

YEAR 3 AND YEAR 4 NEWSLETTER



February 2026

HALF TERMLY UPDATE

We have had an incredibly exciting half term across Year 3 and Year 4, filled with memorable learning experiences. In Year 3, children thoroughly enjoyed diving into a new guided reading text, *The Boy Who Grew Dragons*, and were completely fascinated by the imaginative plot and the setting description! Our history topic, *How Have Children's Lives Changed* was brought to life through a fantastic trip to Milestones Museum. The children dressed as factory workers and experienced a lesson in a Victorian classroom. In RE, the children learned about the Islamic religion, supported by a valuable visit from a guest speaker (Mrs Rasheed) who shared her experiences and answered thoughtful questions.

Year 4 began the half term with a BANG! The Iron Man story was their first English focus this half term. They produced some truly impressive stories that included sound, texture and appearance and more recently they visited Aladdin's cave for imaginative setting description. In RE, pupils took part in an immersive talk about Sikhism, asking inquisitive and respectful questions that showed real engagement with their learning. It has been a joy to visit lessons across both year groups and hear the children speak enthusiastically about what they have been learning. A huge thank you to our wonderful parent helpers for generously giving their time to support maths and reading interventions across Years 3 and 4, trips and projects!

Looking ahead to next half term, we have lots of exciting events planned: Year 3 are very much looking forward to their DT pneumatic toys project day, where they will be designing, making and evaluating their own moving toys! Year 4 will have a road safety session delivered by Bike Ability, they will be visiting Butser Ancient Farm as well as performing at the annual Easter service at St Mary's Church. It promises to be another fun-filled and enriching half term for our phase!

I wish you all a safe, fun filled half term and a happy Chinese New Year to those who celebrate!

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Parker, Head of Year 3 and Year 4 (LKS2 Phase Leader)



YEAR 3 HIGHLIGHTS

RE: This half term in RE we have been learning how Muslim's worship and how this shows what is important to them. We have learnt about the many names of Allah, we have learnt *The Qu'ran* is a holy book that is written in Arabic and considered so special, that Muslims store it very carefully in their homes. We were very lucky that our own Teaching Assistant Mrs Rashid offered her time to Year 3 to explain about the Five Pillars of Islam and about her own Haj pilgrimage to Mecca.



Music: Year 3 have been learning to play Glockenspiels. They have been playing Ostinatos (repeated lines of notes) to a South African song called *Gumboots*. They have been reading staff notation whilst playing in unison and in two parts. The final performance included playing glockenspiels, singing and dancing.



Computing: In computing, Year 3 have been taking their first coding steps in Scratch. The children are learning to use code blocks to give instructions to Sprites (objects on screen) that they can move and make sound with. They built their own Sprite pianos to make melodies on.



Art: We have been exploring lights and shades through sketching. We looked at Max Ernst for inspiration when creating Frattage art which means rub in French.



YEAR 4 HIGHLIGHTS

Geography: We have been learning about the features of a river and which course we would find them in. We learnt that a river gets wider along its course because of all the tributaries that feed water into it. We used mapping skills to locate some of the longest rivers in the world. We found out that the longest river in the world is the River Nile.



Science: we have been looking at sound. We have enjoyed acting as particles, showing how sound travels through different states of matter, and carried out investigations to see how volume and pitch can change.



Computing: we have learnt to use Turtle Academy to create programs by planning, modifying, and testing commands to create shapes and patterns.



RE: we have been finding out about Sikhism and what Sikhs value. We have particularly enjoyed learning about Guru Nanak Ji and what it is like at a gurdwara.



PE: Children have been improving their fitness by completing series circuits. This involved having the stamina to keep exercising for one minute intervals. They have learnt lots of new exercises to help develop fitness in different parts of the body.



Art: We have been exploring mega materials art and experimented with different materials (soap, wire, chalk and cardboard) to create sculptures. Please see photos on our school website



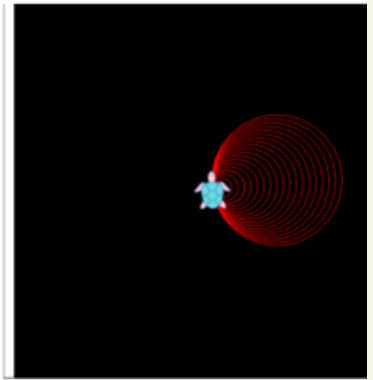


WOW WORK!

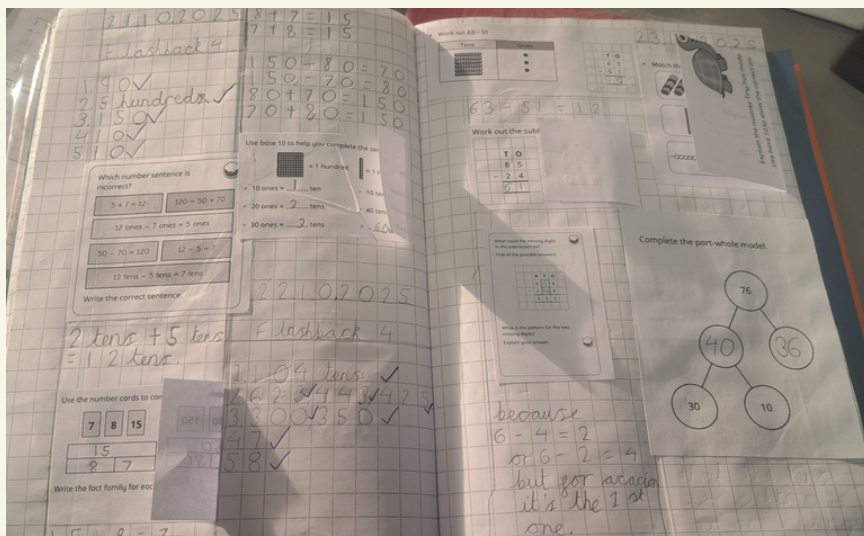


BY HAYDEN, PALM CLASS (ART)

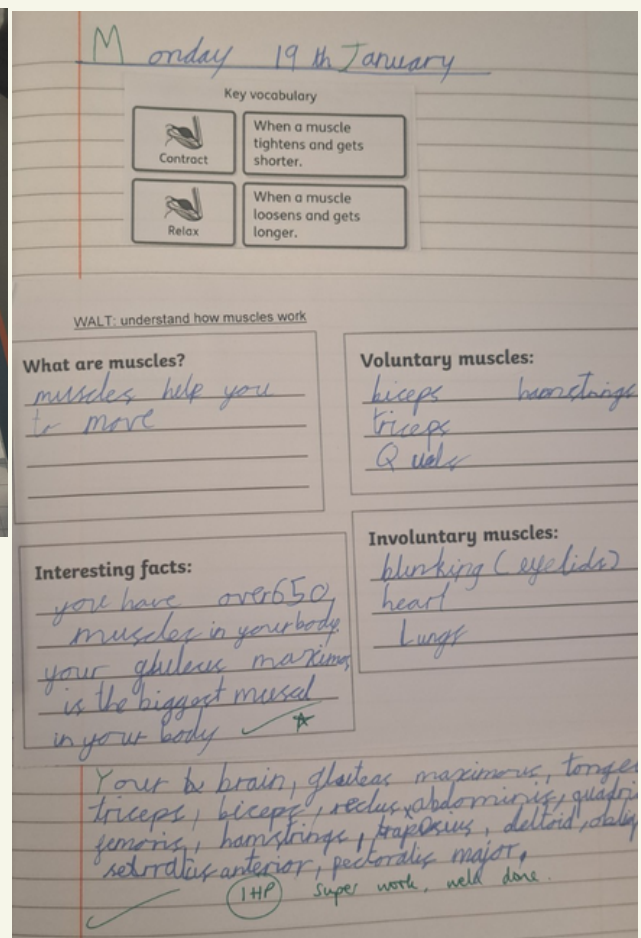
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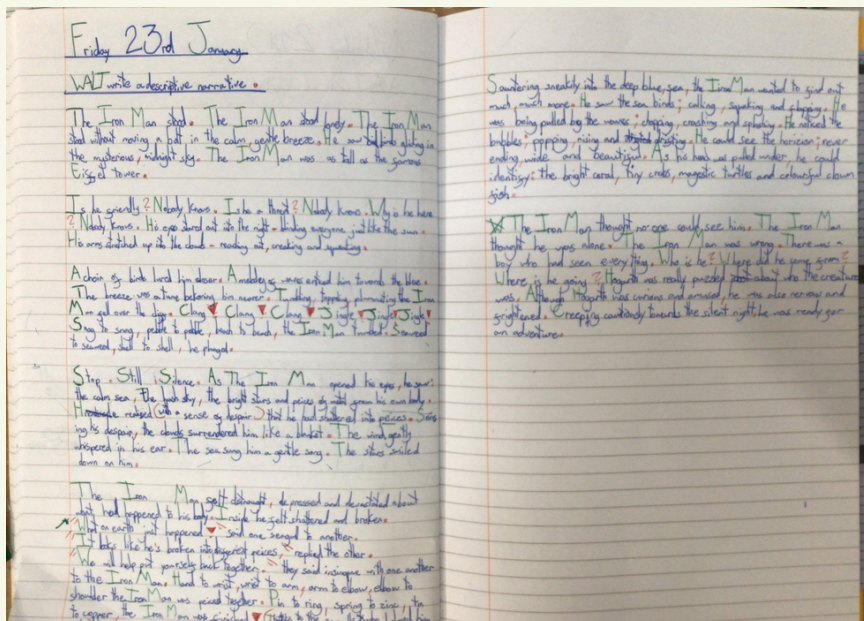
BY RHYS, PALM CLASS (COMPUTING)



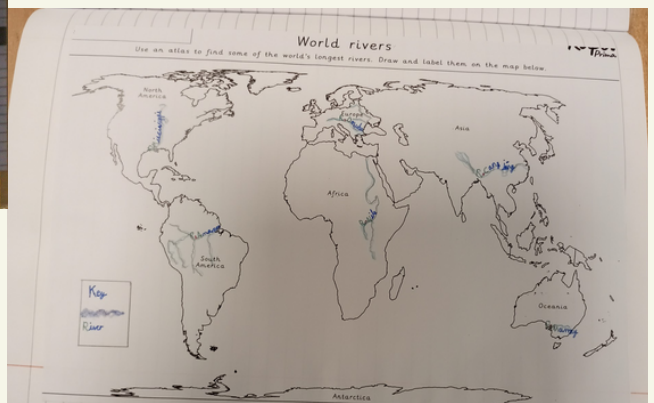
BY DELAILAH, OAK CLASS (ENGLISH)



BY TYCHO, OAK CLASS (SCIENCE)



BY ELIZA, ACER CLASS (ENGLISH)



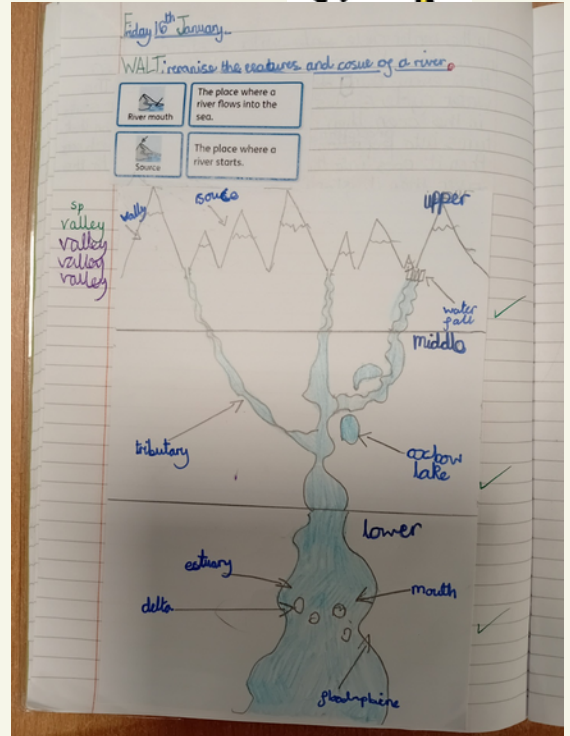
BY JOHNNY, ACER CLASS (GEOGRAPHY)



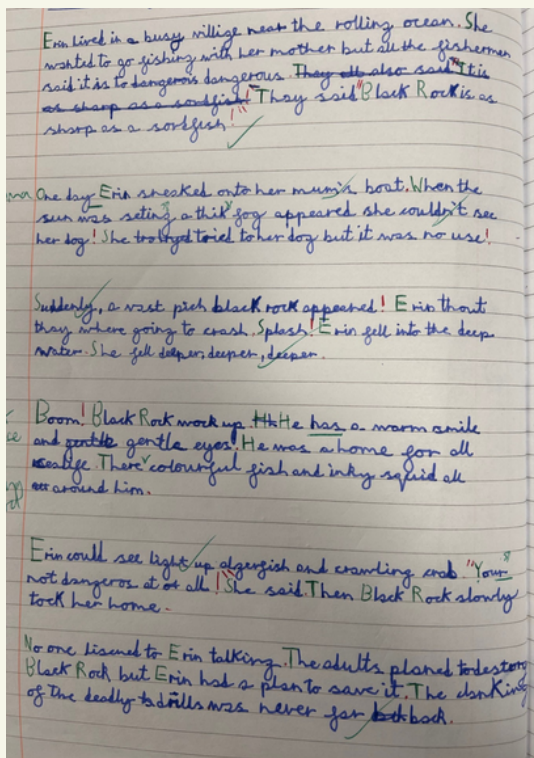
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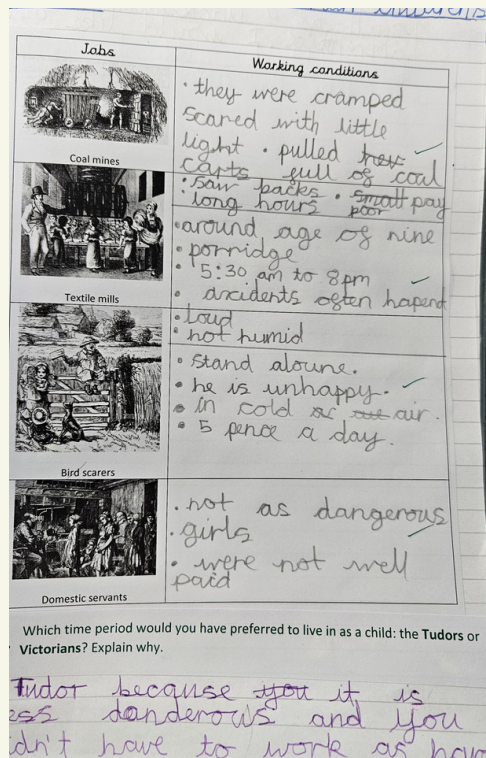
BY OLLIE, YUVI, CHARLOTTE, HENRY M AND ALBA,
PINE CLASS (ART)



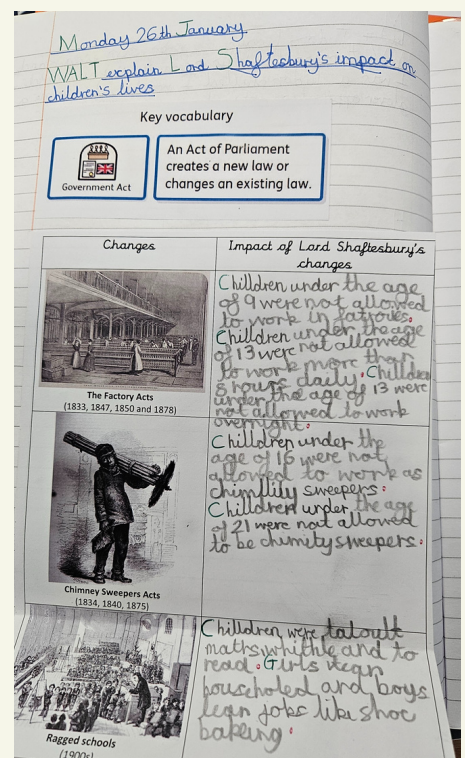
BY GRACIE, ACER CLASS (GEOGRAPHY)



BY ETHAN DUTFIELD, ASH CLASS



BY DYLAN, ELM CLASS (HISTORY)



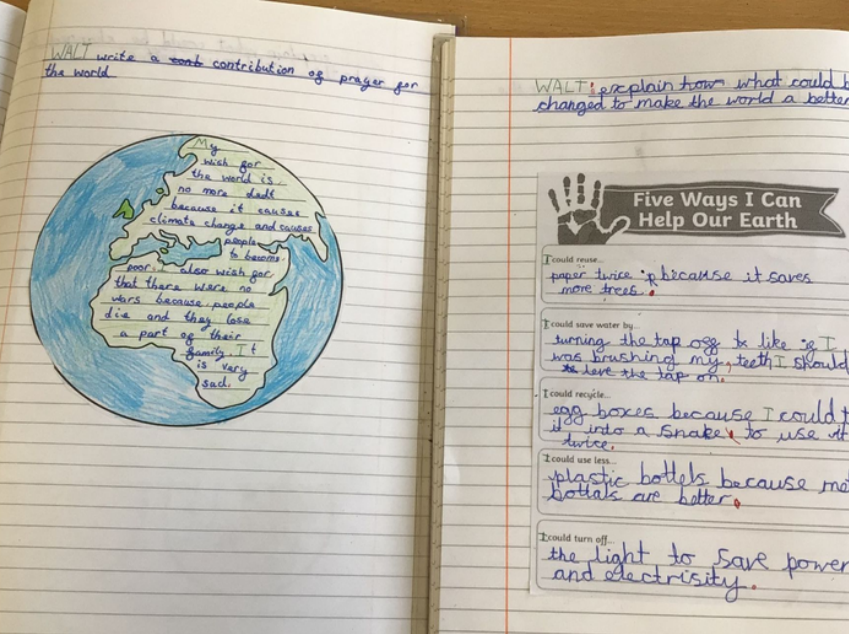
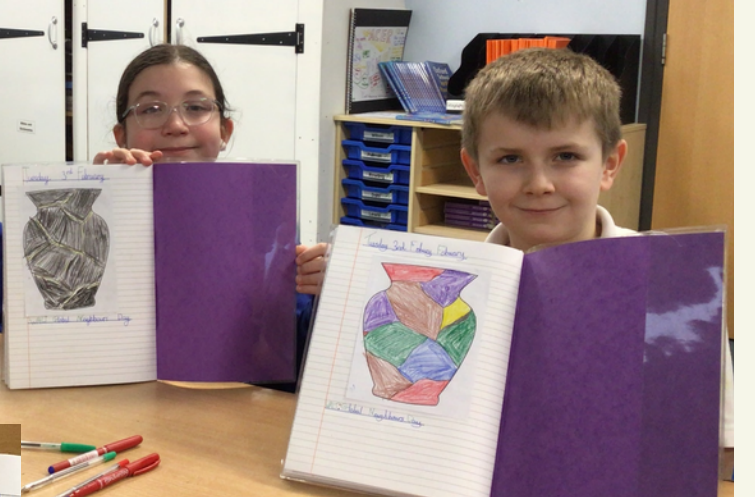
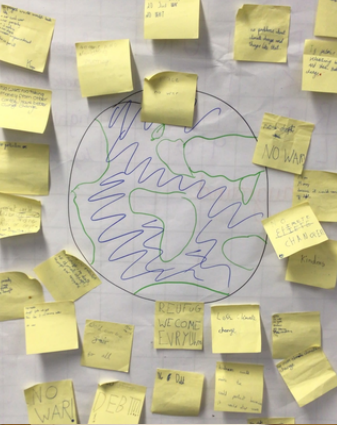
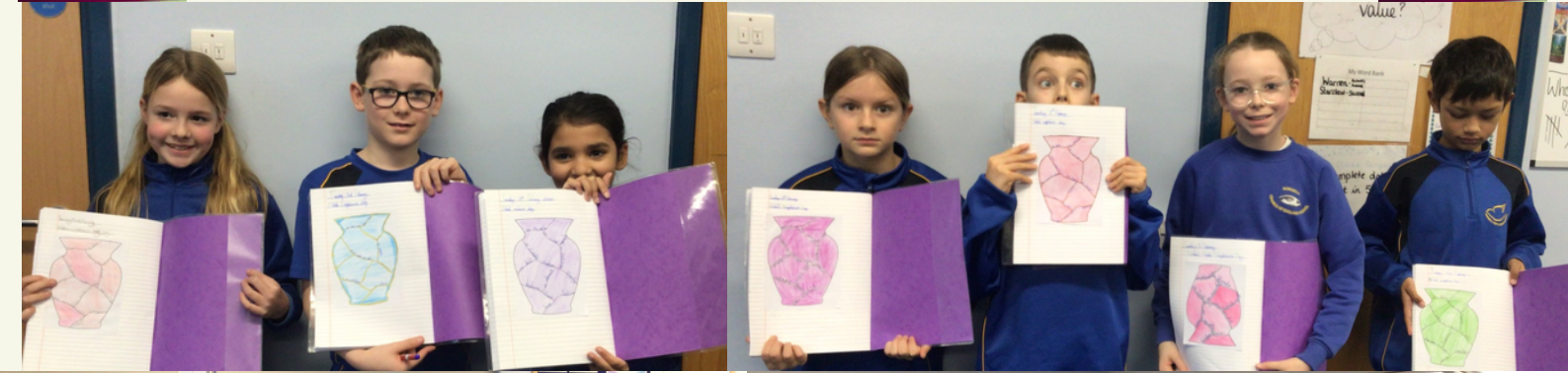
BY KARA, ELM CLASS (HISTORY)

Please visit our 'Spring Trips and Activities' webpage where you will find more photos from this term :





GLOBAL NEIGHBOURS DAY



NEXT HALF TERM:

PE DAYS + SWIMMING

ASH PE : MONDAY & TUESDAY
ELM PE : WEDNESDAY & THURSDAY
OAK PE : MONDAY & TUESDAY

ACER:
PE WEDNESDAY & PE THURSDAY
(SWIMMING SUMMER TERM)

PALM:
PE WEDS & SWIMMING THURSDAY

PINE:
SWIMMING TUESDAY & PE FRIDAY

REMINDERS

HOME LEARNING:
YEAR 3 FRIDAY - FRIDAY
YEAR 4 MONDAY - MONDAY

SPELLING TEST:
YEAR 3 FRIDAY YEAR 4 MONDAY

DAILY CHECKLIST:
HSO / HEALTHY SNACK/ WATER
BOTTLE/ COAT/ READING BOOK

VOLUNTEERS Y3 & Y4

WE NEED YOU!

IF YOU CAN SPARE ANY TIME TO HELP THE CHILDREN WITH READING OR MATHS PLEASE LET US KNOW! WE WILL PROVIDE YOU WITH RESOURCES AND GAMES FOR EACH SESSION. IF YOU ARE INTERESTED OR WOULD LIKE TO HEAR MORE ABOUT HOW YOU CAN HELP. PLEASE CONTACT MRS PARKER BY EMAIL

H.PARKER@HORSELL-JUNIOR.SURREY.SCH.UK

**THANK YOU MISS FEAR, MRS
SCHOLES, MRS DOUGLAS, MRS
LINKINS AND MRS WHITBY FOR
COMING IN WEEKLY TO SUPPORT
THE CHILDREN!**

Y3 TOPICS

- English: The True Story of Three Little Pigs/ Magic Paintbrush
- Reading: Books across the groups
- Maths: Fractions, Capacity
- Science: Plants
- RE: Christianity
- PE: Hockey/Tennis
- Geography: Antarctica
- DT: Pneumatic toys
- PSHE: Safety and the changing body
- Computing: Databases
- French: Playground games
- Online Safety: Self image and identity



Y4 TOPICS

- English: Feast /The Whale
- Reading: Books on rotation
- Maths: measure money, mass, volume, length
- RE: Christianity
- PE: Swimming /Netball/Rounders
- History: Invasion Into England (Anglo Saxons)
- DT: Pavilions
- PSHE: Safety and the changing body,
- Music: Percussion

Science and Computing will be carried on during the Summer term due to the many enriching activities in this short half term.



KEY DATES NEXT HALF TERM:



Monday 23 rd	Back to school, 8:30am. Bikeability Pine class AM	A small icon of a traditional gazebo with a dark roof and light-colored pillars.
Tuesday 24 th	Bikeability Acer class AM DT afternoon Year 4 Pavilions (Acer & Palm). Parents welcome from 1:00pm.	
Wednesday 25 th	Bikeability Palm class AM DT afternoon Year 4 Pavilions (Pine). Parents welcome from 1:00pm.	
Thursday 26 th	Bikeability Apple class AM PTA “The Little Recyclers” Collection, 08:30 - 09:00. Please click here for more information on what can be donated.	
Fri 27 th :	Headteacher for the Day - details to be confirmed.	



Thursday 5 th	World book day	A small icon of a red book with a white label and a yellow bookmark.
Friday 6 th	DT day Year 3 Pneumatic toys PTA Bingo and Biryani evening, the Horsell Village Hall	
Tuesday 17 th	Year 4 Butser Ancient Farm trip - please arrive 8:30am	
Tuesday 24 th	Parents evening	
Wednesday 25 th	Easter Service to Year 4 parents at 9:30am St Mary’s Church Parents evening	
Thursday 26 th	Parents Evening (Acer)	
Friday 27 th	Last day of term. School finishes at 13:30pm	