



# GG News

## 13<sup>th</sup> March 2026

Year 1 enjoyed their trip to The Weald and Downland Open Air Museum on Monday and Year 3 had an equally great trip to Fishbourne Roman Palace last Friday. We are always so proud when our children represent us so well when out and about.

Dates coming up in the near future:

**Friday 20<sup>th</sup> March** Comic Relief 'wear something red for a small donation.

**Friday 24<sup>th</sup> April** – school discos 4:30-5:30pm YR, Y1 and Y2  
5:45-6:45pm KS2

Tickets will be on sale (on ParentPay after the holiday)

Keep an eye out for details of the PTA Easter raffle coming soon.

Can we please remind you that dogs are not to be brought into the school grounds.

PPA Days (dance / music day) for the summer term.

5 <sup>th</sup> June	Year 1
12 <sup>th</sup> June	Year 2
19 <sup>th</sup> June	Year 5
26 <sup>th</sup> June	Year R
3 <sup>rd</sup> July	Year 6
10 <sup>th</sup> July	Year 3
17 <sup>th</sup> July	Year 4

### Star of the week

- |                            |                    |                             |                   |
|----------------------------|--------------------|-----------------------------|-------------------|
| <b>1HK</b> Roman           | <b>1KM</b> Rupert  | <b>2CA</b> Miley            | <b>2MC</b> Toby   |
| <b>3VW</b> Noah and Joshua |                    | <b>3HC</b> Emerald and Jake |                   |
| <b>4KC</b> Lily            | <b>4TF</b> Arthur  | <b>5RD</b> George           | <b>5CT</b> Archie |
| <b>6HB</b> Alina           | <b>6BA</b> Poppy T |                             |                   |

### Attendance



The class with the highest attendance in the past week:  
**5CT 97%** (they will have 15 minutes choice of a treat next week).  
The child with 100% attendance in this last week, chosen by a random generator:  
**Harlow 4TF** - she gets to choose a book from Miss Bowers' selection of prize books.

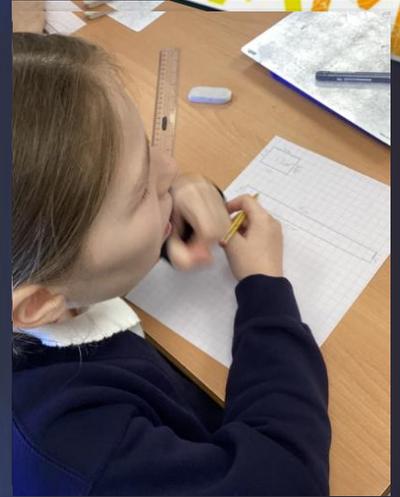


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The Y6 children explored drawing shapes and calculating their area and perimeter. They explored the idea of if the perimeter stayed the same, would the area change?



In Year 1, we were looking at the winter season and exploring what winter looks and feels like. We learnt what snow is and how it is formed. We acted out ice crystals forming around a piece of dust, merging together to make bigger ice crystals which eventually become a snowflake we can see, and falls to the ground! We dressed up in clothes suitable for winter. We walked on foil to hear crinkly sounds but we also put ice on it to feel the freezing temperatures under our feet. We investigated how to melt ice. Some of us held it in our hands, some wrapped it in blue paper towels and some of us put the ice under the hot tap. "Of course it's going to melt because freezing temperatures and hot temperatures do not mix!"



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OPAL – ‘Outdoor Play And Learning’




As you will know, we are developing play times in school. Staff have been receiving training and the OPAL team have been busy working on plans, risk assessments and further training. We are now at the point where we want to start gathering items for the children to have available at play times. We have a new shed to store it in and need to fill it!

To get an idea of what are striving for watch this video ‘Amazing Play, every day, for every child’ <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XZfrmY9tuCM>

Spring is a time for tidying up and clearing out, so if you have any of the following items, we ask that you bring them to school during the week of 23<sup>rd</sup> March.

‘OPAL Playtime – Hernhill’ <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8EL8bc-iXWQ> is another video showcasing a school using the wide range of equipment we will eventually try to gather.

Please only donate old, but reasonable quality (safe) items. Nothing broken, thank you. There is no obligation for everyone to donate something – just if you were clearing out.

Monday 23 <sup>rd</sup> March	dressing up clothes / hats / helmets
Tuesday 24 <sup>th</sup> March	small toys / dolls / toy cars / Lego / action figures
Wednesday 25 <sup>th</sup> March	old pots and pans / wooden spoons / cutlery
Thursday 26 <sup>th</sup> March	sheets / tarpaulins / twine / rope
After Easter we will start collecting wellies, waterproofs and larger items.	

This is just the beginning! We shall be acquiring much more over the coming months.



### Smart Phones in schools

There has been a great deal of talk in the media about the use of smart phone amongst young children. The following has been sent to schools to introduce the work of 'Smart Phone Free Childhood' movement:

### **Online Parent Talk - Let's talk about our kids and their tech: Thursday 19 March: 7pm**

We're hearing more and more from parents who feel uneasy about the growing role of smartphones in children's lives. There's a growing shift in how families and schools are thinking about smartphones and young people. More and more parents are choosing to delay giving their children smartphones.

When they were first introduced, no one fully understood the impact they would have on young people. But today, there is a growing body of research linking early smartphone use with anxiety, disrupted sleep, increased risk of exposure to harmful content, and reduced time for play, connection and creativity.

To help build awareness on this important issue and support parents and carers to make the best decisions for their children, I would like to invite you to this important parent talk. The Smartphone Free Childhood team are funding this talk so that it can be provided free to all parents and carers across West Sussex.

Whether your child already has a smartphone or you are considering delaying until they are older, this talk is for you. Hard hitting but non-judgemental, Jennifer Powers unpacks the complex issues surrounding addictive technology and helps you find solutions that work for your family. Please see attached PDF for further information.

### **Let's talk about our kids and their tech - Papaya online parent talk**

**Reserve your free ticket [here](#)**

**7pm Thursday 19th March**

**Smartphone Free Childhood** is a movement of families standing together to delay smartphones and social media, giving children time to play, space to grow and freedom to be. Find out more: <https://www.smartphonefreechildhood.org/>

To find your local Whatsapp Group to connect with other parents in the area, share ideas or ask questions, please [click here](#).



£20 per day  
8.30am - 3.30pm



### Easter Music School 2026

We're delighted to be able to offer Easter Music School this year – thank you for all the interest.

Each day is full of music, creativity, and fun. With four staff supporting each session, the days are child-led, allowing children to choose from a range of musical activities. The day usually builds towards a short, optional performance for parents, or simply enjoying making music with friends and trying something new in a relaxed, supportive environment.

#### Dates

Monday 30 March  
Tuesday 31 March  
Tuesday 7 April  
Wednesday 8 April  
Thursday 9 April

#### Times

Drop-off: 8:30am  
Pick-up: 3:30pm  
Optional performance for parents: 3:10pm

#### Cost

£20 per day (please bring a packed lunch)

Places will be confirmed once sufficient numbers are reached for each day. We'd love to have you join us!



## EASTER TREATS

Thursday 26th March 2026

### MAINS

Cheese & Tomato Pizza

BBQ Chicken & Rice

Jacket Potato & Baked Beans

### SIDES

Peas or

Seasonal Salad

### DESSERT

*Easter Cookie*

Order via [ParentPay](#) no later than

Thursday 12th March 2026



Please Note: Special diet meals will remain in place.



## WIN

your very own Easter T-Shirt designed by your little ones!

After the success of our Christmas jumper competition, we are delighted to bring back our creative competition this Easter and we would love your students to get involved.

We are inviting pupils to **design their very own Easter T-shirt**. Three lucky winners will have their design professionally printed by us so they can wear their creation with pride.

This is a great opportunity for students to get creative. Encourage them to use lots of colour, big ideas and plenty of Easter fun in their designs.

To take part:

- Simply download the [design sheet here](#).
- Ask students to create their masterpiece.
- Once complete, please email the designs to [hello@schooltrends.co.uk](mailto:hello@schooltrends.co.uk) with "Easter T-Shirt" in the subject line.

**Entries close on 26th March** and the winners will be announced on our social channels on 27th March.

We cannot wait to see what your students create.

Good luck and happy designing! 🐰 🥰



## EAST PRESTON UNDER 11'S FOOTBALL TEAM SPACES AVAILABLE SEEKING PLAYERS!

✓ Seeking players with some experience



✓ UEFA Qualified Coach  
✓ Training on Saturdays  
✓ Matches on Sundays

**CONTACT HEAD COACH KINGSLEY:**  
[kingsley.eastprestonfc@gmail.com](mailto:kingsley.eastprestonfc@gmail.com)



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Parents' Evenings 3:30pm – 6pm	<del>Mon 20<sup>th</sup> Oct / Wed 22<sup>nd</sup> Oct</del>		<del>*Wed 25<sup>th</sup> Feb/Thurs 26<sup>th</sup> Feb*</del>
Open Classrooms From 2:45pm	<del>Mon 24<sup>th</sup> Nov</del>	23 <sup>rd</sup> March	22 <sup>nd</sup> June
Sports Day KS1 am KS2 pm	Thursday 18 <sup>th</sup> June (back up 25 <sup>th</sup> June)		
Summer Fair 3:30 – 5:15pm	*** New Date ***		Fri 26 <sup>th</sup> June
Y6 production 1:30pm / 6:30pm	Tues 14 <sup>th</sup> July pm / Thurs 16 <sup>th</sup> July pm and evening		
Y6 presentation eve 6pm – 7pm	Mon 20 <sup>th</sup> July		

Reminder:

We kindly remind you that to contact a member of staff you can:

- speak them at the classroom door at drop off (be conscious that they will not be able to talk for long as they have to start the day promptly or at pick up).
- Call into the office to request an appointment to see someone.
- Phone the office to make an appointment.
- Email via the school office (this will be passed on to the relevant member of staff).

Please do not email after 5:30pm or before 8:00am.

Please do not use other messaging (e.g. Facebook messenger) services to contact staff.

**CAR PARKING**

**Parking in the staff car park is only allowed before 8am and after 4pm**

**(for HIVE / clubs)**

**Only permit holders / blue badges are allowed in at other times. THIS IS FOR OUR CHILDREN'S SAFETY**