

Friday 13th March 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

It was great to have a visit this week from the author Mini Grey. Every year group had the opportunity for a session with her and I understand that they were very positively received. It is lovely to be able to provide opportunities for our children to hear from quality authors discussing their work. I hope that your children came home enthused!

Share and Celebrate

We will be holding Share and Celebrate at St Nic's on the week beginning 16th March. The plan for the sessions is as follows:

Tuesday 17 th March:	Year 3 9-9.30
Tuesday 17 th March:	Opportunity for parents that cannot make a morning session 6-6.30pm
Wednesday 18 th March:	Year 4 9-9.30
Thursday 19 th March:	Year 5 9-9.30
Friday 20 th March:	Year 6 9-9.30

Early Years Share and Celebrate will take place on Wednesday 18th & Friday 20th March at 8.45am.

St John's Church Mothering Sunday Service



Astronomy Evening

It was lovely to see so many people at the astronomy evening this week. If anyone is interested in taking it further, below is a flier with information about the Newbury Astronomy Society beginner sessions.

NEWBURY ASTRONOMICAL SOCIETY BEGINNERS PROGRAMME 2026

We meet every 3rd Wednesday at Stockcross Village Hall. Normal meetings start at 7:00pm and finish at 9:00pm with observing outside if the sky is clear.

2026

21 January	Observing our Solar System - Planets and Moons	[Chris H]
	What about Asteroids, Comets and Meteors?	[George]
18 February	What are 'Deep Sky Objects'?	[Paul]
	Looking in more detail – Observing Star Clusters	[Steve K]
18 March	Orion (the Hunter) and his dogs Sirius & Procyon	[Tony]
	Nebulae come in many types from different origins	[Chris H]
15 April	Variable Stars (they vary for different reasons)	[Paul]
	Star charts (traditional) and Digital Planetariums	[Nicky]
20 May	Observing the Sun 'Safely' during the summer days	[Nicky]
	Noctilucent Clouds what they are & how to see them	[Val]

Stockcross Village Hall, Church Lane, RG20 8LN



Contact: e-mail: steveh23448@gmail.com
NAS website: NewburyAstro.org.uk

Attendance

Congratulations to Poplar Class at St John's with an 98.8% attendance and 5N at St Nic's with 98.4% attendance. Both classes have won our attendance aardvarks for this week.

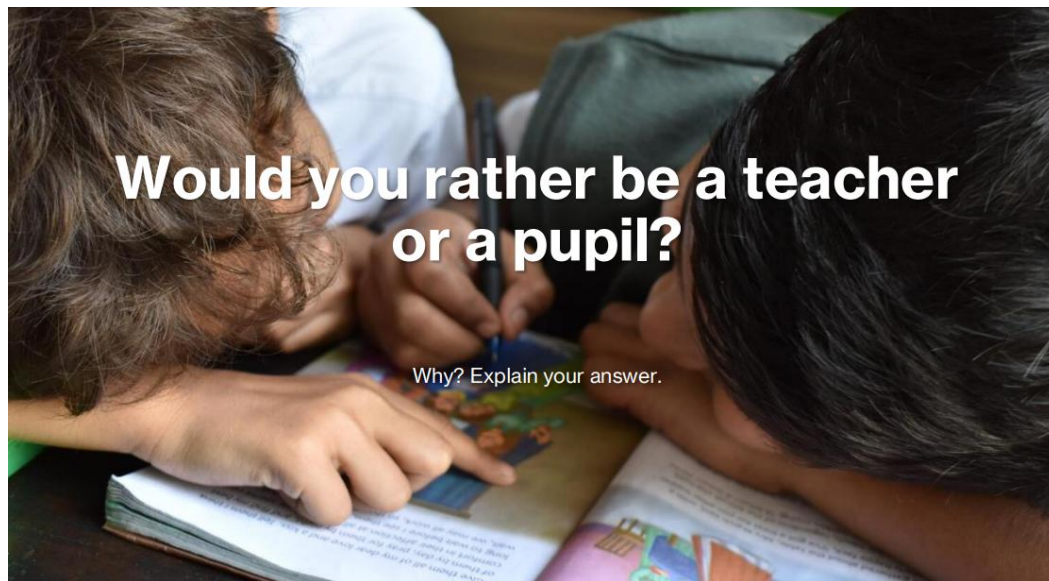
Attendance at each school last week was as follows:

- St John's: 95.6%
- St Nic's 95.5%

Attendance has been a little lower this week, due to an increase in illnesses. Every day in school is important and we are keen to boost our attendance. If your child is well enough to attend, please do ensure they are in school. Across the two schools, there were 29 late marks last week. Every minute that a child is late can impact on their learning. Please ensure your child is in school, on time, each day.

Writer of the Week

Congratulations to this week's writer of the week: Tanaya (Year 4). Congratulations also to Lizzie (Y5), Eva (Y5) and Aadhya (Y6) for achieving their bronze reading challenge award and to Iliria (Y5) for achieving the silver reading challenge award. The writer of the week inspiration for next week is below:



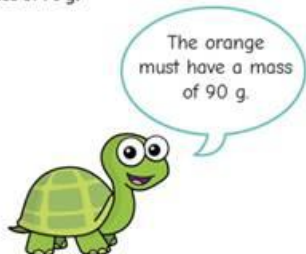
Year 2 Homework

Maths

This week we are looking at weighing objects using grams and kilograms. The mass of an object is how heavy it is. The amount of matter in an object is its mass. You can use the words 'heavy' and 'light' to describe the mass of an object. You can use the words 'heavier' and 'lighter' when comparing the mass of objects. You can find out the mass of an object using balance scales.

- [KS1 Maths - The Canine Crew: Measuring Mass](#)
- [Mostly Postie - mobile friendly](#)
- [teacherLED.com Time - Scales: Reading Mass](#)

Tiny is finding the mass of an orange and a pear.
The mass of the pear is 20 g more than the orange.
The pear has a mass of 70 g.



What mistake has Tiny made?
What is the mass of the orange?

Four operations with mass

Spellings

Term 4	New Skills	CEWs Year 2	Special Skill
Week 3	Compare: /j/ /g/ /ge/ /dge/	move, prove, improve	Near homophones: quite/quiet

Practise with Perry Panther

Sort into / j / g / ge / dge / and write on board in the relevant column:

edge
charge
fringe
cage
large
nudge

Practise with Perry Panther

Sort into / j / g / ge / dge / and write on board in the relevant column:

jungle
revenge
bridge
damage
hedgehog
subject
badger
gerbil
giraffe
cabbage

Guided Reading Book: An Invitation to a party

[https://parents.fft.org.uk/viewer/?pdf=An Invitation to a Party&d=An%20Invitation%20to%20a%20Party](https://parents.fft.org.uk/viewer/?pdf=An+Invitation+to+a+Party&d=An%20Invitation%20to%20a%20Party)

If your child would like to learn the words for our Year 2 Easter song in church please visit this link:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BIogxD4ofs0&list=RDBIogxD4ofs0&start_radio=1

Drawing Club

Drawing Club is a way of igniting joy and a love of stories with the early years and follows Greg Bottrell's beliefs and passions. Your child will be using their imagination to create new characters, settings, and events for this story. They will be adding marks, codes, labels, and messages to their work and realising that they are writers! Each week we will choose a different story or an animation, this week our animation is:



They will also be learning some exciting new vocabulary with actions. This week's vocabulary list is:

JOYFUL
HOIST
LOST
BEWARE
OBSERVE
NERVOUS
CAREFUL
MUNCH

See if they can teach you the actions!

Phonics Books for the Week

Reception: https://parents.fft.org.uk/viewer/?pdf=S18_The_Egg_Moon&d=The%20Egg%20Moon
<https://vimeo.com/692003454/7464393e27>

Year 1: https://parents.fft.org.uk/viewer/?pdf=S53_Clever_Crows&d=Clever%20Crows
<https://vimeo.com/731372425/cced1fc4f0>

Year 2:

https://parents.fft.org.uk/viewer/?pdf=An_Invitation_to_a_Party&d=An%20Invitation%20to%20a%20Party

Upcoming Dates

WB 16 th March:	Share and Celebrate at St Nic's
Monday 16 th March:	SCARF Workshops at St Nic's
Tuesday 17 th March:	SCARF Workshops at St John's
Tuesday 17 th March:	St Nic's at Cross Country Festival
Wednesday 18 th March:	Early Years Share and Celebrate 8.45am to 9.15am
Thursday 19 th March:	Celebration worship 10.10am
Friday 20 th March:	Early Years Share and Celebrate 8.45am to 9.15am

Yours sincerely,

Keith Harvey
Executive Headteacher