



FEBRUARY GRAPEVINE

February often brings the beginnings of Spring—shoots of flowers and a bit of sunshine can bring a bit of happiness to our lives. This can be reflected in England's rugby victories of late where hopefully they will flourish into March. Often though, those little rays of sunshine and green shoots can disappear in a false dawn—like Arsenal's title hopes this season. Whatever happens, we know it will be same next year!

In school we are continuing to shine the lens on our pupils writing. We have a clear handwriting expectation at The Vine and the children have responded brilliantly. We are now spending the next few weeks carefully moderating and assessing the children's writing to see how they are getting on. We look forward to sharing this writing progress with you at our upcoming parent consultations at the end of March.

In the staff room, drama continues to unfold as we reach the latter stages of the Crisp World Cup. In the Autumn Term, the mighty chocolate digestive reined supreme in the Biscuit World Cup, but now it is semi-final week and staff are voting for their favourite snack (whilst sampling of course).

A few important points in particular below.

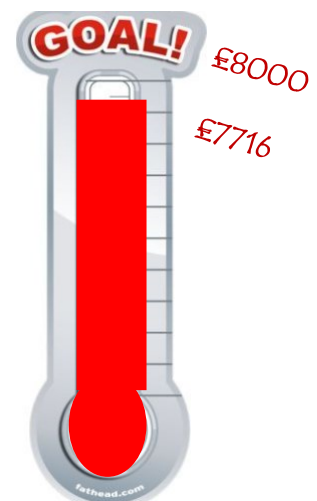
Parent Survey—it has been a while since our last parent survey (October 2023) so please take the time to complete our online survey which will be coming out soon. We recognise a good school is a partnership between parents/carers and school so we welcome any feedback.

Fundraising

Another thank you from myself to you and the staff here at The Vine for all your fundraising efforts. It is genuinely appreciated. All the staff donate their time and effort towards helping raise funds for the children and your continued support for events ran at the school is incredibly heart-warming. We are very close to our total of £8000 and we have a few last events this term to get us over the line. After April, we will be shifting our fundraising efforts from Forest School to another exciting school improvement project.

In the meantime, I hope you have a wonderful weekend and March.

Mr Hynes





FEBRUARY GRAPEVINE

Diary Dates

Spring Term 2025

- 3,4 March Sponsored Scoot
- 6 March World Book Day
- 14 March Friday Fundraiser—Colour Run
- 19 March VIAM
- 19—21 March—Y4 Burwell
- 24 –28 March Parent Consultations

4 April Spring Term Ends 1:30pm

Summer Term 2025

- 22 April Summer Term Starts
- 5 May May Day
- 26 May—6 June Half Term
- 24 July Summer Term Ends 1:30pm

Autumn Term 2025

- 1 Sept Staff Training Day
- 2 Sept Autumn Term Starts
- 27—31 Oct Half Term
- 19 Dec Autumn Term Ends 1:30pm

SCHOOL SUCCESSES

Our **Lead Learners** have been celebrated for trying their hardest to achieve goals.

Caitlyn (Little Gems), Kylo (Ruby), Luna (Coral), Theo (Amber), Mia (Topaz), Edward (Emerald), Owen (Jade) Scarlett-Ava (Turquoise), India (Jasper), Evie (Sapphire), Thomas (Moonstone), Annabelle (Amethyst), Pia (Tanzanite), Charith (Pearl) and Maya (Opal)

Our **Courageous Advocates** have been embodied the core virtues of Greta Thunberg who we discussed in Worship on Friday.

Cayla (Little Gems), Oscar (Ruby), Hunor (Coral), Melissa (Amber), Frankie (Topaz), Asra (Emerald), Indi (Jade), Jess (Turquoise), Kiaan (Jasper), Quinn (Sapphire), George (Moonstone), Esme (Amethyst), Karley (Tanzanite), Logan (Pearl) and Jack H (Opal)

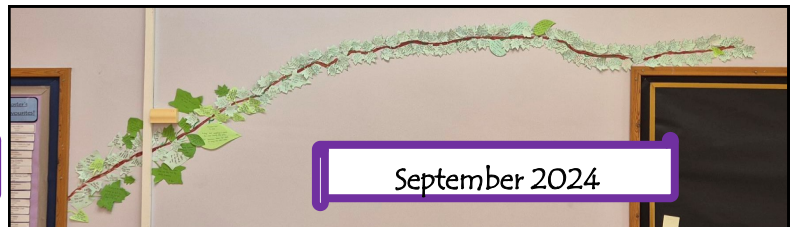
KINDNESS VINE

We are slowly creating a culture of kindness throughout The Vine. Each week, children who have demonstrated this value, has had their name written on one of our 'kindness leaves'.

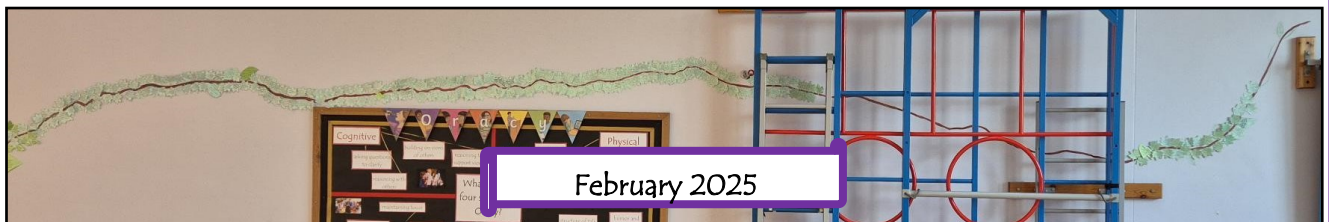
Our Kindness Vine has grown lots this week—Leaves have grown for Miss Davenport for organising the Prayer Space Sessions. Victoria, Sammi, Theo and Benjamin for helping with the prayer space event. Miss Davenport and Miss Cornwell for taking netballers to their tournament and being great motivators. Max, for carefully writing out a recipe for Mrs Richardson to try. Simon for showing compassion to a younger forest schooler and Tilly-Mai for a marked improvement in work ethic- pushing herself and striding for her best.



September 2023



September 2024



February 2025

READING @ THE VINE

Accelerated Reader Update

Keep up the excellent work with your reading! We have already had lots of pupils reading regularly. Congratulations to the last few pupils who met their Spring 1 target over half term!



Vihaan and Willow (Y3)
Eden, George, Jasper, Lukas and Owen (Y4)
Joshua Y and Yeva (Y5)
Audley (Y6)

An honourable mention goes to Amethyst, who **almost** had everyone reach their target last half term! No-one has managed it yet, I wonder which class will be first...

**The more that you read,
the more things you will know.
The more that you learn,
the more places you'll go.**
-Dr. Seuss

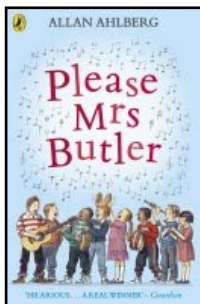
Delighted to announce that we have two book clubs running this half term, led by pupils from Year 6. The two books being read are "The Land of Roar" by Jenny McLachlan and "The Secret of the Night Train" by Sylvia Bishop. This is a great opportunity for our Year 6s to practice leadership and for some of our most enthusiastic readers to enjoy sharing a book together. So far the feedback has been fantastic and everyone is having a good time.

ATTENDANCE AWARD - WEEK 22

WHOLE SCHOOL YEARLY ATTENDANCE— 95.7%
WHOLE SCHOOL WEEKLY ATTENDANCE— 95.8%
YEAR GROUP WINNER— 3
CLASS WINNER - JASPER

SCHOOL HOUSES

Our House rivalry continues with some fantastic House Poems entered over the half-term break. It's not too late to enter, you have until Monday 3rd March to pop a poem (about school) into Miss Foster (English Lead) before she selects our House Winner!



There will be 3 winners per Year Group

- 1st Place - (20 House Points)
- 2nd Place - (10 House Points)
- 3rd Place - (5 House Points)

As the weather gets a little nicer, Mrs McKnight will be starting up our lunchtime House Competitions again as well. We have House skipping, House Table Tennis,

House Basketball and much much more.

Friday Footsteps



Eagle

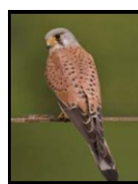
Falcon

Harrier

Hawk

Kestrel

Kite





FEBRUARY GRAPEVINE

WHAT'S BEEN HAPPENING

Lion Learners—Just before half term our early years children had a visit from Claire Giltrow of Lion learners. She brought in several interesting creatures for the pupils to learn about. We met Monty the python, Bolt the tortoise and Mabel the Guinea pig to name just a few! The teachers were really impressed with how the children were kind and gentle with the creatures and they were also very curious to find out more about them. Afterwards one child commented "I loved learning about those animals!".



Well done to George winning a silver medal in the "Ali's DoJang Open 2025 " in London



Garden Club's 'Treasure hunt' a resounding success!

Many of you may remember that Garden Club have been learning about our UK wild flowers and conducted a survey of the Bee Orchid population in our orchard last winter. We protected two areas of the orchard to allow the flower spikes to grow and set seed. Last week we held a competition to see which team could locate the most plants and were astonished to realise that our population of Bee orchids has increased by at least 30%. The 'Treasure hunt' was so popular Garden Club have asked if we can have another plant hunting competition next term. I am sure their efforts have been popular



This week, our school community came together for a special Prayer Space event, reflecting on the theme 'Journey', as we prepare for Lent. Through a series of interactive activities, the children explored what it means to travel through life with faith, hope and reflection. Each station encouraged personal prayer, mindfulness and gratitude, helping us to consider our own spiritual journeys. It was a meaningful and enriching experience for everyone involved.

Life is a journey, an adventure full of opportunities and challenges.

Work together and build the puzzle of the world.

Things to think about as you build...

- What you have achieved so far in your life – from the trivial, to the important things. It is really good to celebrate those achievements.
- Maybe you want to think about different places you have been to visit around the world, opportunities you have been able to experience.
- You may have links to other countries; any family or friends who live in a different country.

JOURNEYS TO NEW PLACES

Do you like going on journeys to places you have not been before?
Do you feel excited?
Do you feel scared?
What word best describes how you feel?
Write the word or draw an emoji on a post-it note and stick it on the table.

Life is a bit like a long journey.
There will be lots of new places to see, new people to meet, and new things to do.
Do you feel excited?
Do you feel scared?
What word best describes how you feel?
Write the word or draw an emoji on a different coloured post-it note and stick it on the table.

Is there a place for God on your journey?
What difference would it make if you know God goes with you?
You may want to talk to God about the journey of life, and how you feel about it.

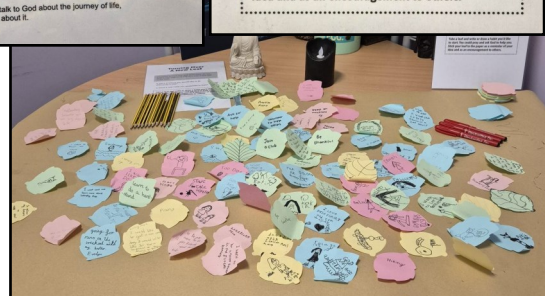
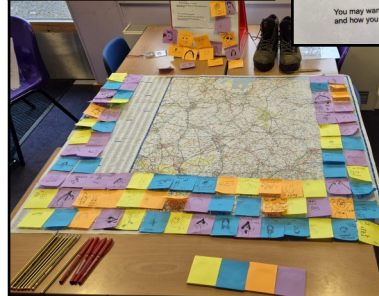
Turning Over A New Leaf

Christians believe that with God's help, we can have a new beginning and 'turn over a new leaf' in our lives.

Is there anything you would like to do differently in life?

Is there a new habit you would like to start?

Take a leaf and write or draw a habit you'd like to start. You could pray and ask God to help you. Stick your leaf to the paper as a reminder of your idea and as an encouragement to others.





FEBRUARY GRAPEVINE

WHAT'S BEEN HAPPENING

Number Day Thank you to everyone who took part, we raised £220.



Year 4 Maths

Two teams of Year 4 pupils recently took part in a maths competition, competing against 12 other teams from local primary schools. The teams enjoyed five rounds of tricky maths challenges, testing both their problem-solving skills and teamwork. Both teams represented The Vine brilliantly, results at the top were close all the way to the end and we were thrilled that one of our teams achieved first place.



Break the rules Day

What a fun day! Raising £716, bringing us ever closer to our target of £8000

Many Thanks

Quicksticks Hockey Tournament

12 pupils from Years 5 and 6 took the journey to Wilberforce Road, Cambridge to play in a 4 a-side hockey tournament. The teams played with enthusiasm, pace and showed great spirit and teamwork. Both teams played their group games with Team 1 winning 2 and drawing 2. This put them into Division 2 for the next set of games which they won. This crowned them as Division 2 champions and 5th overall. Team 2 won 1 of their 4 group games and were then put into division 4. With some excellent contributions from all, they won 2 games, lost one game and drew one game in this division and came out as 2nd place in division 4. All the players improved their games significantly over the course of the competition and should be extremely proud of their achievements.



Bee Netball Tournament

15 pupils from Years 5 and 6 went to Cambourne Village College for the second round of the Bee Netball Competition. Both teams showed great teamwork, energy and skill. The B team improved with every game and made tough competition against all other teams coming out in 5th place overall. This will hopefully be enough to see them through to the B Teams Final Tournament at Comberton Village College. The A team played with great composure and speed, drawing one game and winning the rest with a high scoring record. A super achievement and one that will see them go through to the A Team Shield Finals at Comberton Village College. A great effort to all involved.



FEBRUARY GRAPEVINE

WHAT'S COMING UP – FUNDRAISING



SPONSERED SCOOT

Monday 3rd and Tuesday 4th March 2025

Please join in with our sponsored scoot /skate around school!

Pupils must bring in their own scooter or roller skates / blades for this event. Helmets must be worn.

Please bring skates and helmets in a named carrier bag. Scooters must be parked up neatly in the usual bays, if your child has a lock, please ensure they know the code.

The sponsored scoot will take place on both the 3/4 and 5/6 playgrounds.

5 laps for Reception – Year 2 10 laps for Years 3–4 15 laps for Years 5–6

The sponsored scoot is taking place to provide extra funds as we would really like to purchase some new equipment for pupils to use at breaktimes, such as scooters and ramps. Monies raised will go towards buying this equipment. This activity also fulfils taking part of the Bishops lent Challenge for 2025

Monday 3rd March

1:00pm—1:30pm Reception & Year 1

1:30pm—2:00pm Year 2

2:00pm—2:30pm Year 3

Tuesday 4th March

1:00pm—1:30pm Year 4

1:30pm—2:00pm Year 5

2:00pm—2:30pm Year 6

Donations can be made on ParentPay or on the form brought home before half term. Please return with your money in a sealed envelope by MONDAY 10th MARCH.

We are sure the pupils will have a fun time, and we thank you in advance for your kind support.



Friday Fundraiser—Holi Festival Colour Run —March 14th 3pm

Come join in the fun! Run will start 3:15pm.

Run or walk a lap of the field (perhaps with a few obstacles)

Entrants take part as a family, £5 per family, please pay on ParentPay.

Wear old clothes, your child must change into old clothes at the end of the day for the run.

Vintage Uniform Sale— £1 an item

Please bring in any clean, tidy unwanted uniform in the next couple of weeks.

If you are not taking part in the colour run, we need some

helpers to organise and sell the uniform. Please let us know if you can help.

Count the Eggs in the Jar— £1 a go

Game will run until the end of term when the winner will be announced.



Date for the Diary—Summer Fete—Friday 11th July



FEBRUARY GRAPEVINE

WHAT'S COMING UP

World Book Day 2025 Bedtime Stories!

Thursday 6th
March 2025

The Vine Annual Book Swap

Do you have books at home which you have already read? Do you want something new and exciting to read? Then join in with our book swap! Simply bring along 1-3 books from home that you would like to swap and take home some new reading material.

New this year -Parent Book Swap!
3:10-3:40pm in the hall on
Thursday 6th March.

Our theme for this year's World Book Day is 'Bedtime Stories'!

Come to school dressed in your pyjamas and bring along your favourite bedtime story book to share/read with a friend. You can even bring a small teddy bear with you.



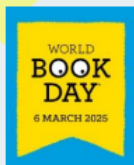
Scholastic Book Fair

Wednesday 19th March - Tuesday 25th March
(after school)



*"The more that you read, the more things you will know.
The more that you learn, the more places you'll go."*

Dr. Seuss



The Vine Annual Book Swap - Details

Pupil Book Swap

Children can bring in 1-3 books from home which they would like to swap. Books must be age appropriate for their year group. They will bring home as many books as they donate to the swap (a child who brings 1 book in, will take 1 book home). Book swap donations can be brought in from Monday 3rd March and the book swap will happen on Thursday 6th March.

Parent Book Swap

This year, we are trying something new and inviting parents to get involved in the book swap too. Children who see their grown-ups engaging in reading for pleasure are much more likely to pick up a book themselves. The book swap for parents will take place in the school hall on Thursday 6th March between 3:10pm and 3:40pm. Please bring along 1-3 of your own books (not children's books) to swap. You can take home as many books as you donate (if you bring 2 books in, you can take 2 books home). Please drop off your book donations at the office from Monday 3rd March, or bring your book donations along with you after school on Thursday.

Please remember - this is a book swap, not a dumping ground for unwanted/damaged old books. Only bring along books that you would be happy to receive yourself.



Parent Consultations

This term we will be holding our parent consultations week beginning 24th March. They will be held via telephone this term—offering a more flexible approach—more details next week. As ever, our teachers are on the doors each morning and afternoon if you need to catch them in person.

V Factor—It's back!

Wanted—a talented individual (or group) to take part in our Spring competition! Years 3—6 welcome. Miss Foster will follow with more information soon, but get practising!

Scooters and Helmets Wanted!

All sizes and shapes.

As part of our revamp of our lunchtime provision, Mrs McKnight would love some scooters for our children to use at Lunchtime. Please drop them into the office.



Wellies Wanted!

Forest School would love some extra wellies to add to our collection. If you have any going spare please drop them into the office. Many thanks.

