



# DAYS LANE PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



Friday 22 May 2026



Dear Parents/Carers,

As we come to the end of a rewarding first half of the summer term, there has been lots to celebrate across the school. Our children have enjoyed showcasing their talents through a range of music performances and assemblies which has been a pleasure to see. We also marked St George's Day with engaging learning assemblies, giving children the opportunity to reflect, learn and celebrate together while exploring themes linked to British values, including respect, tolerance and a sense of community.

A special mention to our Year 6 pupils, who approached their SATs with maturity, resilience and a positive attitude throughout the week. We are incredibly proud of the determination and perseverance they showed. This week, they have enjoyed a wide range of outdoor activities whilst on the residential trip to Marchant's Hill, and developed new skills and created many lasting memories with their classmates.

In the final term of this academic year, we look forward to another exciting and memorable period in school, including our much anticipated sports days, celebrations for our 95th birthday, and important transition activities to support children to help them prepare for the next stage of their learning journey.

As we head into the half-term break, with warm and sunny weather forecast, we hope families have the opportunity to relax, spend time together outdoors and enjoy the sunshine safely. Please continue to support your child in staying safe online during the holidays by setting boundaries, monitoring device use and encouraging open conversations about their online activity. Mostly importantly, enjoy some quality time together!

Kind regards,

Mrs Trusty



## MEET THE DUCKLINGS



Nursery and Reception took on a very special responsibility this term, hatching and caring for their very own ducklings, thanks to the wonderful ethical provider, Incredible Eggs!

Over the course of ten unforgettable days, the children watched in awe as the eggs began to crack... until finally our fluffy ducklings made their grand entrance into the world!

From that moment on, the children were diligent in their new roles in helping to:

- Feed the ducklings and make sure they had everything they needed
- Carefully bathe them
- Keep their living space clean, cosy, and safe



Each day brought something new as the children observed the ducklings growing stronger, and had some important discussions about learning how to care for animals kindly and responsibly.



## EARTH DAY



Days Lane came together to celebrate Earth Day with a whole-school focus on caring for our environment. Our proactive Eco Warrior team gathered children's views about how we could best look after our school surroundings and planned activities, so everyone could play a meaningful role. Each class worked together on clearing up the school grounds, showing fantastic teamwork and pride in their shared space. Classes also reflected on what it means to show our core value of responsibility for the world around us and how small actions can contribute to a healthier, happier community. We are incredibly proud of the children's enthusiasm and commitment. By working together, they made a positive difference and reinforced our shared responsibility to look after our world.

*'I liked picking up the rubbish because it is good for the environment' – Holly 5S*

*'Earth day is important because it encourages people not to litter' – Ivy 3V*

*'I enjoyed helping the environment' – Charlotte 2V*

*'Litter is bad for the plants and animals' – Harry 1S*



## NSPCC - SPEAK OUT. STAY SAFE.

Children from Year 1 to Year 6 recently took part in the inspiring NSPCC online assembly, 'Speak Out. Stay Safe.', an important programme designed to empower children with the knowledge and confidence to recognise unsafe situations and understand how to protect themselves in an age-appropriate and reassuring way.

Building on this valuable experience, children in Years 2, 5 and 6 participated in engaging NSPCC workshops where they explored real-life scenarios, discussed how to identify safe and unsafe situations, and deepened their understanding of different forms of abuse. These interactive sessions encouraged thoughtful discussion and gave children practical strategies for seeking support if they ever feel worried, frightened or unsafe — including speaking to a trusted adult or contacting Childline.

A key message throughout the programme was that Childline is always available to listen, support and guide children through any concerns they may face. Through memorable activities, discussions and actions, pupils confidently learned and practised the Childline phone number, ensuring they know exactly where to turn for help and support whenever they may need it.

*'The NSPCC are always there to help you and the number is 0800 1111.'* - Tabitha, 2R

*'I thought the assembly was very effective. I learnt children have worries, more than you think! It is important to call Childline or tell a trusted adult.'* - Daniel, 4R

*'I liked the assembly because it had important information that all children should know. For example, knowing the Childline phone number in case they want to talk to someone privately.'* - Freya, 5S

## KEEPING HEALTHY - WALK TO SCHOOL WEEK 2026

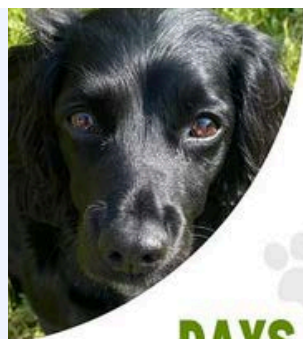


Days Lane took part in Walk to School Week 2026, following this year's exciting theme: Mission Move. Throughout the week, children met friendly cartoon secret agents and learned why walking or wheeling to school is so important for their health, our community and the environment.

Children were challenged to travel actively every day; walking, wheeling, scooting, cycling or taking part in Park and Stride. Classes worked together to make as many active journeys as possible and recorded these on their 'Mission Move' wallchart. They also collected daily stickers to recognise their mode of transport and the class with the highest total received a certificate. Well done everyone! Let's continue to keep ourselves fit and healthy and keep up the mission to move beyond Walk to School Week.

We also enjoyed taking part in Happy Shoes Day, with children and staff arriving in their favourite fun, colourful or comfy shoes to celebrate the joy of moving more.

Children still have until 1st June to take part in our art competition, creating a poster inspired by Happy Shoes Day or Walk to School Week. The winner from EYFS, KS1 and KS2 will receive a mini mascot.



PETS AS  
THERAPY 

Say hello to  
Willow

### DAYS LANE WELCOMES WILLOW

Our school is proud to introduce a weekly therapy dog to help support the emotional wellbeing of some of our pupils. During the Summer Term, she will work with pupils who may benefit from spending time with her through reading, grooming and gentle walks around the school grounds.

#### WILLOW LIKES

- ✓ Listening to stories
- ✓ Gentle strokes
- ✓ Being brushed
- ✓ Short walks
- ✓ Speaky toys



## WILLOW- THERAPY DOG

We are delighted to share that Days Lane will be welcoming a therapy dog named Willow into school every Monday for a few hours each week after half term.

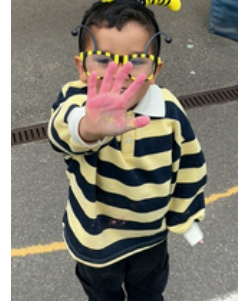
Willow will be working alongside our Inclusion Team to support pupils who may benefit from additional help with their emotional wellbeing and self-regulation. We hope that her calm and reassuring presence will provide a positive experience for the children she works with.

Please be assured that there is a full risk assessment in place for Willow's visits to school. She will be supervised at all times by her owner, Annabel, and all children will be prepared before spending time with Willow.

Whilst we know many children would love the opportunity to meet and spend time with Willow, we will initially be inviting specific pupils who may benefit from this support.

Please indicate on your child's Arbor account if you give your consent for your child to visit Willow by Monday 1st June 2026. If you have any questions please email [parents@dayslaneprimary.co.uk](mailto:parents@dayslaneprimary.co.uk)

## NURSERY - MINIBEASTS



Nursery children explored minibeasts as part of their Animal topic, with a special focus on bees. They learned how bees make honey and how they help flowers to grow, supporting their understanding of the natural world and living things. Through fun role-play, the children pretended to be bees collecting nectar from different coloured flowers, developing teamwork, cooperation and respect for one another. They also worked with a partner to imaginatively “make honey,” which helped build their communication and listening skills.

*“We were using our hands to be the tongue”- Freya*

*“I was going to the nectar to make honey”- Yug*

*“I dressed up as a bee today” Robert*

## RECEPTION- KENT LIFE



Reception children enjoyed a visit to Kent Life as part of their learning about animals, farms and the wider world. They enjoyed exploring the farm environment and had the opportunity to see a wide range of farm animals. During the visit, they had the opportunity to feed some of the animals, take part in a tractor ride around the farm and enjoyed meeting smaller animals they could stroke. They also attended a workshop to learn more about sheep and learnt how woolly clothes are made and how to finger knitting their own bracelets. The children showed our core value of respect and were a credit to the school.

*“I liked feeding the goats, it tickled my hand!” Mason – Blue Class*

*“I learnt all about sheeps wool and how we turn it into clothes!”. Isabella – Red Class*

*“I liked the tractor ride. It was really bumpy”. Dhruv – Green Class*

## YEAR 1 - KING CHARLES III



As part of the Year 1 History and English curriculum, the children explored the Coronation of King Charles III. Children learnt what a coronation is, how to describe its key events, and use persuasive language to share ideas. They also created posters, wrote persuasive texts about the importance of the coronation, and enthusiastically re-enacted the ceremony! Through these activities, the children developed their understanding of tradition and monarchy.

*"The coronation is to celebrate the King being crowned"- James 1V*

*'My favorite part was acting out the King's Coronation, I was a trumpet player!' - Finley 1S*

*'I liked marching in our parade' - Albie 1R*

## YEAR 2 - SEVENOAKS WILDLIFE RESERVE



Year 2 had a fantastic day at Sevenoaks Wildlife Reserve, and engaged in a range of activities to develop their scientific learning about habitats. They explored 'perfect plants', where they learned all about the different parts of a flower, went pond dipping, where they managed to catch some interesting species with a net and used an identification mat to learn which species lived in the pond to keep it healthy. They also had the opportunity to go mini-beast hunting, where they used magnifying glasses to look at various habitats under logs, in compost and ponds to see which mini-beasts they could find. They showed respect for the environment and demonstrated our value of excellence when sharing their scientific knowledge to the wildlife team!

*"I enjoyed pond dipping because I found tadpoles!" - Ava-Grace 2S*

*"I enjoyed looking for minibeasts with the magnifying glass. I had a caterpillar on my arm!" - Harrison 2V*

*"I liked hunting for the minibeasts. I found ladybugs, red ants and a beetle in their habitats by the plants, soil and compost!" - Mason 2R*

## YEAR 3- KEW GARDENS



Year 3 had a fantastic day exploring the beautiful surroundings of Kew Gardens. The children visited some of Kew's glasshouses, including the Palm House, Temperate House, and the Princess of Wales Conservatory, where they were able to see a variety of plants from around the world. One of the highlights of the day was walking around the lake, where the children were delighted to spot young geese and ducklings, as well as the huge koi and carp swimming close to the water's edge. They also took part in a hands-on pollination workshop, acting as bees, the children used small paintbrushes to transfer "pollen" from one plant to another, learning how pollinators help plants reproduce. They worked together to order the stages of pollination and germination, discovering that arranging the cycle in a circle made much more sense than placing it in a straight line. It was a wonderful day of learning and exploring, and Year 3 represented the school brilliantly.

*"I really enjoyed our trip to Kew Gardens as we learnt about pollination with flowers. I found out that the bees were attracted to brightly coloured flowers!" - Sonia Y 3R*

*"It was fun to find about pollinating plants and we learnt about how bees travel to different plants and take the pollen with them to help make new plants!" - Evie E 3S*

*"I found the trip really fun because I learnt lots of things about our science topic. I learnt the pollen gets stuck to bees when they land on flowers and travel to different plants." - Charlie 3V*

## YEAR 4 - UKELELE RECITAL & HIGH ELMS TRIP



Year 4 have had an incredibly busy and exciting term! The children have been working hard to learn ukulele songs, showing determination and enthusiasm throughout their rehearsals. Their efforts truly paid off during their performances to parents, where they demonstrated not only their musical skills but also bravery to confidently play in front of a large audience. It was wonderful to see their confidence grow and to celebrate their success!

The children enjoyed a visit to High Elms Country Park, linking perfectly with our science topic on living things and their habitats. They took part in pond dipping, where they discovered a variety of fascinating creatures, and had the opportunity to carefully handle a range of mini beasts while learning about their characteristics. They also explored the forest on a bug hunt, applying their knowledge in a real-world setting.

*"I learned that some animals and insects are dangerous but some of them are not dangerous! My favourite activity was pond dipping because I liked seeing the tadpoles and learning about their life cycle". - Ben P 4R*

*"My favourite part of the day was when we got to handle and examine the minibeast up close. I enjoyed finding out about the different types of animals that can be found living in a pond." - Albert T 4V*

*"I really enjoyed the pond dipping! It was fun catching tadpoles in the net!" - Elsie-Mae, 4S*

## YEAR 5 - BEXLEY GRAMMAR PERFORMANCE



Year 5 had a great afternoon watching Bexley Grammar School's vibrant performance of *A Midsummer Night's Dream*. As part of their English curriculum, the children discussed how Shakespeare's traditional language can be brought to life in new and exciting ways. The production blended authentic Shakespearean dialogue with a fun 1980s twist, complete with bold costumes and energetic staging, helping pupils deepen their understanding of classic texts through a modern lens. The visit showcased our school value of 'Community,' working with pupils from Bexley Grammar, (some who previously attended Days Lane,) inspiring and supporting younger learners to understand the work of Shakespeare.

*"I enjoyed the fact that the performance was based on a traditional Shakespeare play with a modern twist."*  
Henry R 5R

*"I thought the costumes were great. They were vibrant and bright and brought the play to life."* Isla B 5V

*"I thought it was great how they used Shakespearean language but wore modern costumes from the 80s!"* Bertie P 5S

## YEAR 6 - MARCHANTS HILL RESIDENTIAL



Year 6 had a fantastic time celebrating the end of their SATs with an exciting residential trip to PGL at Marchants Hill, where they enjoyed a wide range of outdoor adventure activities, they built confidence, and created lasting memories together. They represented the school exceptionally well, with one instructor commenting that they were among one of the best groups he had taught in his seven years at PGL. Well done Year 6! A huge thank you to the staff who volunteered to go on the trip including Mrs Mills, Mrs Tyler, Mr Simonds, Miss Stewart, Mrs Pickering, Mrs D'Souza, Miss Wilson and Mrs Slack. Without their support the trip would not be possible.

*'I really enjoyed Jacobs Ladder because it is fun working as a team and trying to pull yourself up. Cavan and I helped each other and we achieved reaching the top.'* - Luca O'S

*'I enjoyed Jacob's Ladder the most because it made me feel really proud of myself. Nelly and Ava and I nearly made it all the way to the top, and it felt like a big achievement.'* - Braiden 6R

*'My favourite activity was the giant swing because it was scary but fun.'* - Eleanor 6S

*'My favourite was Archery because it was a new experience for me and I was pretty accurate.'* Mehran, 6R