



WEST ALVINGTON
CHURCH OF ENGLAND ACADEMY

Friday 16th January 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been a wonderfully busy week here at school, with the children fully engaging in their learning and showing great enthusiasm across all subjects. We are so proud of their efforts and achievements.

This term, I am keen to find more ways to invite parents in to see school life. To begin this, we would love to welcome you to our **Celebration Worship** every Friday afternoon at **2:45 pm**. During this time, we will reflect on the week, celebrate our *Stars of the Week* and share what's coming up in the following week. It's a great opportunity to connect and be part of our school community.

Our first Celebration Worship will take place on **Friday, 23rd January**, and we look forward to seeing you there!

Thank you for your continued support. Have a lovely weekend.

Mrs Ruston

Dates for your Diary

Wednesday 21st January – Forest school, Chestnut, Hazel and Year 3, 4 and 5 Oak class

Wednesday 28th January- Chestnut, Hazel and Oak Class Visit Charleton

Wednesday 4th February- Forest school, Year 6 Oak Class

Monday 16th February- Friday 20th February – Half Term

Monday 23rd February- Non-Pupil Day

Wednesday 25th February-Forest school, Chestnut and Oak class

Tuesday 24th and Wednesday 25th February- Parent consultations

Thursday 5th March- World book day

Monday 9th March- Friday 13th March -Year 5/6 Residential

Wednesday 11th March- Forest school, Whole school.

Wednesday 25th March-Forest school, Chestnut and Oak class

Tuesday 31st March-Forest school, Chestnut and Hazel class

Chestnut (Nursery)

We have been continuing with the snow theme and having fun creating our own unique snowmen. There were some tricky processes when making the bobble hats from pipe cleaners

and pom poms which helped with hand and eye coordination and the use of those 'pinchy' fingers. They all did amazingly, the adults were so impressed with their perseverance. We have also been enjoying this half term's books from our Fab Five collection that have led us down ice- and snow-covered avenues with great learning opportunities. More snow, next week!

Hazel (Reception – Year 2)

Another busy week in Hazel Class! This week we have started learning about the British Isles exploring the countries and capital cities that make up our amazing island. In music we have been playing steel pans and we have also been creating music digitally in our computing lesson; comparing making music with instruments to using Chrome Music Lab on the Chrome books. Our exploration of materials continued by looking closely at 2 objects to see what materials they are made of and why those materials were chosen. Spirals and colour were the focus of our art lesson inspired by the work of Andy Goldsworthy. We would like to collect some things we can use for our sculptures, so if anyone has the opportunity to go the beach over the weekend, could you bring in some pebbles of different colours that we can use (see image below)

Forest school for Hazel class is this Wednesday 21st January

Commented [LL1]: @Sarah Carter add Year 3, 4 and 5 and it's January!



Oak (Year 3-Year 6)

We've had a fantastic week in Oak Class! The children have been working hard and exploring some exciting topics across the curriculum.

This week, we've been learning about the famous sculptor Henry Moore. The children created an impressive double-page spread about his life and work, showcasing their research and creativity.

In Science, we used a data logger to measure lux levels (light intensity). The children were fascinated to see how technology helps us collect accurate data and understand the world around us.

Our Geography lessons focused on natural disasters, with a special look at how flooding affects our local area of Kingsbridge. The children asked brilliant questions and showed great curiosity about how communities respond to these challenges.

In RE, we explored the Five Pillars of Islam. The children learned what each pillar represents and then created their own set of five pillars based on values that are important to them. Their ideas were thoughtful and creative!

Art Club was a huge success as always! The children worked on metal embossing projects using a variety of templates, producing some stunning designs.

A big well done to everyone for their enthusiasm and hard work this week!



Forest school for Oak Class Year 3, 4 and 5 is Wednesday 21st January

Attendance

Thank you for all your efforts to maximise the children's attendance.

The attendance this week can be seen on the table below.

Whole school attendance (Target 98%)	95.1%
Hazel (Year R- Year 2)	97.1%
Oak (Year 3- Year 6)	94.2%

Congratulations to our Stars of the Week

Chestnut (Nurse)	Freddie for full engagement in our wintry focus and manipulating playdough for a long time!
Hazel (Year R- Year 2)	Henry for his amazing science work.
Oak (Year 3- Year 6)	A huge well done to Albie, who had a tricky start to the week but showed fantastic determination and resilience. He has made a big effort and has absolutely wowed us all with his English work. We're very proud of him!

Home learning

Hazel (Year R- Year 2)	Daily reading, please record in reading diaries. Books changed on Thursday.
Oak (Year 3- Year 6)	<p>Daily Reading Please ensure your child reads each day and that this is recorded in their reading diary.</p> <p>Spellings Regular spelling practise makes a huge difference to confidence and accuracy, so please continue to support your child with their spellings.</p> <p>Year 3 & 4 Spelling <i>Knowledge</i> <i>Surprise</i> <i>Grammar</i> <i>Disappear</i> <i>Important</i> <i>Length</i> <i>Occasionally</i> <i>Early</i> <i>Actual</i> <i>Build</i></p> <p>Year 5 & 6 Spellings <i>Achieve</i> <i>Aggressive</i> <i>Category</i> <i>Correspond</i> <i>Equip</i> <i>Guarantee</i> <i>Marvellous</i> <i>Physical</i> <i>Rhyme</i> <i>Symbol</i></p> <p>Maths – White Rose Infinity We encourage all children to log in to White Rose Maths and use the Infinity platform to practise their fractions work. It's a brilliant way to reinforce what we're learning in class.</p>