



VILLAGE VOICE



Holidays

Half Term - 23rd - 27th February 2026

Easter Holidays - 3rd - 17th April 2026

Half Term - 25th - 29th May 2026

****We finish for summer on Friday 17th July 2026****

Star of the Week

JJ - Nursery

Zack - Reception

Layton - Year 1

Myla - Year 2

Liam - Year 3

Lottie - Year 4

Meaka - Year 5

Daisy - Year 6

PD Days for 2025/26

Monday 1st June 2026

Monday 20th July 2026

Tuesday 21st July 2026

World Book Day

This year we will be celebrating World Book Day on **Thursday, March 5th**, with a focus on reading for pleasure.



All children are invited to dress up as a book or character of their choice. We do not want to place any pressure or financial burden on families, so costumes can be simple and creative. Some easy ideas include:

Decorating a T-shirt as a favourite book

Wearing pyjamas and coming as a bedtime story

Wearing a colour linked to a favourite book or character

The day will be dedicated to enjoying reading. Children are welcome to bring in a favourite story from home to share with others if they wish.

We look forward to celebrating a love of reading together!

Children's Mental Health Week - 9 -15th February.

The theme this year is '**This is my place**', which emphasizes the importance of belonging and feeling part of a community.

The Wellbeing Ambassadors are presenting an assembly to KS1 and KS2 on Monday. They are excited about talking about belonging and how this is vital for mental health and wellbeing.

There are useful websites 'Place2Be' and 'Young Minds' which can support children and families who want to understand how they're feeling, find ways to feel better, or support someone who's struggling.

[Families and communities - Children's Mental Health Week](#)

www.youngminds.org.uk

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Nursery

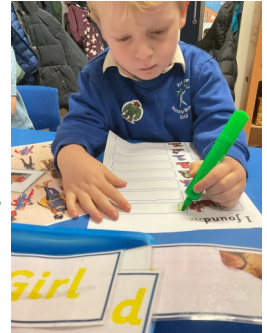
Continuing our theme of Traditional Tales, this week we looked at 'The Tree Billy Goat Gruff' the children have been fully immersed in a range of exciting, hands-on activities. They have enjoyed using different materials to make their own bridge, cutting and sticking the Billy Goats and the Troll to the bridge. The children have enjoyed using the blocks to build a bridge over the pretend water to help The Three Billy Goats Gruff to the grass on the other side. We have used the story to talk about and as a group 'Draw a Troll - haven't they done a brilliant job!



As a group, we have looked at 3 or not 3. The children have been talking about different ways to make and build their bridges allowing them to access a wider range of vocabulary - Goats, Bridge, Grass, Big, Medium, small, troll, water and field. Additionally, the children have been using sensory play in the dough, making Trolls, using - eyes, pasta a pipe cleaners.

Reception

We have had a fantastic week in Reception! In maths, the children have been showing wonderful subitising skills, confidently recognising amounts at a glance. This has been linked to our Superheroes topic, which the children are loving. In the construction area, there has been some fantastic building as the children worked together to build superhero bases, using their imagination and teamwork.



In RE, we have been learning about other cultures, exploring similarities and differences and talking about what makes us all special. In literacy, we were very excited to receive a letter from the main character in our class story, asking for our help. The children had lots of ideas and are eager to respond!

Up Next Week

Literacy: We will begin writing letters back to the main character.

Phonics: Learning the new phonemes ow (as in owl) and oi (as in oil).

Maths: Continuing to subitise up to 8 and beginning to spot doubles.

Fine Motor Skills: Developing our cutting skills, focusing on cutting out more complicated templates carefully and safely.



February is Heart Month

Village Primary School will be taking part on **Friday 13th February** to support Heart Month. On this day, children are invited to wear non-uniform in red or pink in exchange for a £1 donation. Thank you for your continued support.

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Year 1

This week in Year 1 we have worked hard consolidating known Phonic sounds for ee and igh and in English we have planned and written our retell of the story Hermelin the Mouse Detective. In Maths we have continued our work on shape and looked carefully at shape patterns, creating some of our own.

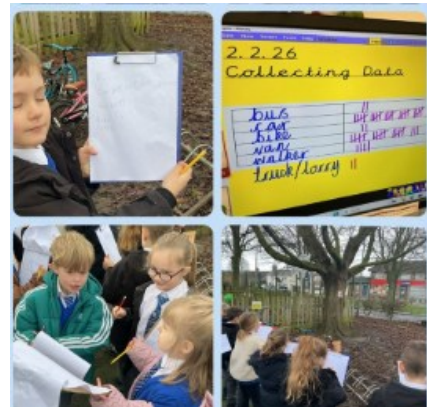
In Science we have compared animals, thinking carefully about how they can be grouped together. We have continued our work on homes in History and have looked at what rooms we have in a house and their features.

The children have explored Mezzuzahs in Judaism and found out about some of the rules Jews live by. They then created their own rules to live by to create a safe and happy year 1 community. In art, we have continued our colour mixing journey using our knowledge of the colour wheel.



Year 2

This week, Year 2 have continued to hone their dance skills in P.E and enjoyed working together in groups to learn new dance moves. In maths, the children have enjoyed learning about statistics and loved doing this in a practical lesson with Miss Simpson. In writing, the class continues to master the fundamentals of sentence structure and how they can apply their phonics to their own creative writing. During the week, the children have also explored materials and their properties and made links to homes and buildings.



MND Week - 23rd-27th March

Village Primary is joining forces with local schools to take part in MND Awareness Week. As part of this, on Friday 27th March, Ks2 will be going on a sponsored walk around our local area and we would like everyone to place an 'MND Rock' somewhere on the walk. To do this, we are asking for donations of rocks that we can paint and spread around Thornaby!

Our Wellbeing team will be leading the painting activity during the breaktimes of MND week, so we are asking for donations of rocks for our children to paint!

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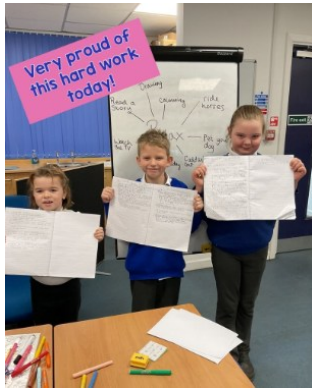
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Year 3

Another fantastic week in Year 3. We wrote up our calmness guides in English and finished off our work in Maths on money, adding, subtracting and giving change. In Geography we investigated Roman town names in Great Britain and in PE we performed an American line dance. A group of children went to a PE festival and thoroughly enjoyed it, participating in a range of activities such as archery, martial arts and basketball amongst several others. They behaved impeccably and represented the school with good manners, confidence and big, enthusiastic smiles! Thank you for your photographs and videos of your children reading, it has been great to share them with the class.



Year 4

Another super productive week from all the children in Year 4! This week in Maths we have continued our work moving to adding and subtracting fractions with differing denominators. In English we continued to learn about structures, vocabulary and setting planning around our text 'Leaf'. Outside this, we started our new History topic of The Edwardians and researched 'A day in the life of'. All the children have worked extremely hard, and we continued to be extremely proud of the progress they are making.



Packed Lunches

Just a reminder for parents/carers to cut any fruit and vegetables in your child's packed lunch. To avoid any choking hazards it is recommended to cut fruit such as grapes and cherry tomatoes in half.

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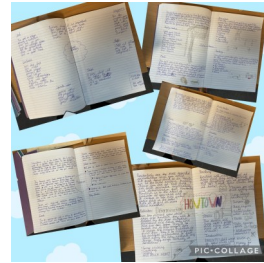
Year 5

Year 5 have continued their exciting journey through The Hound of the Baskervilles, working in partners to identify and explore the key features of a formal report. In PE, pupils have been collaborating in teams to create and perform their own dance routines, showing fantastic teamwork and creativity. Meanwhile, in PSHE, they have been learning about the importance of body language and how it affects communication with others.



Year 6

After an exhausting but fun week for a lot of Year 6, we have all settled back well into the classroom and ready to learn! We have planned and drafted a wonderful piece of writing all about Howtown and life at Village Primary School. We have also been discussing AI and thinking about the advantages and disadvantages of AI. In Maths, we have been continuing with our decimal learning by tackling multiplying decimals!



Reminder of SATs dates

KS2 SATs 2026 Dates

Monday 11th May 2026

Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar: Spelling - 20 mins
Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar: Punctuation and Grammar - 45 mins

Tuesday 12th May 2026

Reading - 60 mins

Wednesday 13th May 2026

Maths Paper 1: Arithmetic - 30 mins
Maths Paper 2: Reasoning - 40 mins

Thursday 14th May 2025

Maths Paper 3: Reasoning - 40 mins



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