



DAYS LANE PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



Friday 10 October 2025



WELCOME
BACK TO SCHOOL

HEADTEACHER UPDATE



Dear Parents/Carers,

We have had a great start to the new academic year, and it has been a pleasure to see our school community come back together with such energy and enthusiasm. Our Reception and Nursery children have settled in well — their confidence and curiosity are already shining through, and we are proud of how well they have adapted to their new routines.

A huge thank you to everyone who supported our annual Macmillan Coffee Morning. It was a wonderful event, full of warmth and generosity, and a lovely opportunity to connect as a community whilst raising funds for such a worthy cause. I am pleased to announce we raised a grand total of £1976.

I am also delighted to share that our on-site swimming pool and lessons have been well received with the children thoroughly enjoying their lessons and making superb progress with their swimming.

We are only a few weeks into the academic year and it is already proving to be a busy and purposeful term. To help you stay informed, we have attached key dates for upcoming events. These can also be found on Class Dojo for your convenience. A reminder to book your slot for next week's Parent Consultation Evenings via your child's Arbor account. Our teaching staff are looking forward to meeting with parents and carers to share how each child has settled into their new class and to discuss their progress.

A reminder that the term ends on Friday 24th October and we have a two week half term with children returning on Monday 3rd November.

Finally, please make a note of the final two Inset days for the academic year which are:

- Friday 13 February 2026
- Monday 13th April 2026

Kind regards,
Mrs Trusty



MACMILLAN COFFEE MORNING



Our wonderful Macmillan Coffee Morning was a tremendous success! The Year 5 children worked hard to create eye-catching posters, plan the event, and encourage donations in support of this important charity. It was fantastic to see their enthusiasm and teamwork shine through as they helped raise money for such a worthy cause. We are incredibly grateful for the unwavering support from all our families who attended, and those that purchased raffle tickets. We would also like to thank local businesses that very generously supported our charity raffle including; Blackfen Library - afternoon tea for two, Calm Collective - 5 day yoga pass, The George Staples - dinner voucher, Toms Butchers- £50 to spend in store, Sweet Fig - coffee and cake vouchers, amongst many others. Through the cake sale and raffle we raised an amazing £1976

"I really enjoyed raising money for charity and selling cakes to the younger years as it meant that we could try and raise as much money as possible." Adem 5S

"During Macmillan, I got the opportunity to meet different parents and served them cakes and drinks. I liked doing it because it helped people living with cancer." Grace 5V

"I enjoyed taking part in the Macmillan event at school because we helped raise money for people with cancer and their families, and it felt good to do something kind." Emily 5R

ABSENCE

As a reminder if your child is absent for any reason you should email the school with any relevant evidence to absence@dayslaneprimary.co.uk.

We recognise that children will be absent from time to time due to illness and sometimes it is hard for parents to know when it is appropriate to keep children at home. The Public Health Agency have produced a helpful guide for parents as we approach the winter season. Please note that children with colds and coughs can still come to school unless they have high temperature.



Do I need to keep my child off school?

Chicken Pox	Conjunctivitis	Diarrhoea & Vomiting	Glandular Fever	Hand, foot & mouth	Impetigo
Until all spots have crusted over	No need to stay off but school or nursery should be informed	48 hours from last episode	No need to stay off but school or nursery should be informed	No need to stay off but school or nursery should be informed	Until lesions are crusted & healed or 48 Hours after commencing antibiotics
Measles or German Measles	Mumps	Scabies	Scarlet Fever	Slapped Cheek	Whooping Cough
4 days from onset of rash	5 days from onset of swelling	Until after first treatment	24 hours after commencing antibiotics	No need to stay off but school or nursery should be informed	48 Hours after commencing antibiotics
Flu	Head Lice	Threadworms	Tonsillitis		
Until recovered	No need to stay off but school or nursery should be informed	No need to stay off but school or nursery should be informed	No need to stay off but school or nursery should be informed		



A CREATIVE JOURNEY WITH MIKEY PLEASE



We were thrilled to host award-winning children's author and illustrator Mikey Please for an inspiring webinar where he shared insights into his creative process, storytelling techniques and the magic behind his much-loved books with Years 3-6. From the first spark of an idea to the finished story, Mikey offered a fascinating behind-the-scenes look at how imagination and persistence shape his work.

To continue the excitement, the school purchased a selection of Mikey's books for our Key Stage 2 classes—perfect for inspiring our young readers and budding storytellers. To learn more about his books you can visit his website: <https://www.mikeyplease.co.uk/shop>

"When he started reading the book it made me want to go and buy it and read the rest." Adriana 3V

"I enjoyed seeing the books that the author made and how he made them. It inspired me to want to make books myself." Chloe 4V

"It was inspiring, especially seeing how he drew each character. It was also fun that we could try to draw the characters along with him." Jaxon 5R

"He was very creative and he loved to draw pictures. He thinks that using pictures brings the books to life. I like how he started making books when he was young and then took the next step to make movies." Rel 6R

THE ARK - TREE OF GROWTH



Our first project in the Ark has been to create our very own Tree of Growth! The children worked hard to design, paint, and cut out the tree and its leaves. Throughout the year, we will be adding new leaves to celebrate the children's achievements. By the end of the year our tree will be bursting with growth and success.

"The leaves on the tree show our achievements and it will make us and everyone who sees it very proud." - Ava

"It will make me really happy when I have leaves to fill up my branch." - Taylor S

NURSERY – SETTLING IN



Our Nursery children have had a fabulous start and are settling in so well. They have been learning about the different areas of the classroom and outdoor space, as well as how to use the equipment safely. The children have also enjoyed exploring the paints and discovering which new colours they can create.

As part of our daily routines, the children have been practising moving between independent activities and adult-led sessions. Recently, we have introduced self-registration, where the children find their names with their pictures and sign themselves in. Well done Nursery children!

'I like doing the painting.' - Isabella

'I am playing with my friends on the slide.' - Yug

'I like playing with my friends.' - Poppy

RECEPTION – OWL BABIES



Reception have begun their new Talk for Writing story, Owl Babies. To launch the story, the children took part in an exciting hunt around the school to find Mummy Owl. After discovering that the baby owlets couldn't find her, the children described what she looked like to help with the search. They looked high up in the trees, peeked through tunnels and explored different parts of the school grounds. To everyone's delight, Mummy Owl was finally found in Forest School!

"We looked everywhere for her!" Meharbani - Red Class

"She is soft and has yellow eyes." Archie – Blue Class

"She was hiding in Forest School, up in a tree." Annie – Green Class

YEAR 1 – PADDINGTON BEAR



This week, Year 1 received an exciting letter from Paddington Bear, who sent them special instructions to help find his missing marmalade sandwiches. The children ventured outside into the playground to follow the directions provided. During the activity, they focused on identifying and understanding the adverbials of time used in the letter, and learnt actions to help them remember these important words. Well done Year 1!

"Paddington sent us instructions to find his marmalade sandwiches, we finally found them under the shelter". Oliver – 1R

"I liked following Paddington's instructions. We marched through the playground." Ira- 1V

"We went on a hunt to find Paddington's sandwiches! We had to follow his instructions." Pixie- 1S

YEAR 2 – GREAT FIRE OF LONDON



This week, the children had lots of fun taking part in a creative art project linked to our topic on the Great Fire of London. They began by using marbling inks to make colourful, swirly backgrounds that looked like fire. The patterns they created were bright and bold just like the flames that spread through London in 1666!

The children also designed and made detailed pictures of Tudor-style houses. They looked carefully at what houses looked like at the time, adding features like timber beams and slanted roofs. Everyone worked really hard to make their artwork as realistic and eye-catching as possible.

The children's finished pieces will be put together to create a class display that shows the story of the Great Fire of London. The children have done a fantastic job blending history and art we can't wait for you to see it!

'I loved using the paint to do marbelling'- Liana 2R

'I had fun choosing the colours and putting the paper I the colourful water' - Alice 2V

'I liked it when we poured the paint because it made a pattern that looked a flame' -Rory 2S

YEAR 3 - LIBRARY VISIT



Year 3 visited Blackfen Library, where they had the opportunity to listen to a story delivered by an experienced storyteller. During their visit, pupils explored the library, developing an understanding of its organisation and how books are loaned to members of the public. The session also included a Stone Age quiz, which allowed pupils to consolidate their knowledge in an engaging and memorable way before returning to school full of enthusiasm for reading.

"I really enjoyed searching for history books at the library." Jack 3V

"The quiz was fun because we looked at pictures of cave drawings that were made with animal blood." Adam 3S

"I looked around the library and searched for my favourite books." Yousef - 3R

YEAR 4 - SCIENCE



Year 4 have been exploring the fascinating world of solids, liquids and gases in Science. The children began by classifying and grouping objects, identifying their different states of matter and discussing how they can change. They then put their investigative skills to the test by setting up a fun experiment to find out which type of chocolate melted first, a very engaging way to see science in action! To build on this, the class explored why ice might melt differently in a long balloon compared to a round balloon, sparking thoughtful discussions about surface area and the effect of shape on melting. Finally, they measured the temperature of hot cold water at intervals, carefully recording how it changed over time,

"We have been learning about solids, liquids and gases. We did an experiment with chocolate to see how fast it would melt. The smaller pieces of chocolate melted the fastest". Max M, 4R.

"I enjoyed looking at different balloons and observing how ice inside them melted differently depending on their shape. It was fun watching which one popped first, as the water began to melt". Evie, 4S.

"The chocolate experiment was fun because we saw that the chocolate didn't melt all at the same time". Chloe, 4V.

YEAR 5 – WEAVING



As part of their History topic on the Anglo-Saxons, Year 5 have been exploring the art of weaving. After researching different weaving styles from around the world, the children practised their skills using paper before moving on to fabric. The children created their own looms using sticks they collected, just as people in the past would have done. The class thoroughly enjoyed experimenting with different techniques and recreating styles inspired by their research, bringing history to life through hands-on creativity.

"I really liked using sticks that we collected from the park to make our weaving loom as we could visually see what weaving was like for the Anglo – Saxon people." Sadie 5S

"I enjoyed tying the sticks together. We used a realistic Anglo-Saxon technique and materials which helped me understand weaving and the history of it." Alice A 5V

"The first lesson I made a weaving pattern out of paper, and I did really well at it. Then, I built a weaving loom out of sticks to create my own design. It was a fun." Santiago 5R

YEAR 6 – VICTORIAN DAY



Year 6 stepped back in time for a fascinating Victorian Dress-Up Day! The children looked great in their Victorian outfits and took part in an immersive workshop where they learned about the harsh realities of life for children during the 19th century. A special visit from "Mr Barnardo" helped bring history to life, sharing moving stories about child poverty and the beginnings of his famous work.

Children also enjoyed hands-on activities including making thaumatrope (a popular Victorian optical illusion toy), playing traditional parlour games, and crafting their own silhouettes — a fun and artistic keepsake from the day. It was a memorable experience that brought their history topic to life in a fun, creative and meaningful way.

"I liked the workshop because we got to act out lots of different things and I learnt facts that I didn't know before. For example, the Victorians invented steam engines and phones. Shockingly, I also found out that they made young children, like me, work." Maryam 6V

"I enjoyed playing the parlour games. My favourite one was 'Try not to Laugh' because you had to say things in a funny way to make people laugh. I also liked Pass the Slipper (ping pong ball). You had to pass the ping pong ball until the teacher said stop. Everyone then put their hands behind their backs and the person in the middle who had to guess who had the ball." Eleanor 6S

"I enjoyed playing the parlour games because they were funny. Everyone had a turn and they are good for all ages." Mellie M 6R