



WEST ALVINGTON  
CHURCH OF ENGLAND ACADEMY

Friday 27<sup>th</sup> February 2026

Dear Families,

It has been wonderful to welcome the children back after what was certainly a wet and soggy half-term! As always, they have returned with great enthusiasm and energy, ready for the exciting term ahead.

It has also been wonderful to see and hear the children enjoying the newly developed outside area, which Mrs Carter has been busy working on. The smiles on their faces have been a joy to see, and we know that Mrs Carter has even more exciting plans to continue developing the space further.

Our Year 6 pupils are beginning to gear up for their upcoming SATs. They are approaching their learning with real maturity, focus, and determination, and we are incredibly proud of the effort they continue to show. Alongside their preparations, both Year 5 and Year 6 are looking forward to their residential in just a few weeks' time—an event that always brings special memories and valuable learning experiences.

A reminder that next week we will be celebrating **World Book Day**. Children are invited to come dressed as a favourite book character—always a highlight of the school year! Details of a fun competition will be coming home today, so please keep an eye out.

On Tuesday, we are hoping for dry weather as we hold our long-awaited **filming day** to create a new promotional video for the school.

Finally, we look forward to welcoming you to **Praise Worship** this afternoon at **2:45pm**.

Wishing you all a restful weekend.

Warm regards,

Mrs Ruston

### **Dates for your Diary**

Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> March – Art Express Toddlers and Preschoolers Group 09.15-10.15am every Tuesday

Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> March- World book day

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

Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> March- Forest school, Whole school.

Friday 20<sup>th</sup> March – Red Nose Day

Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> March-Forest school, Chestnut and Oak class

Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> March-Forest school, Chestnut and Hazel class

Thursday 2<sup>nd</sup> April- Last day of Term

**Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> April- Easter Holidays**

**Monday 20<sup>th</sup> April- Non-Pupil Day**

Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> April- First day of term

Monday 27<sup>th</sup> April- Year 4 Sailing in Salcombe

Monday 4<sup>th</sup> May- Year 4 sailing in Salcombe (Optional- Parents to take students)

### **Chestnut (Nursery)**

Welcoming our little ones back to the start of a new half-term, has begun with a spring clean in line with the new lunar year, celebrated by many Asian cultures. We have been watching how the year of the horse is being welcomed in by creating our own dragons and lions. Their creations are coming along nicely and will culminate in the Lantern Festival which marks the end of the Chinese New Year celebrations.

### **Hazel (Reception – Year 2)**

As we race towards Easter we have a packed half term ahead! We have started our learning about bridges in D&T with the children exploring the different types of bridge construction. In RE we are asking the question “What is the good news Jesus brings?” as we start to unpick the Easter story. In History and Geography we are continuing with last half terms learning about the Royal Family and The British Isles. As scientists the children finished their experiment to find the best material for a shock absorber by dropping their eggs from a controlled height to see if they would break. We had some success and also a few cracks!



### **Oak (Year 3-Year 6)**

Welcome back to a brand-new half term in Oak Class! We hope you all had a restful break. The children have returned with fantastic enthusiasm and have already been busy getting stuck into their learning. In maths, we have begun our work on decimals. Year 5 and 6 are learning to understand place value in numbers with decimal places and to compare and order decimals. Year 3 and 4 are learning to recognise tenths and hundredths as part of a whole and to represent decimals using number lines and place value grids. As historians this week, we learnt about King Ethelred and the Danegeld and explored why he chose to pay Viking raiders and what this meant for England at the time. In French we are learning about les vêtements and practising the

names of different items of clothing. We also enjoyed a fantastically muddy but sunny time at Forest School this week!

Year 5 children from West Alvington and Charleton had a great time at KCC where they built earthquake-resistant structures using spaghetti and explored how strong shapes can make buildings more stable.



Thank you to all the parents who came to Parents' Evening this week, it was lovely to talk about the children's progress and celebrate their hard work.

Have a lovely weekend.

**Attendance**

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

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

<b>Whole school attendance (Target 98%)</b>	95.2%
<b>Hazel (Year R- Year 2)</b>	96.8%
<b>Oak (Year 3- Year 6)</b>	94.6%

## Congratulations to our Stars of the Week

<b>Chestnut (Nursery)</b>	Freddie for success in negotiating the hammock during Forest School, all by himself.
<b>Hazel (Year R- Year 2)</b>	Sylvie for her contribution to our Easter class poem
<b>Oak (Year 3- Year 6)</b>	Teddy for his fantastic writing in English and RE.

## Home learning

<b>Hazel (Year R- Year 2)</b>	Daily reading, please record in reading diaries. Books changed on Thursday.
<b>Oak (Year 3- Year 6)</b>	<p><b>HOME LEARNING</b></p> <p>For this week's home learning, I would like the children to create their favourite character from a book using a paper plate; they can paint, colour, collage, add fabric, or even build on extra features such as ears, hats or accessories to bring their character to life, and they are encouraged to include a small label with the character's name and the book it comes from.</p> <p><b>Daily Reading</b></p> <p>Please ensure your child reads each day and that this is recorded in their reading diary.</p> <p><b>Spellings</b></p> <p>Regular spelling practise makes a huge difference to confidence and accuracy, so please continue to support your child with their spellings.</p> <p><b>SPRING 2 SPELLING</b></p> <p><b>Year 3 &amp; 4</b></p> <p>1. Caught 2. Popular 3. Reign 4. Island 5. Mention 6. Special 7. Believe 8. Business 9. Imagine 10. Decide</p> <p><b>Year 5 &amp; 6</b></p> <p>1. amateur 2. ancient 3. cemetery 4. committee 5. criticise 6. especially 7. exaggerate 8. harass 9. mischievous 10. prejudice</p> <p><b>Maths – White Rose Infinity</b></p> <p>We encourage all children to log in to White Rose Maths and use the Infinity platform to practise their fractions</p>

	work. It's a brilliant way to reinforce what we're learning in class.
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