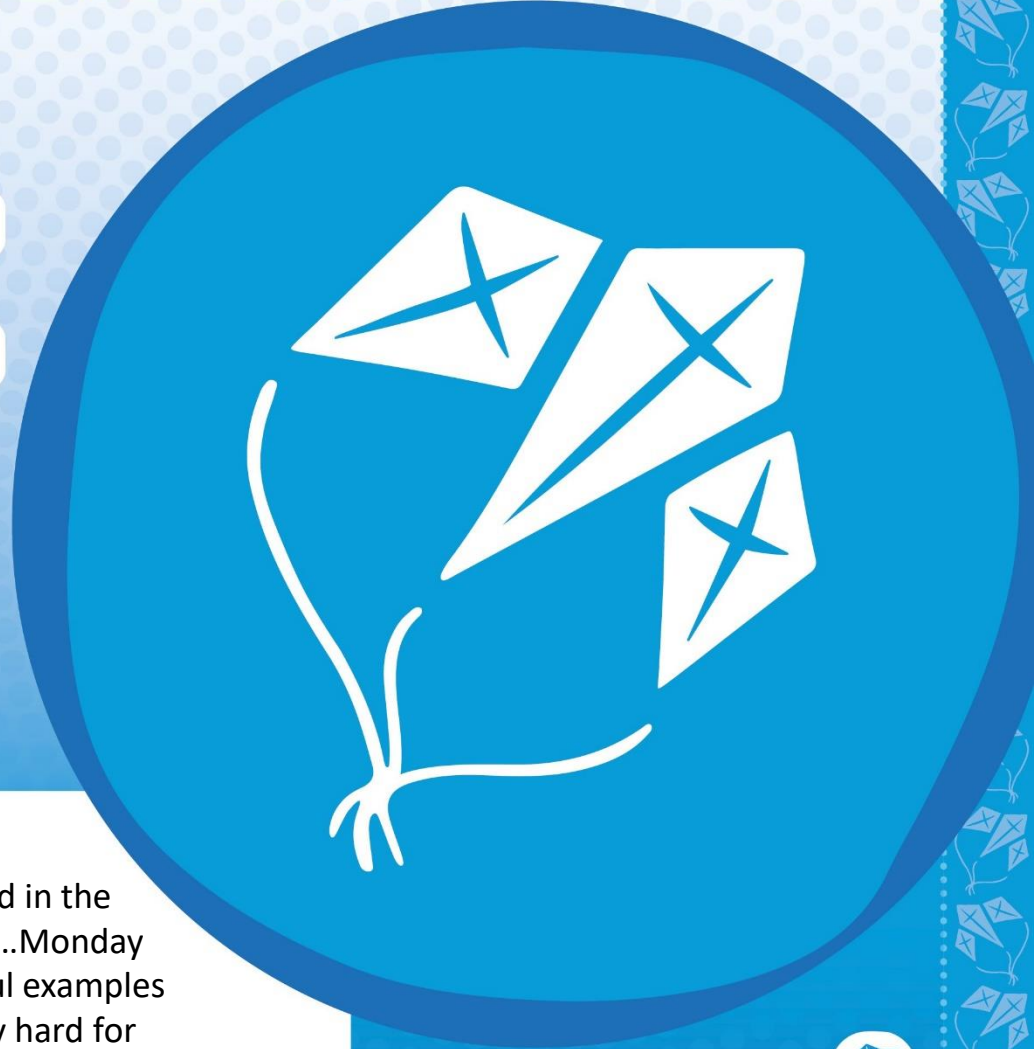
Name:

Class:

- **Keep reviewing your work**
- **Identify your best bits**
- **Improve one thing at a time**
- **Listen to feedback**
- **Take small steps**
- **Be proud of your achievements**

Teacher's Comments

Our EXCELLENCE certificates will be awarded in the assembly on the first day back after half term...Monday 20th February. We have seen so many wonderful examples of EXCELLENCE in recent weeks, it will be very hard for teachers to choose who to award the certificates to!





Instrumental Lessons at City Academy Whitehawk with SMS



- Pay by monthly Standing Order.
- Lessons in School time
- Experienced, friendly, fully safeguarded and DBS checked teachers
- 20 or 30 minute lessons
- Instrument hire and advice

One to one lessons for
guitar, flute,
saxophone, keyboard,
violin and other
instruments on request

www.sussexmusicschool.com/city-academy-whitehawk



Opportunity for Music Lessons

We are in a position to host
1-to-1 music lessons at
CAW in September, so if you
want to pay for music
tuition for your child,
you can organise this with
Sussex Music School.
Please click [here](#) to access
the online form.

**We are now also able to
offer drum lessons!**



Healthy Start



If you're more than 10 weeks pregnant or have a child under 4, you may be entitled to get help to buy healthy food and milk. If you're eligible, you'll be sent a Healthy Start card with money on it that you can use in some UK shops.

You can use your card to collect:

- Healthy Start vitamins – these support you during pregnancy and breastfeeding
- vitamin drops for babies and young children – these are suitable from birth to 4 years old

You can use your card to buy:

- plain liquid cow's milk
- fresh, frozen, and tinned fruit and vegetables
- fresh, dried, and tinned pulses
- infant formula milk based on cow's milk

Click this link to find out if you are eligible and to apply: <https://www.healthystart.nhs.uk/how-to-apply/>

Fluency Badges



Massive congratulations to those who have earned their fluency badges! It is so great to see so many children wearing these with such great pride!



Safer Sleep in Winter



Keeping your baby safe when the weather gets cold

The Lullaby Trust has issued information around safe sleep for babies during the winter in response to rising energy costs. Please see below:

The recommended room temperature is 16-20 degrees, this may be difficult to maintain in the colder months. It can be tempting to wrap your baby up to keep them warm, however we know that overheating a baby increases the chances of SIDS (also known as cot death). Research shows babies are better to be cooler than too hot.

Follow the link below to find out more information on:

- Bedding
- Bed sharing
- Things to avoid
- How to check if a baby is too hot
- How to check if a baby is unwell
- Finding support for energy bills



<https://www.lullabytrust.org.uk/safer-sleep-advice/safer-sleep-winter/>

Year 2 Sculpting

Hello, this term we will be sculpting using recycled materials. If anyone has any of the below materials at home that they wouldn't mind collecting and bringing in we would really appreciate it. As soon as possible please ☺

Wrappers

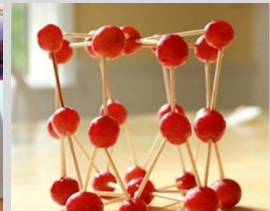
Any of these or similar
(clean only please)



Buttons & Marbles



Fruit & Veg netting, Newspaper





Safer Internet Week 2023

Safer Internet Week was celebrated both in our family engagement events and has been the topic of conversation in our Class Assemblies throughout the week.

Children had so much fun celebrating Safer internet week and showing their fantastic Computing skills to thier families this week.



Want to talk about it?

Making space for conversations about life online



Our Computing lessons are regularly focused on how to be safe online and it has been so wonderful to talk with lots of the children this week about how they are safe and kind online.

Our online safety newsletters will be sent out every month and contain lots of information and tips on how to support children to be safe online at home.

Miss Delaney

PE Kits

For Spring 1, we will continue to ask that children come to school in their PE kits on their PE days. Please remember, as ever, that it is fine to wear trackies and school jumpers in colder weather.

Please wear PE kit into school on these days:

YG	Reception	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
Day	Mondays	Tuesday	Wednesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Tuesday	Monday
		Thursday	Friday	Thursday	Friday	Friday	Thursday

Children should bring an appropriate change of clothes for after school sport clubs.

2020-2021 Dates for your Diary

Our term dates for 22/23 are online: click [here](#) to see them.

Friday 10th February: End of Spring 1

Monday 20th February: Start of Spring 2

Friday 24th February: Rare Disease Day (wearing Jeans 4 Genes)

Wednesday 1st March: World Book Day

Friday 3rd March: INSET Day

Friday 17th March: Red Nose Day

Friday 31st March: End of Term 2

Monday 17th April: Start of Summer 1



I hope this letter has provided you with all the information you need but please do not hesitate to get in touch or check through [previous newsletters](#) catalogued on our website.

I look forward to seeing you on the gates on Monday morning!

Yours sincerely,

Thomas McMorris
Headteacher

