



Friday 14<sup>th</sup> March 2025

*Our vision is 'Let your light shine'. The rainbow symbolises God's unconditional love for each individual. We seek to reflect that light in all we do: in our community, both local and wider, in our communication, both word and action, with curiosity and courage, and with care and compassion for everyone, inspiring a love of learning.*

Dear Parents and Carers,

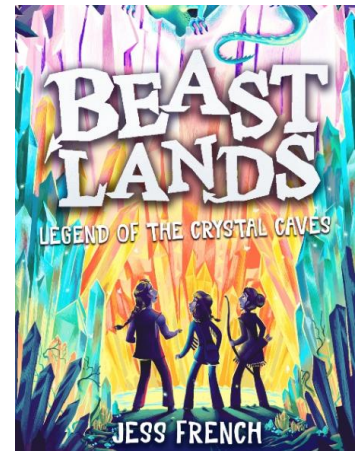
This week the children have enjoyed participating in 'Science Week' with the aim of our activities to raise awareness, spark enthusiasm and celebrate, not only science, but engineering, technology and maths as well. As part of our discussions and activities, the children have been encouraged to understand that science is about a way of thinking, looking at the world and questioning – even their teachers! It has been wonderful to see the incredible and creative science homework projects the children have completed. The Science Ambassadors found it very hard to decide on overall winners as the entries were all completed to such a high standard. Well done to everyone who participated and congratulations to the following children who received a prize for their entries in Collective Worship this morning: Avery (Early Years), Milo & Mya-Rose (Y1), Thomas & Ameera (Y2), Sofia & William (Y3), Neveah & Frankie (Y4), Miles & Chloe (Y5) and Eli & Rudy (Y6).

Children love the chance to learn through being totally hands-on and finding things out for themselves — the perfect way to understand the world around them. We believe a positive primary science experience is also key to encouraging future generations to not only study this at secondary school, but also potentially to follow it as a career.

Year 3 and 4 enjoyed a visit from Jess French, TV presenter, Zoologist, Vet and author this week. Jess once ultra-sounded a snow leopard and has also looked inside a crocodile's stomach! She loves animals and the natural world they live in. She thinks it is very important that we all work hard to protect the natural world, so



she writes books about how we can do that. Jess talked about her life, work, and her latest children's book 'Beastland,' her epic fantasy adventure series. The children then got the opportunity to buy a signed book.



Last Friday two Councillors from Winslow Town Council came into school to talk to the Pupil Leadership Team about plans for a new playground on the Elmfields Recreation area in Winslow. Councillor Gordon and Councillor Wendy showed the children two mock up ideas of a new playground. The children then voted on which one they liked best and which pieces of equipment they would like to see in the playground. All of the children in the Leadership Team spoke articulately about what they liked, sharing their opinions and ideas while listening respectfully and with interest. We were so impressed with the children's questions and are delighted that our children had this opportunity to influence the final design.

Thank you for your continued support - have a lovely weekend!

Mrs Samantha Dimbleby

**Headteacher**

LET YOUR LIGHT SHINE

## Comic Relief – Non-Uniform Day Friday 21<sup>st</sup> March 2025

Friday 21<sup>st</sup> March marks the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Comic Relief's Red Nose Day fundraising efforts and we would like everyone to get involved and raise some money by holding a non-uniform day. Children can wear their own clothes, and a red nose if they wish, for a donation of £1.00 or more to the Comic Relief appeal.



For this event we have set up a Just Giving page to collect donations for Red Nose Day 2025. Please follow the link to make your donations. [Red Nose Day - Just Giving](#)

Don't forget to tick the Gift Aid option, if you can, so Comic Relief can claim an extra 25% from the government. Please note, we will not be collecting cash donations in school.

## Easter Holiday HAF Vouchers

If eligible, you will receive an email containing your Easter HAF voucher shortly. The voucher will allow you to book your child onto free activities funded by the DFE in partnership with the local authority. A free meal will also be provided as part of the provision. Each eligible child can attend up to four days of HAF over the Easter holidays. For more information please see the Buckinghamshire Family Information by clicking the link [here](#).



## Chess news from Mr McClellan Spring Term 2025

Having taught chess for over 20 years in seven different schools I have evolved, what I consider, to be an effective system to enable children to learn this highly enjoyable but difficult game. During the autumn term an "Introduction to Chess Course" allows complete beginners and those who have some experience of the game, to master the basics. This is non-competitive and some pupils enjoy this stage more than when competitive play is introduced.

In the spring term these beginners, and children who have already completed the Introductory Course, compete against one another as part of the U.K. Chess Challenge. Sometimes a new child requests to join the club at this stage, because they know how to play the game having been taught by a grandparent. This is possible depending on their experience and confidence in joining the club at this stage. Knowledge to be able join at this stage would include: Do they know the points value of all the pieces? Can they recognise a stalemate? Do they know what e5 represents? All of this is taught in the "Introductory Course".

"Can't beginners be taught alongside experienced players?"

It would be easy for me and more profitable to have a larger group containing more pupils, but I do not think that either group would be taught effectively. When teaching chess a lot of talking and discussion is involved and movement from child to child while advice is being given. More experienced players who know how to play need peace, quiet and minimal disturbance in order to be able to concentrate properly. In my experience neither group would gain full benefit from such a mix.

If your child is interested in joining the Chess Club, please contact Mr McClellan through the school office.

LET YOUR LIGHT SHINE

## Child of the Week

All our children seek to 'Let their light shine' as they reflect our Christian values in their daily life. Many congratulations to the following children this week who have shone particularly brightly and been awarded 'Child of the Week':

Reception: Rex & Rohan  
 Year 1: Rufus & MacKenzie  
 Year 2: Sophia & Logan  
 Year 3: Isabel & Milena  
 Year 4: Stanley & Henry  
 Year 5: Miya & Taylor  
 Year 6: William & Maxi



## Attendance

Well done to 5RS who had the best whole class average attendance this week with 99.44%. Our average whole school attendance this week is 94.06%.

### Why is good attendance so important?

Your child's attendance is above 98%	<b>Amazing Attendance!</b> Your child has the very best chance of success	<b>Well done and Keep Going!</b>
Your child's attendance is between 95%-98%	<b>Brilliant Attendance!</b>	
Your child's attendance is between 92-95%	<b>Be aware. Even a few days absence make it hard for your child to catch up. Every day really does count.</b>	<b>As a school we are <u>very concerned</u> and will closely monitor your child's attendance and will contact you via letters and meetings</b>
Your child's attendance is between 89-92%	<b>Attendance at this level will start to have a detrimental effect on your child's education</b>	
Your child's attendance is between 85-89%	<b>The Government classes your child as Persistently Absent from school. Over the course of the year your child could miss as much as 5 weeks and 3 days of learning – that's nearly half a term!</b>	
Your child's attendance is below 85%	<b>The Government classes your child as Persistently Absent from school.  Attendance below 85% has a serious effect on your child's education and may affect their chances in later life.</b>	<b>As a school we are <u>seriously concerned</u> and at 80% are required to refer attendance to the County Attendance Team</b>

Thank you for your support in encouraging good attendance. If you would like any support or advice on attendance or punctuality, please speak to your child's class teacher or Mrs Dimbleby.

LET YOUR LIGHT SHINE

## Accelerated Readers

The following classes have been awarded the Reading Trophies this week for completing the most Accelerated Reader Quizzes:

<b>3MW</b>
<b>4VK</b>
<b>5JW</b>
<b>6CM</b>



## Safeguarding

If you have a concern about a child please contact Mrs Samantha Dimbleby, Mrs Katie Epps or Miss Allen via the School Office on 01296 712296 or alternatively if out of school hours, weekends or holidays visit <http://www.bucks-lscb.org.uk/concerned-about-child/> to report your concerns.

<b>Mrs Samantha Dimbleby</b> Designated Safeguarding Lead	
<b>Mrs Katie Epps</b> Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead	
<b>Miss Daisy Allen</b> Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead	
Child Protection Governor <b>Mr David Shaw</b>	

## What can we do even better as a school?

If you have any comments or suggestions, please do get in contact with Mrs Dimbleby via the school office, or better still, come and chat to her at the start or the end of the day on the playground



## Diary Dates

Please find below our spring term calendar of events for your immediate attention. This will be published on our school website and updated as appropriate over the coming weeks.

Date	Event	Year Group
Wednesday 19 <sup>th</sup> March	Year Five Church Visit	Year Five
Wednesday 19 <sup>th</sup> March	Stay and Read Session	Reception, Year One and Year Two
Friday 21 <sup>st</sup> March	Red Nose Day – Non-uniform Day	Whole School
Friday 21 <sup>st</sup> March	Bikeability	Year Three
Friday 21 <sup>st</sup> March	Rainbows Stay and Play Session	Rainbows
Wednesday 26 <sup>th</sup> March	Group Photos	Reception and Year Six
Wednesday 26 <sup>th</sup> March	Year Three Church Visit	Year Three
Friday 28 <sup>th</sup> March	FOWS Mother's Day Gifts Sale TBC	Whole School
Monday 31 <sup>st</sup> March	Reception Vision Checks	Reception
Wednesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> April – Friday 4 <sup>th</sup> April	Rock UK Residential Trip	Year Four
Thursday 3 <sup>rd</sup> April (9:00am)	Coffee Meeting for Parents of Children with SEND	Whole School
Friday 4 <sup>th</sup> April	Last day of term	Whole School
Easter HOLIDAY Children return on Tuesday 22 <sup>nd</sup> April 2025		

*This Term's Value is:*

***Respect***

*“Do to others as you would have them do to you.”*

***Luke 6:31***

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