



## HUNTLEY NEWS February/ March 2026

### Our School Vision

Nurtured individuals, learning together with God's love, living life to the full.

#### Curriculum:

##### **West Midland Safari Park visit – reported by Norah**

On the 24<sup>th</sup> of February children from Class Estuary [ year 4 and 5] went to West Midland safari park for a school trip.

We went to develop our learning about animals in captivity, which has been our English topic and just to have fun! We took notes on the bus as it drove through the park ready for our, 'hot write' which is persuasive writing about keeping animals in captivity.

First, we went through the drive through and we had a safari ranger on the bus telling us about all the animals and how they are endangered. Did you know that it has been proven that zebras are black with white stripes and not the other way round! After that, we went walking around the other areas. Sadly, the Ice Age was closed but there were so many more fun things to do. We saw the creepy crawlies, bats and we had food to feed the lorikeets! it was so much fun! Also, we were very lucky to see the sea lion show -it was very funny and interesting. We saw much more and one of the last things we did it was the lemur forest. The lemurs were free range and walking around us! We then took the short cut back because we didn't have much time to see the meercats. It was a great day at the safari park – we saw so any animals and learnt a lot o endangered species.



##### **Charlie and the chocolate factory – reported by Willow**

On the 3<sup>rd</sup> of February, years five and six went to see Charlie and the Chocolate factory at Newent Community School. The show was very good because it wasn't adults, it was children acting the show. We all enjoyed seeing the performance they were great and they there were lots of solos and we were welcomed to the school. Also, some of us will go there in a year or two so we might be in plays then. We are glad we got invited, it was a great show!

##### **Young minds matter workshops – reported by Henry**

We had a visit from Young minds Matter so the children got to learn how to control their emotions and see how they can help with their emotions.

Then the children made fortune tellers with emotions on it so we could ask different people which emotion they felt to then spell it out so they could tell what they could do to help with their emotions.

After they played a game where you had 10 fingers up and whenever the people from young minds matter asked a question and you have done it they had to put 1 finger down. We learnt the importance of talking about our emotions and sharing with a trusted adult.

The children in Key stage one also had a workshop with a focus on emotions The team will be back next term to do some work with year sixes around transition to secondary school. Please find more information about Young Minds Matter (YMM) on the school website to see how they work with the children and what support they can offer.



## World Book Day

We had a fabulous world book day where our overall theme was trees- linked to our new house names. Everyone looked fantastic dressed as a character from a book they have enjoyed.

In Class Stream the children read the Julia Donaldson book 'Stick man' and had a go at making their own stick men. Class River focussed on the Enid Blyton classic 'The Faraway tree' and described their own lands at the top of the tree.

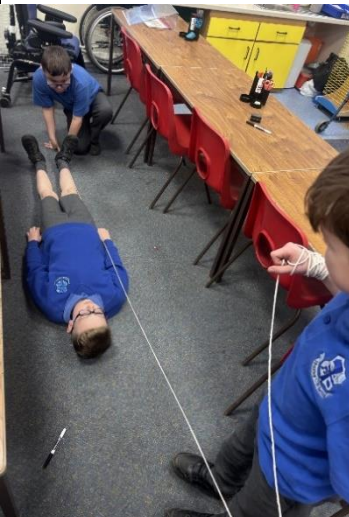


Class Estuary found out about the impact of deforestation in the rainforests reading 'Buddy's rescue' which is based on a true story about an orangutan losing his habitat. They also read 'The Vanishing Rainforest' and looked at projects which are looking to reduce further deforestation and protect this habitat. Class Ocean carried out their own research about the house trees: beech, maple, oak and yew. They then created

power points to present to the rest of the school in worships. There will be more photos on the website

## British Science week

The children carried out a wide range of different science activities over the week.



Class Estuary learnt how scientists know the age of a shark by measuring their height and then tested the theory on themselves. They made 'sticky ice' and volcanic fruit by making chemical reactions with the citric acid.



Class River- found out about different jobs linked to science such as a geologist and an aerospace engineer. They also carried out a helicopter experience where they had the challenge to improve the effectiveness of the helicopter's flight.

Class Stream had a dinosaur afternoon learning all about being a palaeontologist. They created their own dinosaurs out of clay and thought about their features and the environment they would

need to survive in. They also used their scientific skill of questioning to find out about different animals. Class Ocean, found out about how important communication is in teamwork and investigated how birds make their nests, making them wind and rain proof. They also carried out an investigation to try and make the most effective paper aeroplane design and watched a live lesson about different jobs at Chester Zoo.





All the classes watched live lessons provided by the NFU over the week linked to aspects of farming.



### Silver Reading Challenge

A huge congratulations to those children who have achieved their Silver reading challenge this term. It is vitally important that the children read regularly across a range of genre all the way through school. It is the key to everything and the only way to get better is to practice and practice more! Thank you for your support at home with this. All the children below achieved their award along with Rex, Alexander and Matilda.



### In the Net- internet safety session

The children in Class Estuary spent the afternoon at Picklenash school watching a theatre production about keeping safe online. They learnt about the importance of keeping personal information safe, the impact of online bullying, what to do if something makes you feel uncomfortable, the importance of asking permission and asking for help from a trusted adult.

### Estuary and Ocean – cinema trip to see David Attenborough's documentary 'Oceans'

The children got the chance to go and see the new documentary all about the oceans of the world, which highlighted all the damage which has been done by humans. They had the whole cinema to themselves and enjoyed the popcorn Mrs Meek brought along!

Watching the documentary, they learnt about damaging fishing techniques and plastic pollution. However, they also found out that some of the ocean (about 3%) is now protected and that the coral reefs and other habitats can regenerate given time and protection.

The children in year six felt very strongly about the practice of trawler fishing and explained that two thirds of the creatures trawled by the fishing nets were not even used. They were left to die and then thrown back into the sea. They decided that they wanted to write to people who have the power to bring about changes in this practice and have written to their local MP to pass on to other politicians. The letters were really persuasive clearly setting out facts they had found out, and expressing their options about trawler fishing.

### **Carnival time!**

The children in Class River spent the day designing and making their own costumes fit for a carnival. They learnt the skills of plaiting and weaving and created their own colourful designs.



They have been learning all about rainforests with a focus on Brazil this term and were very lucky to have Mr Biral-Batista come in and speak to them. The children found out lots about the country and about some of the wildlife – including giant spiders! They also got to try a delicious handmade chocolate treat. Thank you very much for coming to Class River Mr Biral-Batista.

## Personal Development:

**Certificates:** These children have been awarded certificates over the past few weeks.

**Head teacher award-** Oliver T

**Class Stream-** Oliver T, Arthur, Ollie G, Raffy, Luan, Lily and Albert

**Class River-** Holly, Henry and Amelia

**Class Estuary-** Bailey, Theo and Henry S

**Class Ocean –** Imogen and Elsa

**Science:** Samuel, Will and Hope

**Writers of the week-** Matilda

**Hand writer of the week-** Jacob

**Times Table Rockstar-** James G



## Netball team

Well done to our netball team who took part in a tournament hosted by Newent School. There were teams there from all over the Forest area.

## Give it a Go day

Some of us had a great day at Newent school carrying out a range of different activities. We tried boccia, bowls, table cricket, curling, golf and even had a go at steering a speedy wheelchair football chair. We also had a go on lots of different bikes that had been adapted on different ways. We had so much fun!



## Photography Club

Here are some of the images created by the photography club in a recent session. They have also been focussing on shadow and light. Well done to Sophie and to Brody for their photographer of the week awards.



## Easter activities.

Firstly, a big thank you to the children in year four for leading this year's Easter service. Thank you also to those family members who were able to join us. It was lovely to have Rev Lara with us and to find out about Easter traditions around the world and remind of the true meaning of Easter.



Egg rolling winners



The Year 2 decorated egg entries



Our overall winners

It was such a challenge to judge the decorated egg competition this year. The entries were incredible!! All the staff had an anonymous vote and the results were so close! Well done everyone – they were all so unique and so beautifully presented! Please look at the photos on the website.




## Sporting achievements

Congratulations to Albert and Pearl on their swimming successes and to Charlotte for gaining her next gymnastic qualification. It is great to hear about your achievements outside of school!



## Other news

Just a couple of reminders:



Does your child struggle with worries or anxiety?

Help your child build confidence with a new digital therapy game

**LUMI NOVA**  
TALES OF COURAGE™

Free for families in Gloucestershire

- ✓ For 7-12 year olds
- ✓ NICE recommended
- ✓ Free instant access

To learn more visit:  
[luminova.app/glos](https://luminova.app/glos)

In partnership with

**NHS**  
Gloucestershire

Download on the App Store | GET IT ON Google Play

### Lumi Nova

This is a great resource- currently being funded for all pupils in Gloucestershire schools. Follow the QR code to get information and free access. It has proven to be very useful for children who have low level anxiety or worry.

### My Happy Minds

We now have Happiness heroes in school who are leading our happy breathing in worships and organising lunchtime activities one week a term linked to our theme. This term we are focusing on our character strengths and how we can develop these. Click on this [link](#) to the free parent app. Our school authentication code is: **115686**

There is a wealth of information on there, including links to our happy breathing.