



## From Our Head Teacher

*Dear parents and carers,*

*This month we have continued our focus on the season of Lent, a time when we are all encouraged to slow down, reflect, and prepare our hearts for the events of Holy Week and the celebration of Easter. Across the past five weeks, the children have listened to Scripture, taken time to pray, and reflect on how Jesus guides and strengthens them, during their Lenten journey and throughout their lives. Today, we undertook our Big Lent walk and prepared for Holy Week with the Stations of the Cross.*

*The half term has seen the days lighten and get longer. The new life that spring brings in nature has been replicated with a renewed vigour by the children towards their learning. We have seen beautiful learning completed across the school.*

*Our dancers led so ably by Mrs Emanuel and Miss Parkinson wowed the school with their impressive entry for the Gremlin Dance competition. The competition brought together 11 local schools at the Princes Hall in Aldershot. They continued to wow the assembled audience and the judging panel winning 'Best Choreography', Best execution of the Choreography' and being crowned 2026 KS2 Gremlin Dance winners. It is wonderful to witness the incredible talent of this groups of dancers with a special thanks for their commitment over the course of the preceding months. I also wish to thank Mrs Emanuel and Miss Parkinson for their commitment to the girls.*

*Finally, we say goodbye to Mrs Rowden who has supported learning in Year 2. We wish her well in her new endeavours.*

*We also say goodbye to Mrs Baxter. When speaking to Mrs Baxter she has fulfilled so many roles in the 19 years she has been part of our community. She has had an incredibly positive impact on so many hundreds of children who have been part of our community and her years of service should rightly be praised. Her reward is early retirement and the opportunity to spend more time with her family and travel! I know you will all join me in wishing her well.*

*Finally, I wish you all a holy and restful Eastertide. I look forward to welcoming you all back on Monday 13<sup>th</sup> April.*

*With best wishes,  
Mr Lynch*

## Safeguarding Corner

### **Mobile phones: do you know the risks?**

We know that children having access to a smartphone can expose children to risks including:

- Viewing inappropriate content
- Excessive screen time/use, which in turn can affect their mental health and sleep pattern.
- Contact from inappropriate people/grooming
- Cyberbullying
- Spending money on in-app purchases/scams

### **What effects do mobile phones have on children's mental health?**

Compass discuss the research around this important topic, outlining the positive and negative effects that mobile phones have:

<https://compass-uk.org/services/compass-changing-lives/online-resources/what-effects-do-mobile-phones-have-on-children-and-young-peoples-mental-health/>

### **Could you delay when your child is given a smartphone with Smartphone Free Childhood?**

The premise behind this movement is that all parents/carers of a class all agree not to give their children smartphones (therefore the level of peer pressure is reduced) for a set time or until a specific age:

<https://www.smartphonefreechildhood.org/>

## Breakfast and After School Club

The Breakfast Club and After School Club are open from Monday to Friday term time only. Mrs Dias, Mrs Bennet and Miss Rani run the clubs and there are many activities, games and themed days to enjoy.

### **Breakfast Club**

**Breakfast Club opens from 8:00 am.** The cost per session is £3.50, all payments need to be done via Arbor. You do not need to book for Breakfast Club.

### **After School Club**

After School Club will operate from 3:20pm to 6:00pm. The cost per booking is £10.00, however you can collect your child anytime between 3:20pm and 6:00pm, snacks are served at 4:30pm

Please book Arbor in advance, the cut off for booking is 48 hours. If you cancel within 24 hours you will incur the cost. We are still able to take Ad Hoc bookings.

**Please note late collection fees are £5.00 plus £5.00 per 5 minutes after 6:00pm.**

## SENDCo Team

It is hard to believe that Easter is almost here! Everyone looks very excited!

There are many great workshops taking place in Hampshire, please see the link:  
<https://hampshirecamhs.nhs.uk/events/>

There is a session on YOUNG PERSON'S MENTAL HEALTH and it looks very promising.

As ever, we hope you all get some well-deserved rest.

From all of us here, at the SEND department – have a beautiful Easter holiday.

The SEND Team



## Car Parking



We have had a number of issues recently at drop off and collection. It is really important that everyone is respectful and considerate of other road users and pedestrians. The priority is to keep everyone safe and not an individual's convenience.

- Drive at a slow and safe speed.
- Use the marked bays.
- Do not park on the verges as it stops other users getting in and out of the car park safely.
- Do not stop or turn in the entrance of the school as it stops the flow of traffic.
- Remember you can park and stride from The Thatched Cottage car park.



## Uniform



Please remember that children should wear Summer uniform after the Easter holidays. The correct PE uniform needs to be worn at all times. If in doubt, please look on the school website: [click here](#)

We are seeing a number of inappropriate hair styles. Children should not come to school with gel or products in their hair and tramlines/other hair art are not acceptable. Please remember that all shoulder length hair or longer should be tied back with a hair tie. Only small hair accessories in black, red and blue should be used.

We enjoy celebrating birthdays at school and sing to the children during celebration assembly on a Friday. Please can I ask that you do not send your children in with sashes, tiaras or other large items to celebrate their birthdays. Small birthday pin badges are acceptable.

# Shakespeare Class

Shakespeare Class have had a very exciting half term with a trip to Queen Elizabeth park, exploring the theme of traditional tales and Superheroes. To further support our learning we made our own Superveg and used the spare vegetables to peel, chop and make delicious vegetable soup. We also dressed up as our favourite superheroes! We continued to practise our phonics daily and we are making great strides in reading fluently. We are now focusing on cementing our numbers to 10 and beyond, learning the names of the 2D and 3 D shapes and writing independent sentences with increasing accuracy.



Next half term our theme is 'Grow, grow, grow!' and we will be finding out what plants need to grow ,and what helps us to continue to grow healthy and strong! We have an upcoming trip to Wisley and we would appreciate any parent/carer volunteers who would be able to accompany us on our trip. We look forward to a half term of good weather so we can fully explore the outdoors! (If any one is getting rid of an ikea kallax storage unit (or similar style) we would really appreciate it being sent our way to Yr R! Also, donations of girls and boys pants would be really appreciated. Many thanks

DT



Art

Yr R had great fun designing, constructing and displaying their 'Superveg' which linked to this half term's theme of 'Heroes and Happily Ever After'. After reading the story of 'Supertato' they chose which vegetable they wanted to turn into a superhero and drew their design. They then followed the design carefully when constructing their supervveg, adding a mask, eyes and a cape. Mr Lynch came to visit the 'Superveg gallery' and was very impressed with the many different creations!



## Well done to Armstrong Class for their February Attendance

Thank you for working with us in ensuring your children are in school. We will regularly be reviewing the children's attendance and contacting parents where we are concerned .

Please note that no holiday during term time will be authorised. Holiday dates have been published on our website so please do book family breaks during this time.

We know that for some children, worries can make attending school tricky. Please do contact us if your child is worried about anything, especially school related, so we can offer support and resolve any issues.

	February	2026
Class	Attendance %	Lateness %
Shakespeare	94.22	2.2
Seacole	95.67	2.7
Anning	97.82	0.8
Parks	97.29	1.3
Einstein	93.06	0.6
<b>Armstrong</b>	<b>98.05</b>	<b>0.8</b>
Mandela	94.04	0.5



## Well done to Armstrong Class for their March Attendance

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We know that for some children, worries can make attending school tricky. Please do contact us if your child is worried about anything, especially school related, so we can offer support and resolve any issues.

	March	2026
Class	Attendance %	Lateness %
Shakespeare	89.10	1.8
Seacole	93.87	2.7
Anning	96.64	0.9
Parks	96.96	0.6
Einstein	94.48	0.9
<b>Armstrong</b>	<b>97.20</b>	<b>0.8</b>
Mandela	96.62	0.5



## The Ogden Trust Science Selfie Competition

### Easter Science Fun!

Lots of prizes to be won.

To encourage you all to think like scientists we are holding a 'Science Selfie' competition! We would like you to take a photograph of yourself doing, seeing or experimenting with something scientific. Then, in one sentence, explain how it is science!

You could be:

- planting seeds
- making slime
- finding signs of Spring
- looking at the effects of exercise on your body
  - showing your shadow
  - showing forces in action
  - going on a bug hunt
- visiting a science museum

Use your imagination and get snapping!

**Remember:** be safe and talk to an adult about what you want to do first.

The deadline for entries is **Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> April**

Please send your entries to the office marked for the attention of Miss McCue and with the subject 'selfie competition', or bring them into school and hand them to Miss McCue in Year 3.

# Easter Competitions

## Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> April

### Easter Bonnets

For your Easter Bonnet you can use many different things to make your hat unique. Below is a list of items you may need to create your Easter Bonnet and some theme ideas too:

#### Materials you may need:

- Cotton wool
- Crepe paper
- Pipe cleaners
- Flowers
- Felt
- Colouring Pens and pencils



#### Theme Ideas

- Bunnies
- Chicks
- Gardens
- Carrots
- Nests
- Butterflies

### Easter Gardens

An Easter Garden is a way we help teach children about Jesus and how he died for us and rose into Heaven. Below there are some guidelines on how to make your garden but you can create your very own vision for your garden:

- A tray
- Soil
- Grass seeds or moss
- Small stones
- A large stone
- A piece of small white cloth
- A small flower pot
- 6 sticks to make into 3 crosses
- String



1. Place your flower pot on its side on the tray (this will be tomb) and cover half the tray (including over the side of the flower pot) with soil, this will make a hill side. On the other half put your small stones.
2. If you are doing this with over week before Easter you could always plant some grass seeds in the soil and watch them grown. If like us you don't have that long find some moss that is growing on a wall and peel it off to cover the soil area. We also dug up some pansies that were growing between some paving stones in the garden to add some colour to our garden.
3. With your sticks use them to make three crosses and secure them with bits of string. Stick them into the top of the "hill", if you have one cross that is bigger than the others, place it in the centre of the three crosses to represent the cross which Jesus was crucified on.
4. Finally with the piece of white cloth, fold it up and put it in the tomb and place the large stone in front of the entrance to the tomb. On Easter Sunday roll the stone away to show that Jesus has risen.



13<sup>th</sup> February  
2026

## Charism Character Awards

Year 1 Seacole Mrs Grier & Mrs Lowdon	Eliza	For demonstrating perseverance this week in gymnastics exploring shapes on the wall bars.
Year 2 Anning Mrs Ripley	Maria	For demonstrating perseverance this week. She found some bits of Maths really tricky but she kept trying her best and didn't give up.
Year 3 Ms McCue	Jared	For demonstrating perseverance in all subjects this week. Even though you find it hard, you have been super focused, made excellent choices and have set a great example to others. Well done!
Year 4 Mrs Coatzee	Kolbi	For demonstrating perseverance this week. He has tried extra hard to set a good example.
Year 5 Miss Huggins	Ruby	For demonstrating perseverance during a debate in English. No matter what, Ruby was able to use her oracy skills to build and challenge.
Year 6 Miss Parkinson & Miss Ryan	Isabelle	For demonstrating perseverance in maths when finding percentages of amounts – even if you weren't completely confident with answers, you consistently gave 100% effort!



13<sup>th</sup> February  
2026

## Mission Maker Award

Year 1 Seacole Mrs Grier & Mrs Lowdon	Levi	For demonstrating the passion to learn working hard on his handwriting.
Year 2 Anning Mrs Ripley	Bruno	For demonstrating the passion to learn, particularly in maths. He goes above and beyond to always give his best.
Year 3 Ms McCue	Jessica	For demonstrating the passion to learn in both English and guided reading. You have put 100% into your reading, comprehension and written work. Well done!
Year 4 Mrs Coatzee	Helena	For demonstrating the passion to learn this week in all lessons.
Year 5 Miss Huggins	Emilia J	For demonstrating the strength to love. She is always willing to help in the classroom.
Year 6 Miss Parkinson & Miss Ryan	Lucas	For demonstrating the passion to learn in English this week, by thinking really carefully about how to generate formal sentences that support your arguments!



27<sup>th</sup> February  
2026

## Charism Character Awards

Year 1 Seacole Mrs Grier & Mrs Lowdon	Wynter	For demonstrating perseverance with her handwriting.
Year 2 Anning Mrs Ripley	Leo	For demonstrating perseverance since returning from half term. He has tried extra hard with his writing and maths. Excellent work!
Year 3 Ms McCue	Lydia	For demonstrating perseverance by coming into class each morning and sorting out the sketch books and art folders. Thank you for all your help, you have made a big difference!
Year 4 Mrs Coatzee	Helena	For demonstrating courage to give impressive contributions in class discussions. Well done!
Year 5 Miss Huggins	Honey	For demonstrating perseverance. Although Honey was nervous about swimming, she smashed it and moved up a group in the first week!
Year 6 Miss Parkinson & Miss Ryan	Florence	For demonstrating perseverance with maths, always challenging yourself to find the right answer and spotting any errors that have been made!



27<sup>th</sup> February  
2026

## Mission Maker Award

Year 1 Seacole Mrs Grier & Mrs Lowdon	Alsi	For demonstrating the passion to learn this week in English writing a diary entry about Bog Baby.
Year 2 Anning Mrs Ripley	Lucian	For demonstrating the passion to learn in his maths this week. He has tried really hard to complete his number work. Well done!
Year 3 Ms McCue	Imogen	For demonstrating the strength to love by coming into class each morning and sorting out the sketch books and art folders. You have worked with your friend and helped Miss McCue. Thank you!
Year 4 Mrs Coatzee	Tre	For demonstrating a consistently impressive attitude to learning, always finishing tasks to a high standard and wanting to challenge himself.
Year 5 Miss Huggins	Chiedza	For demonstrating the passion to learn. Chiedza has worked really hard in maths when converting decimals to fractions.
Year 6 Miss Parkinson & Miss Ryan	Grace	For demonstrating the passion to learn, always. You constantly ask questions to deepen your understanding and share your knowledge with the class.



6<sup>th</sup> March  
2026

## Charism Character Awards

Year R Shakespeare Mrs Matthews & Mrs Dickinson	Freddie	For demonstrating perseverance- sticking to his idea to make a trail in the park and completing it.
Year 1 Seacole Mrs Grier & Mrs Lowdon	Lily	For demonstrating perseverance with learning her phonics.
Year 2 Anning Mrs Ripley	Liia	For demonstrating perseverance with her learning this week – She has tried really hard!
Year 3 Ms McCue	William	For demonstrating perseverance when you find situations tough. You keep going and try to be positive and practical.
Year 4 Mrs Coatzee	Layla	For demonstrating perseverance! She always tries her best and keeps trying, even when she finds things tricky.
Year 5 Miss Huggins	Evie	For demonstrating perseverance in everything she does and compassion to everyone always.
Year 6 Miss Parkinson & Miss Ryan	Dior	For demonstrating perseverance and determination in everything you do, from the classroom to dance challenge rehearsals.



6<sup>th</sup> March  
2026

## Mission Maker Award

Year R Shakespeare Mrs Matthews & Mrs Dickinson	Aeres	For demonstrating consistently, the School Mission in her daily learning and play. Well done, Aeres, you are a wonderful role model!
Year 1 Seacole Mrs Grier & Mrs Lowdon	Toby	For demonstrating the passion to learn, working hard with his reading.
Year 2 Anning Mrs Ripley	Anashe	For demonstrating the strength to love – She is a wonderful friend to others and is a super helper in class.
Year 3 Ms McCue	Hannah	For demonstrating the passion to learn in English and always pushing yourself to the highest standard, especially with your vocabulary choices.
Year 4 Mrs Coatzee	Jan	For demonstrating the passion to learn this week and trying hard to stay focused on tasks he's been given.
Year 5 Miss Huggins	Rosie	For demonstrating the passion to learn by completing her doodle learning every day this week!
Year 6 Miss Parkinson & Miss Ryan	Akshara	For demonstrating the passion to learn in English when focusing on your use of formal language and choosing the most relatable vocabulary.



20<sup>th</sup> March  
2026

## Charism Character Awards

Year R Shakespeare Mrs Matthews & Mrs Dickinson	Umar	For demonstrating perseverance- working hard to improve his phonics and reading.
Year 1 Seacole Mrs Grier & Mrs Lowdon	Erika	For demonstrating courage when overcoming a tricky question.
Year 2 Anning Mrs Ripley	Saif	For demonstrating perseverance with his work this week. He has blown me away with his spelling and punctuation!
Year 3 Ms McCue	Alana	For demonstrating perseverance. You kept going even when you found some of the assessments tricky. Well done!
Year 4 Mrs Coatzee	Jenson	For demonstrating compassion. You have been so supportive and helpful this week. Thank you for all the extra jobs you have done in class.
Year 5 Miss Huggins	Xavier	For demonstrating perseverance during assessment week. He has worked really hard.
Year 6 Miss Parkinson & Miss Ryan	Chiamaka	For demonstrating compassion and kindness to everyone around you – you are always there to check in with your friends and help out around the classroom!



20<sup>th</sup> March  
2026

## Mission Maker Award

Year R Shakespeare Mrs Matthews & Mrs Dickinson	Jakub	For demonstrating consistently, the School Mission in his daily learning and play. Well done Jakub, you are a wonderful role model!
Year 1 Seacole Mrs Grier & Mrs Lowdon	Arthur	For demonstrating the passion to learn in his assessments this week.
Year 2 Anning Mrs Ripley	Elizabeth	For demonstrating the passion to learn this week and trying really hard with her spelling.
Year 3 Ms McCue	Yasin	For demonstrating the passion to learn and striving to succeed in all subjects, especially maths. Well done!
Year 4 Mrs Coatzee	Nathan	For demonstrating the passion to learn in all subjects – well done!
Year 5 Miss Huggins	Ife	For demonstrating the passion to learn in all lessons but especially in English. Her writing is beautiful and so creative.
Year 6 Miss Parkinson & Miss Ryan	Bella	For demonstrating the passion to learn, always. You always want to challenge yourself and understand how to solve difficult questions, especially this week!



27<sup>th</sup> March  
2026

## Charism Character Awards

Year R Shakespeare Mrs Matthews & Mrs Dickinson	Iman	For demonstrating perseverance- She has worked hard to learn her phonics and tricky words- well done Iman, keep up the great work and attitude.
Year 1 Seacole Mrs Grier & Mrs Lowdon	Gwen	For demonstrating compassion, always kind to her friends.
Year 2 Anning Mrs Ripley	Zachary	For demonstrating perseverance in his learning this term and making fantastic progress in his writing and maths.
Year 3 Ms McCue	Nara	For demonstrating compassion by being a kind, patient and supportive friend. You are always happy and willing to help others. Thank you!
Year 4 Mrs Coatzee	Florence	For demonstrating perseverance in everything she does, she quietly keeps on working until she gets it right. Well done!
Year 5 Miss Huggins	Emilia M	For demonstrating perseverance. Emilia has been finding maths challenging but she persevered and did really well in her end of unit assessment.
Year 6 Miss Parkinson & Miss Ryan	Maddie	For demonstrating courage in every maths lesson when attempting new challenges.



27<sup>th</sup> March  
2026

## Mission Maker Award

Year R Shakespeare Mrs Matthews & Mrs Dickinson	Rebecca	For demonstrating a passion to learn- independently choosing to complete tasks that challenge and extend her learning.
Year 1 Seacole Mrs Grier & Mrs Lowdon	Logan	For demonstrating the passion to learn in Phonics.
Year 2 Anning Mrs Ripley	Liliana	For demonstrating the strength to love by being a caring and thoughtful friend.
Year 3 Ms McCue	Damian	For demonstrating the passion to learn. You have worked so hard on improving your handwriting and the presentation of your work. Well done!
Year 4 Mrs Coatzee	Louie-James	For demonstrating the passion to learn this week – trying his best in all lessons.
Year 5 Miss Huggins	Amelia L	For demonstrating the courage to fail. Amelia worked really hard during art when her drawings weren't quite what she wanted.
Year 6 Miss Parkinson & Miss Ryan	Orla	For demonstrating the passion to learn in English when taking the time to edit your non-chronological report!

# Author of the Month March

## Cressida Cowell



Cressida Cowell is the author and the illustrator of the bestselling How to Train Your Dragon book series. Her latest book The Wizards of Once is an international bestseller. Cressida is also the author of the Emily Brown picture books, illustrated by Neal Layton.

How to Train Your Dragon has sold over 8 million books worldwide in 38 languages. It is also an award-winning DreamWorks film series, and a TV series shown on Netflix and CBBC. The first book in Cressida's new series, The Wizards of Once (also signed by DreamWorks), is a number one bestseller.

Books by this author:

