



Weekly Newsletter

Friday 9th February 2024

Dear Parents/Carers,

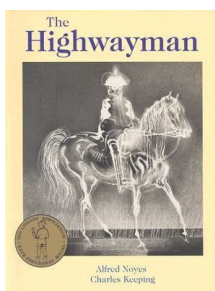
Don't forget to check out our website
and follow us on **Instagram**

The term ended with a bang today! Quite literally in fact. To mark the end of a very busy, yet incredibly harmonious term, we invited a world famous professional drummer into our school to talk about the importance of 'effort' and 'application'. Steve White, a former member of the Style Council, gave up his spare time to give us all a brilliant demonstration as to what can be achieved when you set your mind to it. We took the opportunity to sing along, as he was accompanied by Mr. Gregory on the piano and Mr. Bullock on the guitar. A HUGE thankyou to Steve for his immense inspiration today.



It was Parents' Evening this week. Thankyou to everyone who attended. I always found these experiences very uplifting and I know the children always loved sharing their learning with their families.

Palm Class produced a brilliant assembly on Wednesday—recalling and reciting the poem 'The Highwayman' with real clarity and pace. The song they sang was hauntingly mellifluous! Thankyou to Mrs. Morgan, Miss Cakir, and most importantly the children, for putting on a superb performance. Did you know that in the 18th Century, Shooters Hill (in Eltham) was the haunt of highwaymen? It is said that the highwaymen gave the hill its name. However, seeing as the name 'Shooter's Hill' was first recorded in 1226—long before highwaymen came on to the scene—it is questionable as to whether this is true. Is there any chance the historians in Year 5 can verify this for me?



Dates for your Diary

HALF TERM BREAK

12th— 16th February

Children Return on Monday 19th February

Monday 19th February

Beech class (FS2) Vision screening

Wednesday 21st February

Doctor Bike Day

Wednesday 28th February

Year 3 start swimming

Wednesday 6th March

Elm Class assembly

Thursday 7th March

World Book day

Wednesday 15th March

Maple Class assembly

Thursday 21st - 28th march

Traveling Book fair at Alderwood School

Thursday 28th March

Last day of Term

Easter Holidays

Friday 29th March - Friday 12th April

Children return to on Monday 15th April

Friday 19th April

**FS2 Looking after your teeth
workshop**

Just a few little reminders...

- Please do remember to avoid parking on the zig zag lines by both entrances to the school. This ensures everyone's safety.
- Also, if your child would like to change their meal plan for next half-term, please do remember to call the School Office .

To support their learning in Geography this term, Elm Class visited Tower Bridge. What a trip it was! They explored the mechanics inside and couldn't contain their excitement when they saw a glass floor! Thank you to the parents who volunteered to help and supported Miss Shayler on the day. Here's a few of their highlights...



Earlier in the week, we reflected upon our own handwriting journeys, during our Monday assembly. Today, the prevalence of digital devices has increased. However, research suggests that handwriting can enhance learning and memory retention and promote faster processing of information by the brain. It can also improve concentration! We're all working really hard to improve our own handwriting in school this term, but if you'd like to know how you can support at home, check out this guide, as it aligns with our approach in school. Practise is key!

[Nelson guide for parents - Oxford Owl for Home](#)

By the way, I wonder if you managed to spot my mistake last week? (I wrote 'cueing' instead of 'queuing'). At Alderwood, we actually talk a lot about mistakes—how they provide us with opportunities to learn. If you're interested, have a read of this...

[How mistakes help you learn | Cambridge English](#)

Whatever you get up to over half-term, I hope it is both restful and fun! I'll look forward to seeing you all again after the break! Very best wishes,

Mr Guy

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