



Cupernham
Junior School

The Cupernham Chronicle

Issue 15
15th May 2026

Headlines

Dear Parents and Carers,

It's the end to what has felt like a very long week here at Cupernham. I know I am relieved that the morning routine of delivering and collecting SAT's papers is now finished for another year (and I didn't have to answer any of the questions in them!), though I know we'll all miss the early morning bacon sandwich-type start to the day.

From start to finish, our incredible, marvellous Year 6 children shone throughout this entire week: the children and their adults alike have approached each day with the right attitude - that of going in to show their best in a relaxed and confident way. Whilst I'm sure many of the children enjoyed *immensely* having to answer lots of questions, we all know that the *real* highlight of their week will have been the chilled reward at the end! Thoroughly well deserved by all might I add. My thanks go to all the staff and the whole school for planning and ensuring that this week went as smoothly as it possibly could have. Once again, very well done to all our superb Year 6 children!

Next week is shaping up to be another exciting Special Week at Cupernham, this time around focusing on PE and Sport, involving a range of different sports and activities, before culminating in our annual Sports' morning and picnic on Thursday morning and lunchtime. We hope to see as many of you there as possible to support this superb event and to cheer the children on (there is an optional parents' race at the end for the competitive ones amongst you!).

Until next time, let's enjoy the next four days of the half-term together and have a brilliant May half-term break when it arrives!

With warmest wishes,

Mr Frost
Headteacher

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

MAY

Monday 18th - Thursday 21st Special Week Sports' Festival

Wednesday 20th - Cupernham fun run

Thursday 21st - Sports' Day Parents welcome

Friday 22nd - **INSET DAY SCHOOL CLOSED**

Monday 25th May - Friday 29th May
HALF TERM

JUNE

Tuesday 9th - Geckos Fishlake Meadows trip

Wednesday 10th - Iguanas Fishlake Meadows trip

Thursday 11th - Chameleons Fishlake Meadows trip

Thursday 11th - Y6 Harry Potter trip

Thursday 11th - Tamarins' class assembly

Wednesday 17th - PTA World Cup Disco

Friday 19th - Thursday 25th - Y6 Bikeability

Monday 29th - Y6 Leavers and Class photos

Tuesday 30th - Y6 Leavers Production - details to follow

JULY

Monday 13th - Y5 Listen 2 Me concert 2.45pm

2026/27 INSET DAYS

TUESDAY 1st SEPTEMBER

WEDNESDAY 2nd SEPTEMBER

THURSDAY 22nd OCTOBER

FRIDAY 23rd OCTOBER

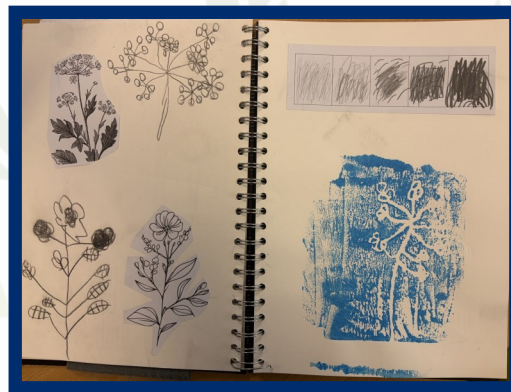
MONDAY 4th JANUARY



Year 3 Spotlight

Art

In Art this half term, Year 3 have been exploring printing inspired by the work of Anna Atkins. The children studied her botanical prints and used sketchbooks to respond to her work, experimenting with line, shape and pattern. They carefully created their own botanical designs before producing detailed prints, thinking about how printing techniques change the appearance of an image on different surfaces. The final outcomes showed great attention to detail and the children were proud of what they achieved!

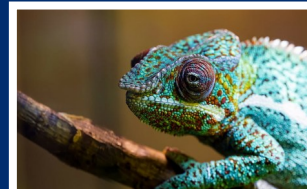
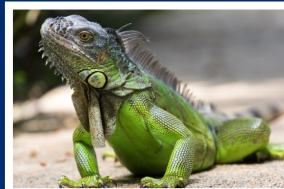
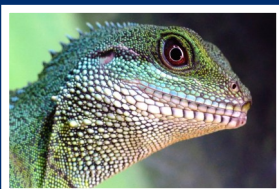


Science

In Science, we have been learning about seed dispersal and the different ways plants spread their seeds. We focused on wind and animal dispersal and discussed why these methods are effective. The children took part in an investigation to explore how far seeds can travel, using rice as seeds and a balloon stretched over a cup to flick them forwards. They measured the distance travelled and compared results, helping them to understand how seeds are spread away from the parent plant.

History

We have continued our learning about the Romans and investigated what the Romans brought to Britain. The children learned about Roman engineering, particularly their straight roads. To help bring this to life, pupils took part in a retrieval relay outside, where some groups followed twisty Celtic style paths while others followed straight Roman style routes. We quickly discovered how much faster and more efficient the Roman roads were, helping the children understand why they were such an important Roman innovation.



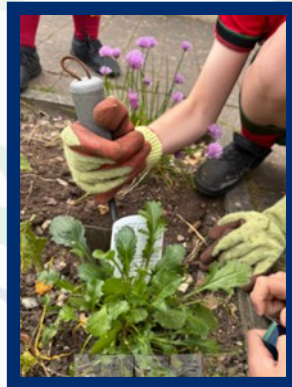
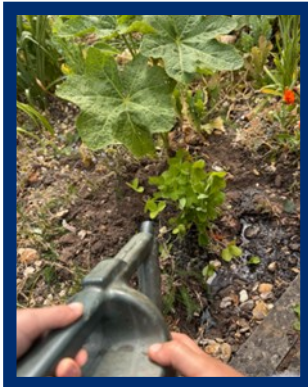
Year 4 Spotlight



Year 4 have had a busy few weeks! After an exciting few days watching our caterpillars turn into chrysalises, it was time for the butterflies to hatch! As they came out one by one, we made sure they had some fresh fruit to eat. Then it was time for them to fly free! We took them out to the field and watched as they flew away to their new lives.



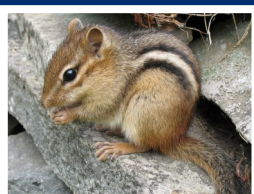
In Art, we have been studying the work of Nancy Wolff, specifically focusing on leaves. A few weeks ago, we learnt how to sketch a detailed leaf and use shading to make it look 3D. This week, we used these skills to create our '100 leaves for Sir Attenborough' artwork as a year group.



We also thoroughly enjoyed planting flowers in the front courtyard to celebrate Sir David Attenborough's 100th birthday.



Last week, we learnt about colour mixing, first looking at primary colours, then adding black paint to create shades and white paint to create tints. After that, we also had time to paint leaves using the different colours we had created. We are looking forward to the next step in our journey where we will be using textiles to sew a leaf.



Year 5 Spotlight

Science

Year 5 have had a brilliant time diving into science learning this term. They spent an exciting day at Mountbatten School, where they watched amazing experiments, met *live dinosaurs* brought to life through incredible puppetry and chatted with local farmers about the important role they play in our community. Back in school, the children explored how fossils form and created their own using natural materials, clay and plaster of Paris before carefully examining the fine details just like real palaeontologists. It's been a hands-on, curiosity-fuelled adventure that has truly brought science to life.

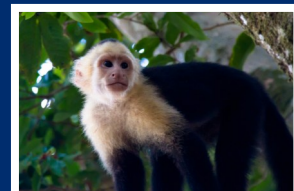
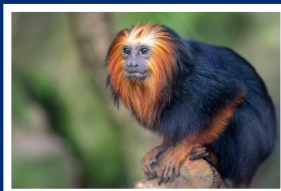
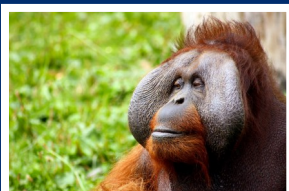
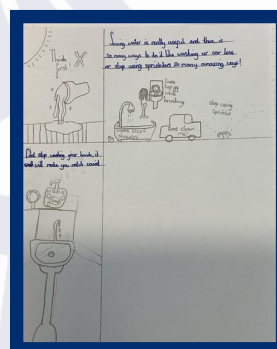
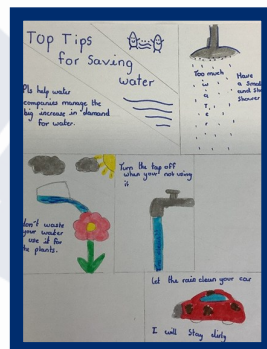


PE

Year 5 have thrown themselves into PE this term with brilliant energy and teamwork. They've been sharpening their dodgeball skills - mastering accurate throwing, quick reactions and, most importantly, showing great sportsmanship on and off the court. Alongside this, the children have been developing their athletics techniques, practising running, jumping and throwing with growing confidence and control. It's been fantastic to see their determination, encouragement of one another and pride in their progress.

Geography

The children have been exploring the vital role of water in our world through their geography learning this week. They discovered how access to clean water varies across the globe and why this creates significant challenges for countries that struggle to secure safe supplies. The children discussed real-life examples, deepened their understanding of global inequality and reflected on how every day actions can make a difference. To share their learning, they designed eye-catching water-saving posters, highlighting practical ways we can all help protect this precious resource.



Year 6 Spotlight



Y6 have blown us away this week with their resilience, determination and calm attitude towards their SATs. We couldn't be prouder of each of them. Mr Frost said "I have never known a group of children to have approached the week with such commitment and dedication." Well done Y6!

Of course, that's not been the only exciting thing we have been up to these last two weeks though!

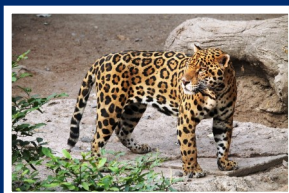
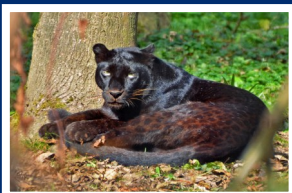
Last Friday, Y6 helped to honour the 100th birthday of Sir David Attenborough by planting a range of plants in the new planters in front of the new seating area on the playground. They also helped to plant a hedge around the pond to protect the wildlife from the glare of sunshine which usually fills that area and allow them to thrive. They absolutely loved being outside in the grounds and knowing they will have an impact on what it looks like in the future.



We have also had to use a lot of resilience this week during art as we got to grips with our weaving project. Using the ribbon and scrap fabric that they had brought in, the children have been creating the most amazing patterns inspired by Anni Albers. We can't wait for you to see the finished pieces.



Finally during French, the children were very excited to take part in their very own French cafe. They were able to practice asking for items before then enjoying chatting to their friends in the café.



CUPERNHAM GROUNDS

I am always telling the children that gardeners have to be very patient people, but even my patience has been sorely tested this past week! Peas are the culprits...or rather lack of them. We planted our first row at least a month ago and I was thinking that we'd planted them too deep or they had been eaten, as nothing was showing. However, last week, some tiny seedlings started to appear, noticed first by Mrs Williams! I was very happy and ready to tell the children the news. I came in the next day to find the tender young shoots had been snapped off their stalks by something that didn't even eat them...just left the stalk and the leaf on the soil. Patience, resolve and determination are all lessons that gardening can teach us!

We shall begin planting our rows of French beans and runner beans over the next fortnight. We plant straight into the soil, where they are to grow...with any luck! Our broad beans are forming beans now, green strawberries are slowly ripening and gooseberries, raspberries and blackcurrants are forming. The bees have been so busy!

I think our beautiful array of blooms in our nearby flower beds are attracting many pollinators. Some children collected ladybirds to watch their behaviour...letting them go again of course. Ladybirds exude a smelly liquid when panicked but, as we only had one incident of this, I think they were quite "relaxed" and the children enjoyed a close up view of them.

Year 6 were thrilled by the growth of their potato plant, as were year 3 with theirs. The crop will be harvested before term ends (as they were "earlies").

With our fabulous Friday last week to celebrate David Attenborough's 100th birthday, I wanted to say a big thank you for the donated plants and a huge thank you to our garden volunteer, Christine, who stayed all day to help. As you can see we are very enthusiastic about our garden, allotment and woodlands. Please come and have a look when you are able.

All the best,
Lynda Emery



**OUR NEXT GROUNDS MORNING IS
SATURDAY 16TH MAY 10am - 12.30pm,
PLEASE COME ALONG TO HELP**



MISSION FOUR

OPERATION OCELOT



FUNDRAISER
JOIN IN!



Hi I'm Isla, I want to become a Conservationist when I'm older.

On Friday 5th June please come along to my stall outside the Music Room after school. Every pound you spend will be donated to Operation Ocelot, hoping to save an acre of Ecuadorian rainforest. This is home to many animals such as Spectacled Bears, Andean Condors, mountain Tapir and countless plants and amphibians. I'll be selling all sorts of animal themed gifts including sweet jars, bookmarks and scrunchies.

See you there!



THE LLANGANATES-SANGAY CORRIDOR IN EASTERN ECUADOR IS HOME TO SPECIES FOUND NOWHERE ELSE, INCLUDING THE CRITICALLY ENDANGERED PUNZAN RAINFOG, AND MANY HIGHLY THREATENED SPECIES SUCH AS THE ENDANGERED MOUNTAIN TAPIR.

OPERATION OCELOT'S MISSION FOUR WILL HELP PROTECT THIS EXTRAORDINARY LANDSCAPE. YOUR SUPPORT WILL FUND THE EXPANSION OF ECOMINGA'S OLIVIER CURRAT RESERVE BY 485 HECTARES, SAFEGUARDING MONTANE FORESTS, PÁRAMO GRASSLANDS, AND WATERFALLS, AND CREATE VITAL LINKS TO SANGAY NATIONAL PARK. THIS SAFE SPACE FOR SPECTACLED BEARS, ANDEAN CONDORS, AND COUNTLESS ENDEMIC PLANT AND AMPHIBIANS, PROVIDES A STRONGHOLD FOR LIFE IN THE ANDES.

JOIN US ON OUR MISSION!



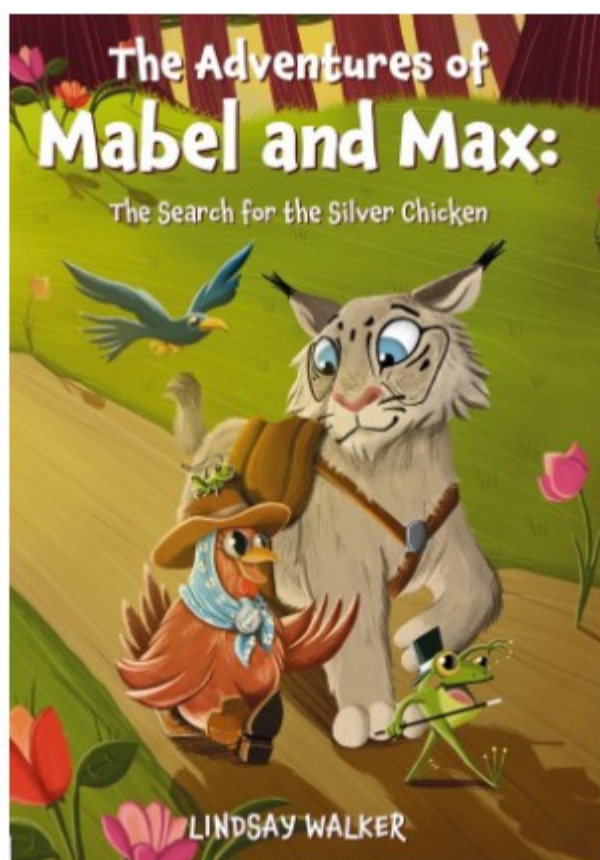
Inspiring Creativity: Local Hampshire Author to Visit Year 5

We are delighted to share an exciting, completely free to families, enrichment opportunity for our Year 5 children which will take place in week 6 of this half term. A talented local Hampshire author will be visiting the school to lead a creative storytelling session designed to inspire and challenge our students as they approach the end of the academic year.

During the visit, pupils will explore the art of storytelling in an engaging and age-appropriate way. The session will introduce key elements such as creating memorable characters, shaping a clear narrative arc, and making thoughtful choices about how a story unfolds. The author will also encourage pupils to think about what makes characters relatable and what message they want their stories to convey.

Following a live reading, the children will be invited to reflect on these ideas and take part in a collaborative activity, working in small groups to develop their own storyboards. This hands-on experience will give them the opportunity to apply what they have learned while expressing their creativity and imagination.

We are confident this visit will be a memorable experience that nurtures a love of writing, reading and storytelling in our children, and we look forward to seeing the imaginative ideas they create.



Author Profile



I am a mum of two and a clinical psychologist who writes in her free time. The Mabel and Max series was written for my younger daughter who loves lynxes; these books are based on stories that I created for her. The character of Mabel is based on Emily, one of our more cheeky and adventurous chickens!

I live in Hampshire with my husband, daughters, two cats and flock of chickens. When not being a mum, working or writing, I can be found exercising, learning Spanish, enjoying cooking or curled up with a good book.

How to Buy The Adventures of Mabel and Max: The Search for the Silver Chicken.

- Waterstones online, Amazon, Blackwells and all good online book stores. They can also deliver to store.
- Through my website www.lindsaywalkerbooks.com (with P&P)
- In person at events I'll be attending throughout the spring, summer and autumn – see Instagram for details: www.instagram.com/lindsay_walker_00
- Contact me via email: lindsay@lindsaywalkerbooks.com

OUT OF THIS WORLD



21st May

Mini Planet Meatballs
with Out of this World Tomato Sauce,
Pasta and Green Beans

Or

Veggie Big Bang Bangers
with Cosmic Mash and Green Beans

And

Rocket Lolly





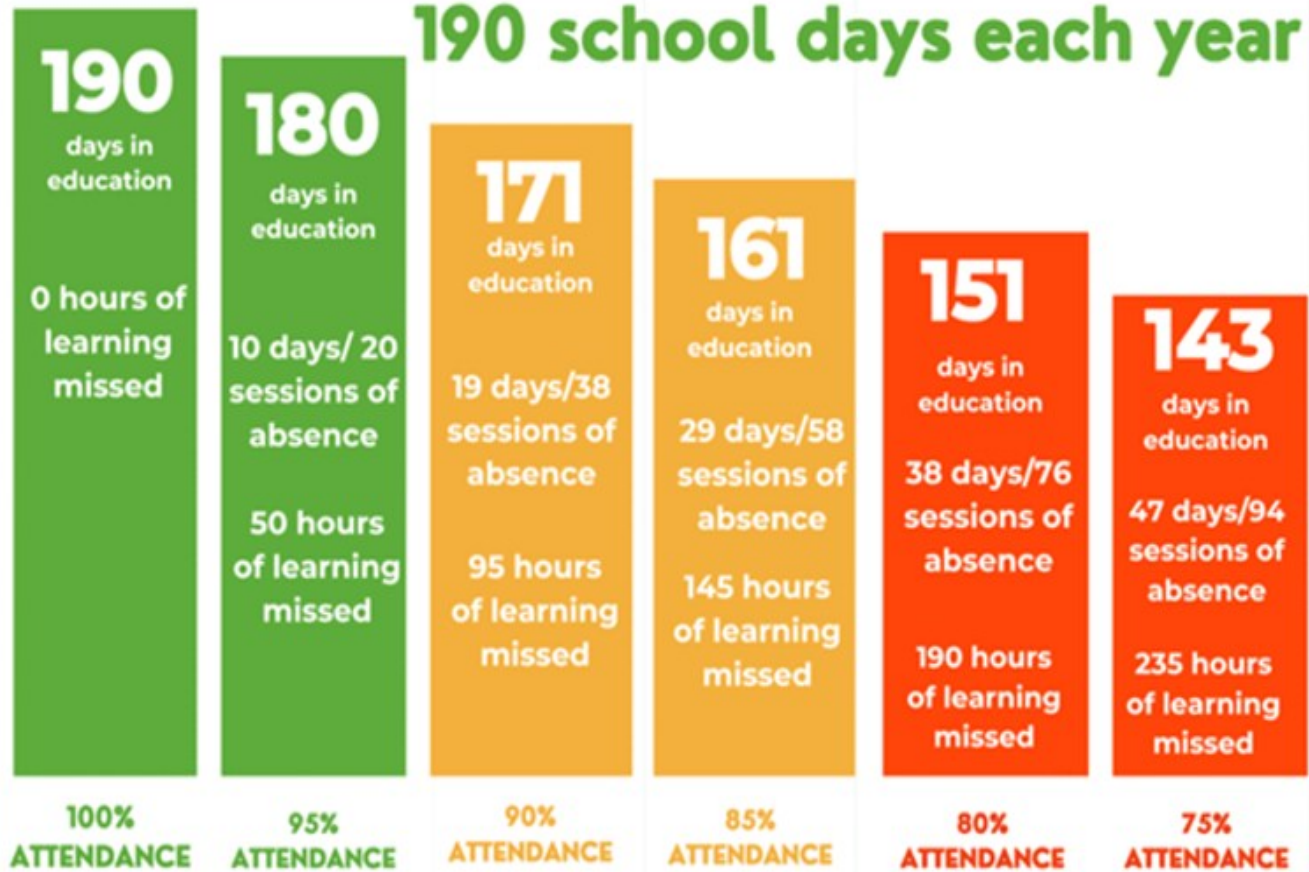
Cupernham Junior School

Excellence in attendance

ATTENDANCE MATTERS

EVERY STUDENT. EVERY DAY.

190 school days each year



Days off impact good progress

- Attendance is essential in the growth of yourself and preparing for the future
- Each day gives you an opportunity to learn and develop
- Gain new skills - be ready to learn - show reliability

Support Courses for Parents

Additional Support Courses for Parents

Three new courses offered by Face, separate from the school membership.

Full access to all three courses for £6.99/month

Complete at your own pace, cancel anytime.



Building Emotional Resilience

Work through six stages of directed exercises to help your child (and yourself) improve emotional resilience.



Facing Defiance

A specific strategy aimed at supporting parents of children aged 5 to 12 with ADHD, ODD or just very challenging behaviour.



You & Your Teen

A skills building course for one parent and one teen (12 years old and above) to learn how they can both improve their communication with each other.

www.facefamilyadvice.co.uk

Online Courses for Parents page

info@facefamilyadvice.co.uk



What Parents & Educators Need to Know about YOUTUBE

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

Almost anyone with an internet connection knows about YouTube. The Google-owned platform allows users to upload and share videos globally, making it a readily accessible resource with free content on almost any topic. However, with over 20 million videos uploaded each day, not all material is suitable for younger audiences.

INAPPROPRIATE CONTENT



YouTube is free and can be accessed across multiple device types, even without an account. While some videos are marked as 'age restricted', this relies on uploader honesty and automated moderation, meaning children and young people may still encounter unsuitable content if these measures aren't taken.

TRENDS AND CHALLENGES



Popular trends and challenges can be entertaining and widely shared. While many are harmless, some can be risky or harmful if copied. For example, the 'salt and ice challenge' has caused injuries when imitated.

EXPOSURE TO EXTREME CONTENT



The platform's algorithm often promotes content that attracts high engagement, which can sometimes include videos containing extreme viewpoints, misinformation, or risky behaviour. As children and young people watch more of this content, similar videos are likely to be recommended by YouTube's algorithm, therefore reinforcing the exposure.

CONNECTING WITH STRANGERS



YouTube includes social features such as comments and direct messaging. This means young users can interact with people they don't know, potentially exposing them to inappropriate language, cyberbullying, or unwanted contact. Young content creators may be especially vulnerable.

SUGGESTED CONTENT



YouTube recommends videos based on what a user has previously watched. While this can enhance the experience, it may also encourage binge-watching and excessive screen time, particularly when Autoplay is enabled. Without an account, users are shown trending videos, which are not always age appropriate.

SHORT-FORM CONTENT IMPACT



YouTube Shorts – short, fast-paced videos – are designed for continuous viewing. This style of content can be highly engaging but may also contribute to increased screen time and difficulties with maintaining focus over longer periods.

Advice for Parents & Educators

CONSIDER YOUTUBE KIDS



YouTube Kids can help reduce young users' exposure to unsuitable content by filtering videos into age groups, such as preschool, younger, and older children. However, as moderation is automated, it should be used alongside active supervision.

USE PARENTAL CONTROLS



Google Family Link allows adults to filter content, monitor usage, and manage younger users' screen time. Supervised Accounts offer a gradual step up from YouTube Kids, enabling children to explore the platform with appropriate safeguards.

CHECK PRIVACY SETTINGS



If a child in your care uploads content, consider setting videos to Private or Unlisted so they are only shared with trusted viewers. Disabling comments can also help reduce unwanted interaction from strangers.

WATCH TOGETHER



Spending time watching YouTube with the children and young people in your care can help you understand what they enjoy and guide your conversations about content. Tools like Downtime in Family Link can also help limit unsupervised viewing.

Meet Our Expert

Alan Martin is an experienced technology journalist who has written for publications including Wired, TechRadar, Tom's Guide, The Evening Standard and The New Statesman.



The National College

See full reference list on our website

@wake_up_weds

/www.thenationalcollege

@wake.up.wednesday

@wake.up.weds

Users of this guide do so at their own discretion. No liability is entered into. Current as of the date of release: 22.04.2026

Half Term Activities

at Romsey Library

Elmer Day

Saturday 23rd May

10am-4pm, Elmer Games and Activities

11am, Elmer Stories

Elmer Crafts, £1 per child

Fairy Tale Crafts*

Tuesday 26th May, 10am, £2 per child

Construction Club

Thursday 28th May, 1-4 pm

Stay and Play

Friday 29th May, 10am-1pm

Italian and Spanish Storytime

Saturday 30th May, 11am

Story Time - Every Tuesday, 11am

Rhyme Time - Every Thursday 11am and Friday 2pm

Saturday Family Fun - Every Saturday, 10am - 4pm

Construction Club - Every Saturday, 1 - 4pm



Hampshire
County Council

Library Service



*ticketed event.

Book your place via

shop.hants.gov.uk



May Half Term

Drop off your young people

Southampton Culture Club for Kids: Story Worlds (6½-12yrs)

📅 Tue 26, Wed 27, Thu 28 May

🕒 9am-4pm

📍 SeaCity

💷 £35, £90 all three days



Bugs in Boxes (4+)

📅 Tue 26 May

🕒 10.30am, 11.30am, 1pm, 2pm

📍 Tudor House 💷 £6

Tour for All: Southampton Myths and Mysteries (6+)

📅 Tue 26 May 🕒 11am

📍 Tudor House

💷 £10 (children FREE)

Art for All: Clay Capybaras (5+)

📅 Wed 27 May

🕒 10.30am, 12.30pm, 2.30pm

📍 Art Gallery 💷 £8

Art for All: Birds, Beetles and Butterflies with Watercolour (7+)

📅 Thu 28 May

🕒 10.30am, 1.30pm

📍 Tudor House 💷 £8



Art for All: Make a Clay Stitch! (4+)

📅 Thu 28 May

🕒 10.30am, 12.30pm, 2.30pm

📍 Art Gallery 💷 £8



Toddler Time:

Under the Sea (under 4's and friends)

📅 Fri 29 May 🕒 10.30am

📍 SeaCity 💷 £6

Art for All: Minecraft Mosaic Worlds (7+)

📅 Fri 29 May

🕒 10.30am, 12.30pm, 2.30pm

📍 Art Gallery 💷 £8



Let's Celebrate!

Let's celebrate the children of Cupernham Junior School who have shown exceptional commitment to our school values,

SILVER CERTIFICATE WINNERS



JOY - Chloe W, Freddie P, Florence P, Lewis H



KINDNESS - Freddie P, Ruby B



ASPIRATION - Ruben C, Eric H, Harvey K, Ralph T, Lola L, Emily T, Lily M



RESPONSIBILITY - Casey D, Amara P, Yhsobella R, Morgan F, Scarlett M, Abi P



CURIOSITY - Rishi KK



COLLABORATION - Nil B, Phoebe W



CREATIVITY - Lexie H, Jacob K, Ethan M, Lucy P



COURAGE - Shaneah W, Poppy H, Ted B, Beaux P



COMMITMENT - Howie M, Logan K, Harry H, Hank H, Leah R, Maisie W, Leo S, Ethan W, Finley C, Thorin F, Chase TH, Bella M, Harry L, Demi-Rae H, Thea P, Logan H, Esme M, Emilia B

And Finally....

HOUSEPOINTS

This Fortnight

BIRCH - 2636

OAK - 2605

WALNUT - 2203

PINE - 1983

This Term

BIRCH - 5652

OAK - 5626

WALNUT - 5297

PINE - 4771



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School Hours: 8.50am - 3.20pm