



Newsletter



Dear Parents / Carers

We have had a busy start to this term. The children are really enjoying our Outdoor Play and Learning (OPAL) equipment at lunchtime and getting used to changing into welly boots to go onto the field.

Here are just a few of the many benefits of outdoor play and learning:

- 🌿 Supports Physical Health: Running, climbing, jumping and exploring help children build strong bones and muscles, improve coordination and maintain a healthy weight.
- 🧠 Boosts Brain Development: Outdoor learning encourages problem-solving, creativity and critical thinking as children engage with the natural world in hands-on ways.
- 😊 Improves Mental Wellbeing: Time outside has been shown to reduce stress and anxiety, boost mood and increase focus – helping children return to the classroom refreshed and ready to learn.
- 👫 Builds Social Skills: Whether it's working together to build a den or taking turns on the swings, outdoor play teaches valuable skills like cooperation, negotiation and empathy.
- 🌍 Connects Children with Nature: Learning outside fosters curiosity, respect and care for the environment – helping children develop a sense of responsibility for the world around them.

At school, we make the most of our outdoor spaces to support learning and to promote active, healthy lifestyles. We also encourage families to enjoy the outdoors together at home – whether it's a walk in the park, some time in the garden, or exploring local green spaces.

We have a parent meeting about our OPAL project on Thursday 25th September at 8:50am and it would be great to see lots of parents there to hear about OPAL and to find out about its benefits and successes across the country. This will be in our school hall and led by our school OPAL mentor who is very experienced in OPAL.

Thank you for supporting your child's development both inside and outside the classroom and we hope to see lots of you on Thursday morning to find out more.

Kind regards

Mrs Robson
Headteacher

2025-2026

Term 1

**Friday 19th
September**

Upcoming Events:

**22nd September – Year 3
Riverside Rangers event**

**24th September – FS tour
for next academic year
1:30pm and 2pm**

**24th September –
Astrodome visiting school
for Y3, 5 and 6**

**25th September – OPAL
Parent Meeting 8:50am**

**26th Sept – European Day
of Languages**

**3rd October – 'Roots to
Food' workshops for all
year groups**

PROUD MOMENT...

**Well done to some of our Year 6 children who sat
the Medway Test this week – they showed
amazing 'Riverside Character'.**



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This week we are celebrating....

Victorius - Hawks

Friday 12th September

WAT: Describe the sun, the earth and moon as approximately spherical bodies

WAT: Identify scientific evidence which does or doesn't provide evidence for an idea or argument.

In the night sky you will see stars but not if the Earth is round. For a long time people believed that the Earth and the other planets are flat. In ancient times it was thought that the Earth was horizontal like a flat disc, and that the sun and stars revolved around it. This belief is called the Geocentric model. It's also where people believed that Earth is orbited. However, over time, scientists began to gather more evidence, which showed that the planets including Earth, are actually shaped like spheres. When the surface is like bent > then further it goes the more it will disappear ✓

What did Galileo believe?

Galileo believed in the heliocentre