



**Newsletter 17**  
**23rd January 2026**

**'Let us love one another, for love comes from God'**  
**1 John 4:7**



### Message from the Headteacher

Dear Parents and Carers,

The children have continued to develop their cricket skills this week. Here are Dolphins practising their overarm throw with a straight arm using the claw grip to aim for a cone.



Amy from J.P. Morgan visited us on Tuesday to launch an exciting app competition. Children in years 1 - 4 are invited to design their own app and Amy will collect the designs on 6th February. There will be prizes for the winner and runners up. The winning app will be brought to life and we will be able to download it!

Elephants enjoyed their trip to the library this week. They were so engaged during story time and really enjoyed exploring the shelves together. We are looking forward to visiting again soon.

It was wonderful to see so many of you at the Elephants' reading event we held yesterday afternoon. I hope you enjoyed the opportunity to see phonics in action. We hope to organise further reading events across the school later this term.

Best wishes  
Miss Michelle Prince  
Headteacher

Congratulations to these children who have gone above and beyond and **sparkled** this week:

Elephants: Seth and Ella  
Giraffes: Bradley and Amelia  
Dolphins: Olivia and Ayla  
Pandas: Arya and Freya  
Snow Leopards: Felix and Monty



### Half Term Value - Courage

It can take great courage to do something new or challenging. We call it 'stepping out of our comfort zone'. Sometimes just small steps are needed, but they can take us to new and exciting places! What is one thing you really want to achieve or learn? What is the very first, tiny step you can take today?



### Multiplication Tables Check (MTC) Meeting for parents of children in Year 4

In the summer term, the children in Snow Leopards will complete the Multiplication Tables Check which is a statutory test for all Year 4 pupils.

We would like to invite you to a meeting where we will explain what this check involves and how you can prepare your child for it. We are holding the session on two dates:

- Monday 26th January 3:30pm in the school hall.
- Thursday 29th January 9:00am in the school hall.

Please come to the main school office entrance to be signed in. The meeting should last no more than 30 minutes and both sessions will cover the same material. You only need to attend one session.

### Attendance



Well done Giraffes and Pandas!

<b>Class Weekly Attendance</b> for Week beginning 19th January 2026	
Elephants	90.3%
Giraffes	96.3%
Dolphins	95%
Pandas	96.3%
Snow Leopards	93.9%
Whole School	94.4%

### Dates for your diary

[What's on this week](#)

**Monday 26th January 3:30pm**

Multiplication Tables Check Meeting for Y4 Parents

**Wednesday 28th January**

Giraffes' class trip to MED

**Thursday 29th January 9:00am**

Multiplication Tables Check Meeting for Y4 Parents

**Friday 30th January**

Rocksteady Music Workshops

**Monday 16th February - Friday 20th February**

Half Term Holiday

**Monday 23rd February**

INSET Day - no children in school

**Tuesday 24th February**

Children return to school

**Friday 27th March**

Last day of term

**Monday 30th March - Friday 10th April**

Easter Holiday

**Monday 13th April**

INSET Day - no children in school

**Tuesday 14th April**

Children return to school

**Monday 4th May**

Bank Holiday

**Monday 18th May**

Elephants' trip to Dumpton School

**Monday 25th May - Friday 29th May**

Half Term Holiday

**Monday 1st June**

Children return to school

**Tuesday 14th and Wednesday 15th July**

Year 4 Leeson House Residential Trip

**Wednesday 22nd July**

Last Day of Term

Year 4 Leavers' Service in St John's Church

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**Join us to celebrate the opening of the exhibition  
on Sunday 11 January from 1-3pm**

FREE Drop in painting workshops for ages 4+ must be accompanied  
10 January 1-4pm and 18 January 12.30-3.30pm

# A Splash of Colour

7 January to 25 January 2026

Walford Mill Crafts, Stone Lane,  
Wimborne BH21 1NL

Kicking off the year with  
vibrant artwork from  
Witchampton and St John's  
First Schools

[WWW.WALFORDMILLCRAFTS.CO.UK](http://WWW.WALFORDMILLCRAFTS.CO.UK)

WEDNESDAY TO SATURDAY 10-5PM,  
SUNDAY 11-4PM