



#### Welcome Back and Happy New Year!

We hope you have had a good start to the term. We kick started 2025 with a productive professional development session for the staff on Talk for Writing on Monday. Investing in teacher professional development is essential to providing the best education for our children. On Tuesday, we welcomed the children back to school with some new high expectations. Children will be lining up after break and lunch in silence and moving through the school in the same manner. This creates a calmer environment and a more productive start to the next lesson. The children have responded very well to this and I already feel proud of the improvement this has made. Read on to find out about other exciting opportunities the children have had this week.

#### **What's been happening**

Each year group has begun their new topic with gusto! Below is a snapshot of some of the exciting activities that the children have been involved in to launch their new topic.



The children in Year 4 have been investigating sound. We used a variety of instruments and implements to listen to and look at how sound is created. We were fascinated to see the vibrations created by sound on some of our objects.



Year 6 have had a fun introduction to their new topic, 'I'm a pupil, get me out of here!' by completing a series of 'bushtucker' trials.

#### **Dates and Events**

##### Term Dates

These can be found on our website using the link:  
<https://www.trumpingtonfederation.co.uk/page/?title=Term+Dates&pid=133>

##### Week beginning Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> February

Children's Mental Health Week

##### Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> February

Young Voices

##### Week beginning Monday 10<sup>th</sup> February

Safer Internet Week

##### Monday 17<sup>th</sup> February

Half term

##### Monday 24<sup>th</sup> February

Return to school

##### Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> February

Book Fair

### **Year 5 Astronomer Visit**

To kick-off Year 5s Space topic, we were delighted to welcome Dr Matt Bothwell – an astrophysicist and astronomer from the Institute of Astronomy at the University of Cambridge. Dr Matt engaged us all with his expert knowledge and answered all our questions covering the Solar System and Beyond. We even had the opportunity to hold (and smell) a piece of space rock – older than Planet Earth!



### **Lost property**

We are scaling back our lost property area for a number of reasons. We need to use this area to accommodate children's outdoor footwear as part of our OPAL project. We also want to encourage belongings to be taken better care of; to help your child to do this, please do ensure that all clothing items are clearly labelled.

### **Wellies and outdoor shoes**



This is another reminder to please ensure that your child has a pair of wellies or outdoor shoes to wear at playtimes that will also stay in school.

### **Performance Assemblies:**

In the new year we will be having a performance assembly on January 20<sup>th</sup> 2025. If your child plays a musical instrument or sings and would like to perform in front of the school, please contact Mrs Wilkinson via the school office.

### **Parent Survey**

Thank you to all the families who shared their thoughts via the survey; it is vital that we capture your voice so that we can continue to make the school as best as it can be. The survey shows a positive picture with 85.5% of responses saying that the school is good. Children feel happy and safe and large proportion of parents would recommend the school to another family. The statistics show that people find the newsletter useful and informative – thank you and hurray! There were areas identified for improvement and we will certainly continue to work hard on these.