

Friday 14th February 2025



Tewkesbury  
C of E Primary & Pre-School

'Learn Together, Shine Forever'

# Weekly Newsletter

## A message from Mr Rylatt...

As we wrap up a fantastic term, I want to thank our children, staff and the community for their hard work and support. It's been a wonderful start to 2025 and I'm so proud of all that's been accomplished already this year.

Wishing everyone a relaxing and enjoyable half-term break. See you soon, ready for more exciting learning ahead!

### Number Day



Last week's Number Day was a fantastic success! The children showed off their creativity coming in with their amazing decorating hats covered in numbers, showcasing these in a lovely hat parade. They then took part in a variety of exciting challenges, using their problem-solving skills to complete different maths-based activities. It was wonderful to see the older children supporting the younger ones, working together to make the day even more special. A huge well done to everyone who took part!

*Philippians 2:15 "We shine like stars in the sky."*



### **Year 5 wowed the crowd at the Peace Doves Concert**



Our Year 5 children did an amazing job at last week's Peace Dove Concert, filling the space with their beautiful voices. Singing beneath thousands of delicate doves, created by the Tewkesbury community, was a truly breathtaking moment—a powerful reminder of unity, hope, and the magic of music. Well done to all involved!

### **A message from the School Council**



The school council would like to say a massive thank-you for the support given by the year six parents, school council parents, children and all other contributors of the wonderful cakes we received for our sale last Friday. It was hugely successful raising almost £200! We will be making a generous donation to Place2be children's mental health charity and using some to provide extra resources to allow for the mindful activities club, that was run during mental health week, to continue its good work! Thank you all so much!

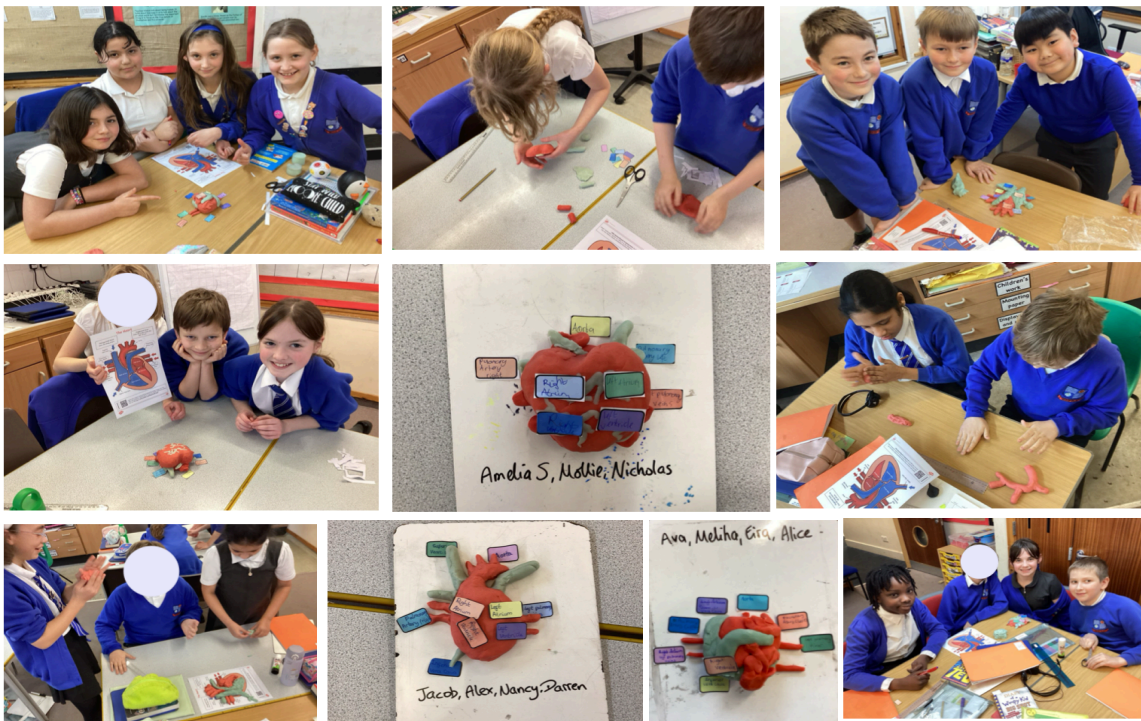


## Children's Mental Health Week Display



Our Mental Health Week display, beautifully created by Mrs. Spry, is a stunning celebration of self-awareness and individuality. Featuring portraits of every child in our school, it brings this year's theme "Know Yourself, Grow Yourself" to life in a powerful and personal way. This inspiring showcase reminds us all of the importance of understanding who we are and embracing the journey of growth and celebrating the creativity and uniqueness of our amazing children.

## A Crafty Way to Learn About the Heart



Here's some work from Year 6 science this week. They spent the session creating models of the human heart from play dough.

As they sculpted their hearts, they learnt about the different parts of the heart and the role it plays in pumping blood around the circulatory system.



## Wild Wonders Club



Wild Wonders Club welcomed Professor Adam Hart from the University of Gloucestershire to help us conduct the RSPB Big Bird Watch 2025. He helped us identify the birds from their calls, how they fly and their shape. We used a range of equipment to see the birds without disturbing them. We even got to use a spotting scope which is like a telescope for wildlife! The children had a great time learning about the huge variety of wildlife on our doorstep.



## A Visit from the Vets for Oaks

This week, our students had an exciting hands-on experience as they learned about the work of a vet.

They were shown X-rays from different animals, giving them a fascinating glimpse into how vets diagnose and treat injuries.

The fun continued as the children dressed up as vets themselves and worked together to help Charlie the cheetah get better!

It was a wonderful opportunity for the children to explore the world of animal care and develop their problem-solving skills.

## Pizza Making with Acorns



This week, our Pre-school children had a blast making their own pizzas! They loved choosing their toppings and creating delicious designs. It was a fantastic hands-on activity that not only allowed the children to get creative but also helped them develop important skills like following instructions and working together. The end result? Delicious pizzas enjoyed by all!



## **Year 1 Design and Technology Day**



In D&T, Amber Class has been busy bringing their designs to life by building stable structures based on the Three Little Pigs' houses. The children used their creativity and problem-solving skills to design and construct houses that would stand strong against the Big Bad Wolf! It's been a fantastic project and the students have shown great teamwork and engineering skills.

## **Healthy Bodies, Happy Spirits: Collective Worship Reflections**



Father Nick led the school in Collective Worship on Thursday. We were reminded that our bodies are 'temples of the Holy Spirit' and so we are to respect and care for them.

Here, you can see children holding a trainer to remind us to get some exercise, an apple to remind us to always eat healthily, a yoga mat to remind us to relax and a cushion to remind us to get enough sleep.

Great advice for both children and adults!

## **New club alert!**

Tewkesbury Football Club will be running a girls' football club on Wednesday afternoons from 3:15 to 4:15. The club is aimed at developing girls' football teams within the town and is open to girls in Years 1-3. The sessions are free and will run for 4 weeks, starting on the first Wednesday after the holidays. More information about how to sign up for the club outside of school will be provided shortly.

Children will need to bring in a PE kit for the session. The club is now live on School Gateway for sign-up.





# Together we're powerful

## Should We Be Rethinking Kids and Smartphones?

A growing movement of parents thinks so. In early 2024, a WhatsApp group went viral, sparking a nationwide conversation. That group has now become a community of over 150,000 parents working together to change the culture around kids and smartphones.

Their mission? To provide solidarity, support and solutions for parents facing one of today's biggest parenting challenges - and to push for stronger protections from the government against Big Tech's addictive algorithms.

The research is clear: smartphones expose children to anxiety, eating disorders, cyberbullying and even online predators. When we give kids access to the whole world, we also give the world access to them.

This movement is built on a simple belief: childhood is precious. Kids deserve the chance to grow, play and connect with the real world - free from addictive devices. Technology should support their wellbeing, not exploit it. And companies that profit from children must respect childhood, not just keep them safe, but design products that support healthy development.

Most importantly, parents should be empowered to make informed choices - not pressured into handing over their child's attention to Big Tech. Change starts with all of us, and together, we can push back against the idea that screen addiction is just an inevitable part of growing up.

If you're interested in learning more or joining the movement, here's where to sign up: <https://smartphonefreechildhood.co.uk/about>

## Young Artists Summer Show Competition

Our pupils, here at Tewkesbury C of E, are incredibly creative and artistic. For the second year running, we have signed up to the Young Artists' Summer Show competition which is run by the Royal Academy of Arts.

### Key information:

The competition is for students aged 4-18. Submitting artwork is free and done online by Miss Davis. There is no 'theme' for the competition- this will allow your child to be truly creative! Pupils can use any media when creating their art (sculpting materials, paint, photography, textiles... the list goes on!) Pupils can submit individual artwork or work collaboratively. Each student can only submit one piece of artwork.

**Artwork must be brought into Miss Davis before Monday 3rd March.** You will need to give it a title and provide a little information about it (why the artwork was created and what it means to them). The art will then be judged by a panel. Selected pieces will be shown in an online exhibition that you can view. Some artwork will also be shown at the Royal Academy of Arts in London where you could go and visit your work in an actual art gallery!

Here are some examples of artwork exhibited in last year's competition:





## School diary week beginning 24th February 2025

| Day  | The School Day                                      |                                                   | After school                                         |                                                          | Spring Lunch Menu<br>Week 1                                        |
|------|-----------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Mon  |                                                     |                                                   | Drama club<br>Year 4 - 6<br>3:15 - 4:15 pm           | Football club<br>Year 4 - 6<br>3:15 - 4:15 pm            | Beef Burger & Chips<br><br>Jacket Potato with a choice of fillings |
| Tues |                                                     |                                                   | Netball club<br>Year 4 - 6<br>3:15 - 4:15 pm         | Oddstepperz Street Dance<br>Year 4 - 6<br>3:15 - 4:15 pm | BBQ Chicken & Rice<br><br>BBQ Quorn & Rice                         |
|      |                                                     |                                                   | Year 5 + 6 Football Cup<br>Tewkesbury Academy        |                                                          |                                                                    |
| Wed  | Story Club<br>Year 1 - 3<br>12:30 - 1:00 pm         | Chill out zone<br>Year 1 - 3<br>12:30 - 1:00 pm   |                                                      |                                                          | Pork & Apple with gravy & roasties                                 |
|      | Children to Tewkesbury Abbey to see the Peace Doves |                                                   |                                                      |                                                          | Quorn & Apple with gravy & roasties                                |
| Thur | Year 5 swimming                                     |                                                   | Cross Country Fun Run<br>Year 4- 6<br>3:15 - 4:30 pm |                                                          | Cheesy Pasta                                                       |
|      |                                                     |                                                   | French club<br>Year 1 - 3<br>3:15 - 4:15 pm          | Wild wonders club<br>Year 2 - 4<br>3:15 - 4:15 pm        | Homemade Vegetable Pizza                                           |
| Fri  |                                                     |                                                   |                                                      |                                                          | Fishcake with chips                                                |
|      | Lego Club<br>Year 1 - 3<br>12:30 - 1:00 pm          | Board games Club<br>Year 3 - 6<br>12:30 - 1:00 pm |                                                      |                                                          | Jacket Potato with a choice of fillings                            |





## 2024/25 Calendar

### Spring Term

#### w/b 17th February - Half term

3rd April - Reception Stay and Play - 9:30am

9th April - Easter service at Tewkesbury Abbey - 2pm

### Summer Term

#### 28th April - Inset Day

29th April - 1st May - Year 4 Residential - Pioneer Centre

w/b 12th May - Year 6 SAT

#### w/b 26th May - Half term

2nd June - Start of MTC Window (2 weeks)

w/b 16th June- Year 6 Residential Oaker Wood

2nd July - Sports Day + OPAL Stay and Play

9th July - Sports Day + OPAL Stay and Play Reserve Date

11th July - Med Fest

14th July - Reception Stay and Play - 9:30am

16th July - Rec - Year 2 Celebration Assembly - 2pm

17th July - Year 3 - 5 Celebration Assembly - 2pm

18th July - Year 6 Leavers Assembly - 1:45pm

#### 21st July - Inset Day





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# BREAKFAST CLUB

**Monday to Friday**  
8:00am - School Start

**£4.25 per child**

**A variety of breakfast options for your child to choose from.**

*Learn together, shine forever*



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# AFTER SCHOOL CLUB

| <b>Monday to Thursday</b>   | <b>Friday</b>              |
|-----------------------------|----------------------------|
| School Finish to 4:30pm £6  | School Finish to 4:30pm £6 |
| School Finish to 5:30pm £9  | School Finish to 5:00pm £8 |
| School Finish to 6:00pm £12 |                            |

**A light snack will be provided.**

If you would like a space for your child, please book on the School Gateway App. The deadline for bookings is the Thursday of the previous week.

*Philippians 2:15 "We shine like stars in the sky."*

Our theme for World Book Day this year is....



Please note we decided  
on **Friday 7<sup>th</sup> March!**



This year for World Book Day we will be exploring the 'Little People, Big Dreams' series of books, written all about inspirational people, past and present who have made a significant impact on the world.

The staff are busy planning activities based on some very cool individual and we want to find out who inspires you!

On **Friday 7<sup>th</sup> March 2025** we would like you to come to school dressed as ***'someone who inspires you'***.

This could be someone famous like a sportsman, singer, artist, scientist or a world genius! It could be someone you have learnt about in school or someone you that inspires you in life. As its World Book Day, it could maybe even a book character or author that inspires you. The choice is yours and we can't wait to see who you come as!





# Peter Walker's **Peace Doves**

**at Tewkesbury Abbey**

**1-27 February, after sunset**

A mass participation artwork by Peter Walker, featuring  
a beautiful and reflective light and sound installation –  
**Imagine Peace** by Luxmuralis in part of the Abbey.

**Adults: £9, Children: £6.50, Family tickets: £20**



**Book tickets:**  
[www.tewkesburyabbey.org.uk](http://www.tewkesburyabbey.org.uk)





## Peter Walker's **Peace Doves**

Experience peace and light at Tewkesbury Abbey with Peace Doves and Imagine Peace, two breathtaking installations that unite art, community, and hope. Peace Doves, created by artist Peter Walker, fills the Abbey's nave with thousands of paper doves, each decorated with messages of love and peace by local schools, community groups, and residents. This inspiring display reflects the shared aspirations of people across North Gloucestershire.

At sunset, Imagine Peace by Luxmuralis transforms the Abbey with a mesmerizing sound and light show, illuminating the architecture in powerful visuals that inspire reflection on unity and global harmony. Together, these installations offer a moving and unforgettable experience, inviting visitors to carry the ideals of peace forward.

### **About Luxmuralis**

'Luxmuralis' is the name given to the artistic collaboration Peter Walker Sculptor and David Harper Composer, who specialise in immersive fine art, light, and sound installations around the UK and abroad. Creating works across multiple media and presentation formats.

Entrance times are at 30-minute intervals throughout the evening:

**5pm, 5.30pm, 6pm, 6.30pm, 7pm & 7.30pm**

Advance booking is essential.

Tickets will not be available on the door.

Tickets are available in person from the

**Tewkesbury Abbey Shop**; or online at **[www.tewkesburyabbey.org.uk](http://www.tewkesburyabbey.org.uk)**

For all ticketing enquiries please contact Tewkesbury Abbey 01684 850959.

### **About Your Visit & Accessibility**

The Abbey, although heated, can still be cold during winter months. Please wrap up warmly. Toilets are located at the Touching Souls Tea Rooms. The Tea Rooms will be open and serving light refreshments. Tewkesbury Abbey is fully accessible, although due to the nature of the very old building, the floor may be uneven in places. Half price carer tickets are available from the Tewkesbury Abbey Shop; proof of eligibility may be requested.

### **Finding Tewkesbury Abbey**

Church Street, Tewkesbury GL20 5RZ

There are several large car parks within a few minutes' walk of Tewkesbury Abbey, as indicated on the map (below).





# February Half-term Fun!

Want to have some fun during half-term? Come along and join in the fun!



## In Tewkesbury:

**Monday**- 4-5:30 - Multisport

**Wednesday**- 3:30-5- Crafts Session with Amy Jackson

**Thursday**- 10:30- 12:30- Art Shape screen printing

You will each receive a care package which contains some exciting activities for during your half term!



Tewkesbury Youth Centre: Link Rd, Tewkesbury GL20 5JQ



# PLAY GLOUCESTERSHIRE'S PLAY RANGERS

**February Half Term on  
The Vineyards, Tewkesbury,  
GL20 5PG  
Wednesday 19th February  
10am to 4pm**

what3words  
**///swordfish.adopting.orbit**



With thanks to Tewkesbury Town Council for funding this session



Our Play Ranger activities take place outdoors in all weathers and are open access. This means there is no registration, children are free to come and go as they please.

Our Activities are aimed at school aged children. Under 8's are welcome and should be accompanied by an adult.

We believe all children have the right to play. Please talk to us if your child needs additional mobility or other support to enjoy Play Rangers.

**Play Gloucestershire**

Transforming lives through the power of play  
[www.playgloucestershire.org.uk](http://www.playgloucestershire.org.uk)



@play\_glos



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# ***Spring Flower Cards***

**Wed. 19th & Thu. 20th February.  
10am - 12pm, £1 per child.**

**Old Baptist Chapel, Tewkesbury**  
**[www.johnmooremuseum.org](http://www.johnmooremuseum.org)**

**THE JOHN MOORE MUSEUM**  
NATURAL HISTORY | HERITAGE | LIVING VOICES