

6th March 2026



## Dates for your diary

27th March – Early finish 1.45pm

30th March – 10th April – Easter Holidays

Monday 13th April – Students Return

To Provide exceptional learning experiences, where staff empower students and their families to be thriving members of their community



### Head Teacher News

Dear Parents and Carers,

The students have had a wonderful and engaging week in school, particularly enjoying the many activities organised to celebrate World Book Day. Throughout the week, pupils took part in storytelling sessions, shared their favourite books with classmates, and explored a range of creative literacy activities in lessons. Yesterday was a particular highlight, as students came dressed as their favourite characters. It was fantastic to see such enthusiasm and creativity on display during our costume parade, and we were very proud of the effort everyone made.

Looking ahead to next week, we are excited to be celebrating Creative Arts Week. A wide variety of activities have been planned across the school to encourage students to explore their imagination, develop new skills, and express themselves through different creative forms. These activities will include opportunities in art, music, drama, and design, and we are looking forward to seeing the wonderful outcomes of their work. As part of Creative Arts Week, we are pleased to invite you to a special Mother's Day wellbeing painting session taking place next Friday. This relaxed and enjoyable session will be organised by Jo, one of our talented art specialists, and will give a lovely opportunity for parents and carers to take part in a creative activity within the school community. If you would like to attend, please contact the school office for further details and to reserve your place.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support. We hope you all have a restful and enjoyable weekend.

Kind regards,  
Mairead



# Music

- The music department has some fantastic news we can't wait to share this year! We're super excited to announce music courses with Trinity College, which means some of our students will have the chance to earn a music certificate! This awesome program is open to all students, and we're already hard at work to make these goals a reality together! Stay tuned for more exciting updates!

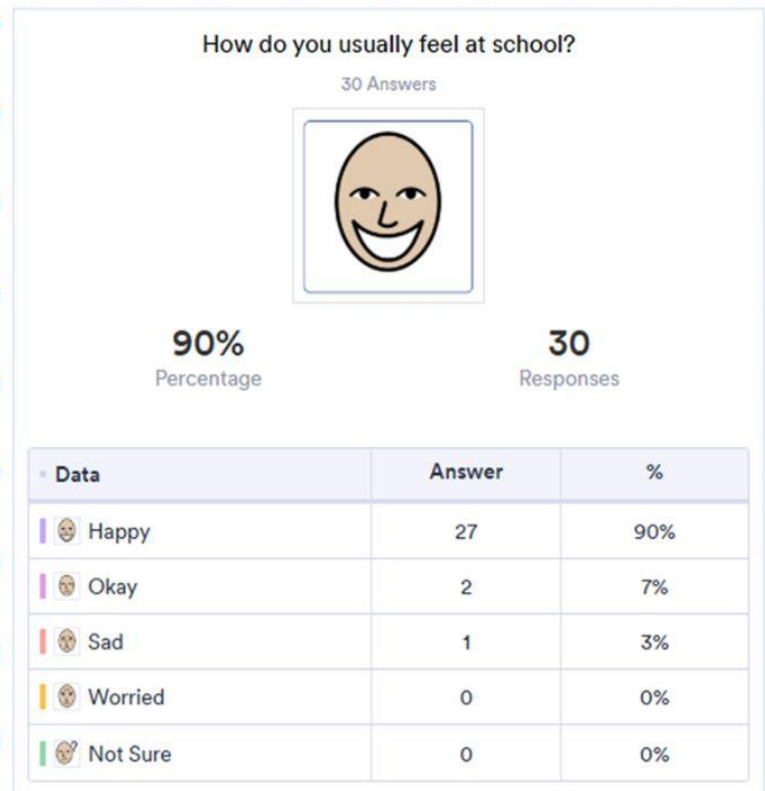
# School Council News



This week school council met to share the results of our Children's Mental Health Week survey.

We were so happy to see that everyone who responded has friends at school, and most students know who to go to to help them if they are hurt or upset.

We were also given a very important job - helping to choose new books for the library! After we earned over £200 in free books for our school we had some hard decisions to make. We can't wait to share what we've chosen in a future Newsletter!



# World Book Day 2026

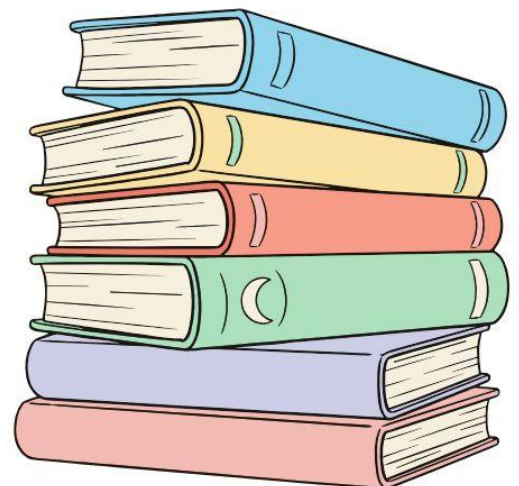
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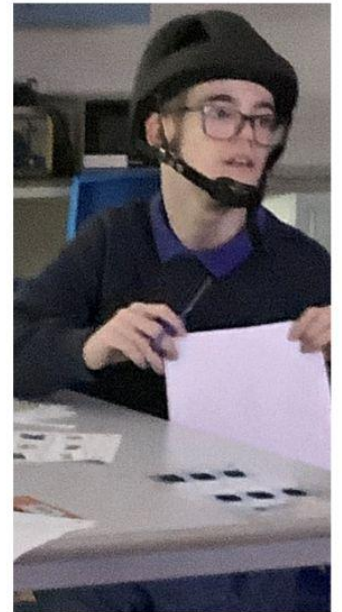
This week at High Oaks we have been celebrating World Book Day by going “*All In*” with our reading.

This week we have really enjoyed live streams with authors and illustrators provided by *Scholastic!*, a big Footy & Booky Quiz and a Masked Reader Challenge. We’ve also had a book swap in Reception to share our favourite books, and a Book & Breakfast where every class got a brand new book to read whilst enjoying toast, fruit and pastries.

The best day was Thursday of course, where we all got dressed up and shared our costumes in a parade in the sports hall. Can you guess what we are dressed as?



# Reading is a uniquely portable magic..



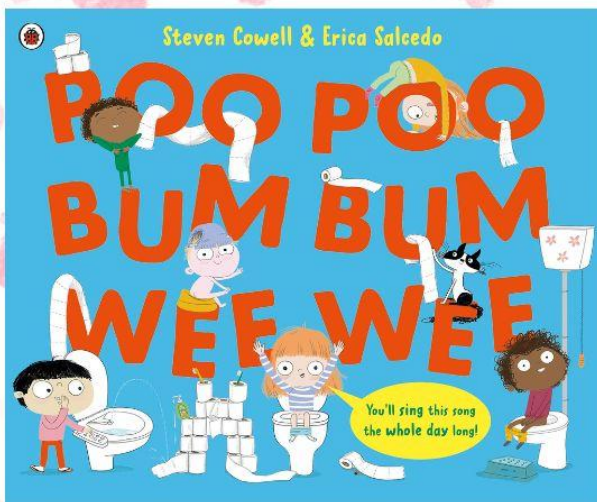


# Book of the Week

Our first book of the week recommendation comes from the High Oaks therapy team!

They have chosen *Poo Poo Bum Bum Wee Wee* by Steven Cowell & Erica Salcedo

This excellent, catchy book helps our young people understand more about toileting and personal care.



Remember you can buy books directly from Scholastic to help us earn free books from the school library by choosing 'High Oaks Secondary' on checkout.

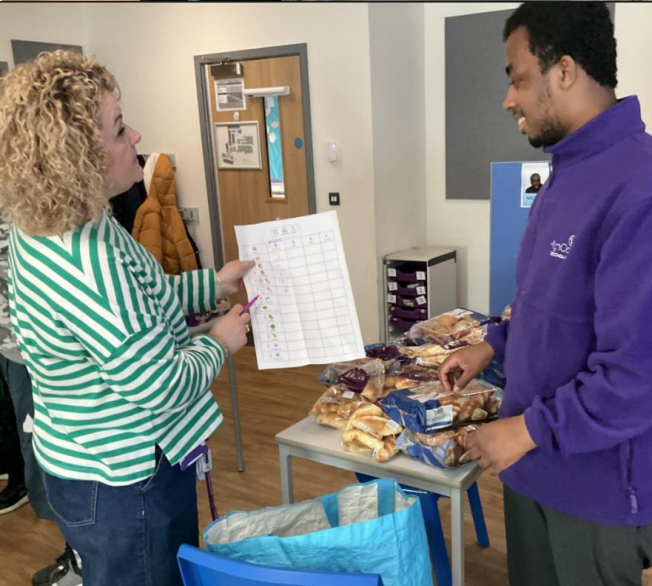
Find out more about this book and others by scanning the QR code or visiting the link here:

<https://shop.scholastic.co.uk/>



# Crane 3

Our class has been hard at work preparing for World Book Day as part of their vocational curriculum. Pupils took on a variety of real-world tasks, beginning with using the click-and-collect service at the local Tesco before following a symbolized list to sort the food for different departments. They then delivered the boxes across the school with great focus and teamwork. It was wonderful to see their growing confidence and independence as they successfully completed a one-off task outside their usual timetable.



# Syon 3

Syon 3 have been exploring African music in their music lessons, enjoying fun drum circles, and playing and singing along to the Ghanaian song Che Che Kule.



## Crane 4

This term, our students have been preparing feed for the birds. Through this activity, they are developing their understanding of caring for the environment and local wildlife. They are learning the importance of responsibility, respect for nature, and how small actions can make a positive difference.



**We also visited Osterley Park to gather pine cones for a bird feeder project.**

# Heston Fire Service visit



Heston Fire Service were kind enough to come in so we could look at the fire service truck

We investigated the different equipment in a fire truck.

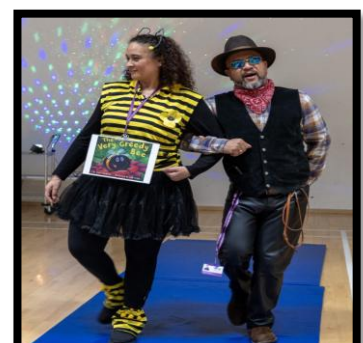
Thank you to the team for showing us around.



## *Richmond 4 Class Newsletter February 2026*

It has been a busy term for Richmond 4 Class. The students have been focusing on building skills that increase their confidence when shopping, crossing the road safely, and knowing whom to ask for help while out in the community.

We have enjoyed our weekly shopping trips, visits to the local park, and spending time catching up with friends at the school café. We were also excited to welcome a visit from Heston Fire Brigade Station, where we learned about the important work firefighters do. We really enjoyed celebrating World Book Day and dressing up as our favourite characters. Recently, we have been busy designing and preparing Easter products, which we are excited to show at the upcoming Easter Market, along with many new learning adventures ahead.



**Next Friday 13th March we are hosting a Mother's Day Wellbeing Painting Session.**

All mums, grandmas, aunties, and mother figures are warmly invited to join us. 🌸

Take some time for yourselves, relax, get creative and enjoy the opportunity to connect with other parents and carers in a friendly and supportive space.

If you would like to attend, please email [headspa@oaklands.uk.net](mailto:headspa@oaklands.uk.net). We look forward to welcoming you.

Mairead



## Term Dates 2026 - 2027

Wednesday 2nd September	INSET Day	School closed to Students-staff training
Thursday 3 <sup>rd</sup> September	INSET Day	School closed to Students-staff training
Friday 4 <sup>th</sup> September	INSET Day	School closed to Students-staff training
Monday 7th September	Students Return	
Monday 26 <sup>th</sup> October - Friday 30 <sup>th</sup> October	Half Term	
Monday 2 <sup>nd</sup> November	Students Return	
Friday 18 <sup>th</sup> December	Early Finish 1.45	
Monday 21st December – Friday 1st January 2027	Christmas Holidays	
Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> January 2027	INSET Day	School closed to Students – Staff training
Tuesday 5 <sup>th</sup> January 2027	INSET Day	School closed to Students-staff training
Wednesday 6 <sup>th</sup> January 2027	Students Return	
Monday 15 <sup>th</sup> February – Friday 19 <sup>th</sup> February	Half Term	
Thursday 25th March	Early finish 1.45	
Friday 26 <sup>th</sup> March – Friday 9 <sup>th</sup> April	Easter Holidays	
Monday 12 <sup>th</sup> April	Return	
Monday 3 <sup>rd</sup> May	May Day – School Closed	
Monday 31 <sup>st</sup> May – Friday 4 <sup>th</sup> June	Half term	
Thursday 22 <sup>nd</sup> July	1.45 Finish	
Friday 23 <sup>rd</sup> July	Summer Holidays	

Please see above term dates for **next** academic year. Please can I remind families I am unable to authorise term time leave for holidays. If you need to take your child out of school, please do fill in the exceptional leave request form which can be found on our school website. If you need a paper copy, please contact the school reception.