

Trust Academy Review

One of the benefits of being part of a trust is having a closer level of scrutiny and ongoing support. This half term, the Academy has received its annual whole-school audit, whereby, three senior educational leaders from the Executive Leadership Team within the trust, spend the day quality-assuring the key practices within the school: the education, behaviour, safeguarding, attendance, special needs provision etc.

Your children may have mentioned some additional visitors who sat through their lessons, looked through their work or spoke with them about the Academy. We are proud to say that the outcomes of the visit were hugely positive and validated our own opinion that we provide a consistently, great education for all of our pupils.

Here are just some of the highlights from the report:

- 'Breakfast club was well attended by a large number of children. They were able to participate in fun activities and games or just sit and talk. This then transits well into sensory circuits, which is well attended by pupils...'
- 'In every single class, without exception, work was available and ready for children to engage in'... 'either recapping on yesterday's work or consolidating new learning. Teachers and other staff were available to help if children needed it.'
- 'Pupils are safe and well cared for at Upwell Academy because the academy places a high priority on the safeguarding and care of children.'
- '...Teaching practice within EYFS demonstrates an excellent commitment to nurturing a rich learning environment for children... robust strategies employed create a dynamic and engaging learning atmosphere that caters well to all children, including those with SEND, ensuring that each child can thrive and develop their unique skills.'
- Across school... 'The engaging environment was enhanced with fantastic resources that promoted a love of reading, as evidenced by the availability of books in various areas of the setting, drawing children into the joy of literature.'
- 'The Pupil Leadership Team (PLT) expressed pride in their roles, which are assigned through a democratic voting process. They clearly linked this process to the concept of democracy.'
- 'Ks2 Pupils reported good behaviour during breaktimes, noting that the introduction of new equipment such as Connect 4, skipping ropes, and tuff trays... They described behaviour in class and assemblies as good. KS1 Pupils described their breaktimes as enjoyable and felt safe during these periods.'
- 'Pupils discussed their reading experiences, starting with the Big Cats scheme and progressing to free reading. They described daily reading lessons, which involve exploring class books and answering comprehension questions. Pupils expressed enjoyment of these lessons.'

Key Dates for your diary

11.2.24
Safer Internet Day

13.2.25
Y3 Crafty Cuppa
2-3pm (Parents
Invited)

14.2.25
Valentines Non-
uniform Day

24.2.25
Children return
to school



Year 3 Pizza Hut

As part of Year 3 DT Food Technology, they have been exploring pizzas, discovering what a variety of toppings and bases look like, taste like and feel like. They had the challenge of designing and making their pizza to meet a design brief.

As part of the topic, children had the opportunity to visit an actual pizza restaurant where they learnt some cooking basics before the Pizzaiolo (pizza chef) showed them how to make a famous, Italian classic: the margherita. They had a lively morning learning about good food, tasting fresh ingredients and making an authentic pizza. If the smiles on their faces were anything to go by, I'd say the visit was a huge success!

Thank you to Pizza Express in King's Lynn for a very informative and enjoyable visit and to the Upwell Team for organising the trip. More photos to follow on our website.



EYFS – Chinese New Year Celebrations

Celebrating Chinese New Year in Cygnet Class has been an exciting experience! Our home corner has transformed into a Chinese takeaway, where the children have been integrating writing by taking customer orders. They have also been practicing Chinese letter formation in glittery sand and using chopsticks to pick up objects, developing their fine motor skills.

As part of our creative activities, we have been making dragons using 2D shapes, performing traditional dragon dances, and even creating a life-sized dragon together. It has been a fantastic, immersive way to explore this vibrant celebration!



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Year 6 Parent Workshop

This week Mrs Marsters held a parent/carers KS2 SATs Workshop for parents and carers to support their child through the Year 6 SATs assessment process.

Please visit our website to view the PowerPoint presentation which was shared during this meeting, along with some resources.

Key stage 2 tests

The statutory [key stage 2 tests](#) are timetabled from Monday 12 May to Thursday 15 May 2025:

Date	Activity
Monday 12 May 2025	English grammar, punctuation and spelling papers 1 and 2
Tuesday 13 May 2025	English reading
Wednesday 14 May 2025	Mathematics papers 1 and 2
Thursday 15 May 2025	Mathematics paper 3

Number Day 2025 - Mathematics Professions!



Mrs Marsters, our Mathematics Lead at Upwell led an excellent maths themed day which parents and children were able to enjoy. The day started with our Subject Showcase, welcoming our family members to visit maths lessons across all year groups to showcase maths mastery lessons and clear progression as the children move through the school. This was followed by a special assembly where staff represented different professions and children were asked to explore the maths involved for each role. We know you will all agree it was an excellent day all round. Thank you for joining us!

Year 3: Today Year 3 have been bakers! They have explored using measurements, money including finance and working to a budget. This linked very nicely with their visit to Pizza Express this week. They were tasked with a role play exercise where they were shop keepers and customers and had to consider the maths involved and work strategically to problem solve. We also had a times table competition where the children worked together to work out answers to a game show type quiz. A fantastic day of maths.



EYFS: Number Day in Cygnet Class was absolutely awesome! We continued our Chinese New Year topic and integrated numbers into our learning by creating 2D shape dragons.

In music, we have been exploring *The Teddy Bears' Picnic*, so we incorporated maths into our activities by sharing equal amounts of food. We discussed who had more, who had fewer, and why it is fair to share equally. It was a fantastic way to combine storytelling, music, and maths in a fun and meaningful way!

We also enjoyed reading *Spinderella* along with many other wonderful stories that integrated maths into our learning. These stories helped us explore numbers in an engaging and exciting way, making maths even more fun!

The children also loved hearing all about Miss Stacey as a **police officer** and how maths is integrated within her profession. Well-done Cygnets!



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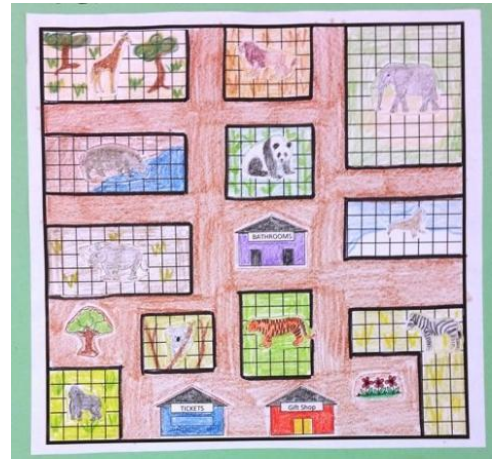
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Year 2 and Year 4 had the responsibility of being zookeepers with Year 4 having the added role of managing a zoo! Our children had to work with data, area, perimeter, & number, and use & apply all of those to being creative, designing a zoo with as many different animals as possible (housed in sufficient space to meet varying criteria), with pedestrian access to all enclosures but no wasted space. They worked well together and were very creative in their designs!



Year 6: RAF Officer. Year 6 children discovered the RAF started with very basic planes, equipment and uniforms. They learnt how aircraft has changed shape through time, as we learned more about flying and as aircraft had different jobs as time moved on, they changed their shape so they could fly faster or higher. They designed their own aircraft using the ideas and shapes, taking careful consideration of symmetry and the shapes of the wings. They then launched their aircrafts exploring distance and speed!

Year 1 were Artists: We had a fantastic day in Year one celebrating maths and learning about how it is used in lots of different professions. In particular, we explored how artists use maths to make their creations. We started the day learning about repeating patterns and identifying different points of repetition. The children were able to identify lots of ways a pattern can be repeating for example colour, shape or size. They had lots of fun extending patterns and creating their own.



After lunch, we put out skills to the test and made our very own stained-glass windows. To do this we had to halve our paper learnt that means to spilt it into two equal parts. We then made repeating patterns using 2d shapes along the folds. Some of us even chose to make their colour choices a repeating pattern to. They looked amazing! We have some very talented artists and mathematicians here in year 1!



Year 5: took on the role of Structural Engineers has been so much fun in Year 5 today. Our children were tasked to build a bridge a specific length wide to support as much weight as possible. They had limited resources and first had to investigate different shapes to find out which will be better at absorbing load. They also worked on teamwork and strategy skills as essential to the role. The class were exceptional!

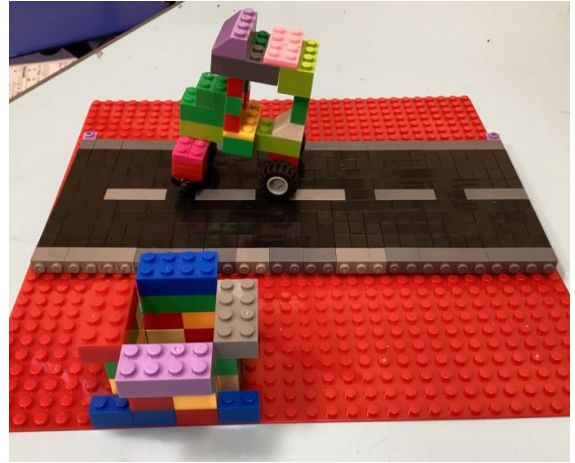


Kids with Bricks

This week our build was 'rickshaws' from India., under the theme of transport from around the world.

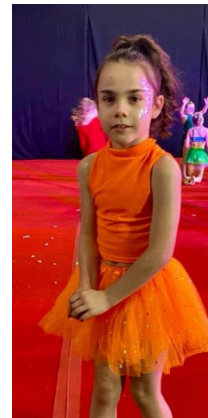
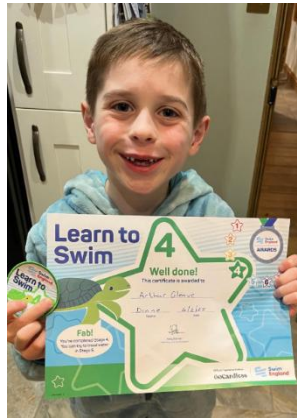
The winners this week were our trio of Year 4 pupils – Henry, Anthony and Leo! Well done boys!

Another smashing week for all of our builders. Please remember to vote for them on the kids with bricks website: <https://www.kidswithbricks.com/voting-page>



Out of School Success!

Let's celebrate your achievements out of school! Upload to your portfolio and you could see them here next week.



Learning Highlights of the Week

Reception: Cygnet Class

This week, Cygnet Class has been exploring the traditions of Chinese New Year. We read *The Great Race* and re-enacted the story, bringing the characters to life. The children have also started creating a huge dragon using their handprints. In maths, we have been learning about greater than and fewer than, developing our understanding through fun and engaging activities. To end the week, we had a fantastic Teddy Bears' Picnic, where we practiced sharing equal amounts. It was a wonderful way to reinforce our learning while having lots of fun!

Year 1: Waterlily Class

Year 1 have had a fantastic week! From exploring the new EYFS outdoor area as inspiration for a diary entry to creating beautiful stained-glass windows, the children have really shown their creative talents. I am very excited to see what they create next week in art for their final piece of the half term! The children have started to form some lovely ideas for their diary entries that they will be writing next week. They have been learning lots about the structure, features and presentation of a diary entry and are very excited to have a go. I really look forward to seeing the final result!

Year 2: Otter Class

Wow, what a busy week! This week we have enjoyed learning about the features of non-chronological reports, ready to write our reports on nocturnal animals. On Thursday, we got the opportunity to take part in a live storytelling workshop led by the author Joseph Coelho, who spoke about his book *Our Tower* and took us on a journey around a magical world. On Friday, we designed our own magical world. Friday was also Number Day, we were Zookeepers for



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the morning. We have to calculate the number of animals we had in each enclosure, share out food and design our own zoo. Next week, we are looking forward to finishing our Science topic, this half term we have learnt all about electricity.

Year 3: Swan Class

We have had a very busy week in Year 3 with some great learning and an enrichment trip to Pizza Express! We have completed some great learning in class this week with children exploring Ancient Egyptian Art, recreating a Sphynx using modelling dough. In Maths

Year 4: Dragonfly Class

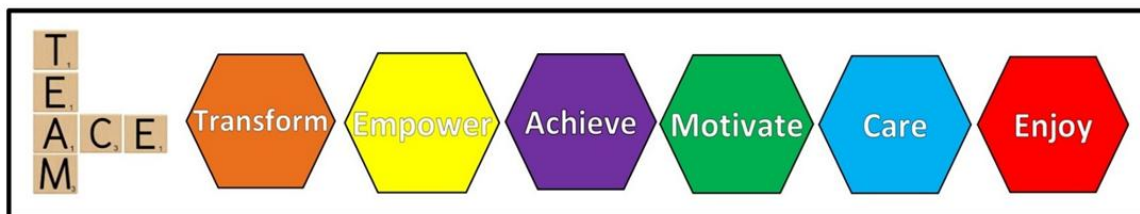
A busy week in year 4 with lots of assessments to complete! We have also had lots of fun with National Storytelling Week and NSPCC's Number Day. We used image prompts to inspire our imagination and create our own stories on Thursday. On Friday we became business managers, specifically for a zoo. We looked at area when designing our zoo enclosures and explored budgeting efficiently to ensure our zoos could remain open!

Year 5: Willow Class

Willow Class enjoyed taking part in National Storytelling week and had lots of fun celebrating NSPCC's Number Day. We have been spending time honing our retrieval and inference skills by using different texts. On Friday we became structural engineers and designed bridges out of pencils and elastic bands. We then placed different weights on these bridges to see who had designed the most effective structure to hold the heaviest weight. Exciting times.

Year 6: Kingfisher Class

Kingfisher Class have really enjoyed learning about electricity this half term in science as was demonstrated this week whilst they made their circuit bugs. There was a true buzz of excitement as they considered how they resources would need to be put together to create a full circuit and their LED bulb to light. The class also thought carefully about the decoration of their bug. We look forward to applying this knowledge in their final designing and making task next week.



Our 'Date for your Diary' will be added to each week and can also be found on the [Academy Calendar](#) page of our website.

Updates



Spring Term 2025	
11th February	Safer Internet Day
13th February	Year 3 Crafty Cuppa Parents invited 2pm – 3pm
14th February	FOSA Valentines Non-Uniform Day
17th – 23rd February	Half-Term
24th February	Children return to school



28 th February	Reading subject Showcase (parents invited 9-10am)
1 st March	Saturday Morning Library Hour 9-10am
3 rd –8 th March	National Careers Week Year 5 & 6
7 th March	FOSA Preloved Book Fayre
10 th March	Y3/4 Bee Netball Festival
24 th – 27 th February	Year 5 & 6 Bikeability
14 th – 22 nd March	British Science Week – STEM Week
6 th March	World Book Day: Dress as your favourite book character & Best Dressed Competition! +Author Visit (tbc) & Aspens Special Lunch
10 th March	Tempest Whole Class Photos
14 th March	Reception class Vision & Hearing Tests
21 st March	Comic Relief – wear a comic relief or red accessory
21 st March	Planetarium Visit YR, Y2, Y5
24 th March	Parents' Evening & Aspens Taster Menu (Bookable on Pupil Asset)
25 th March	Parents' Evening & Aspens Taster Menu (Bookable on Pupil Asset)
25 th March	Year 2 Dance Festival – Corn Exchange King's Lynn
27 th March	Year 5 Young Sports Leaders Interviews
27 th March	FOSA Easter Disco & Colour Run raffle donations in
27 th March	Easter Assembly
28 th March	EYFS Farm Trip
4 th April	Downham Cluster Football Tournament
4 th April	FOSA Chocolate Tombola
4 th April	Term Ends – Easter Holiday 5 th April –22 nd April
Summer Term	
22 nd April	Staff Inset
23 rd April	Children return to school
22 nd April	Earth Day – Energy Sparks Assembly
26 th April	Saturday Morning Library Hour 9-10am
30 th April	Y6 Crucial Crew visit
2 nd May	Harry Potter Writing Day
12 th May	Key Stage 2, Yr 6 SATS Week
TBC	Year 4 Oliver Cromwell House Trip
15 th May	Aspens 'Out of this World' Special Lunch
16 th May	FOSA Colour Run & Rainbow Raffle!
22 nd May	Year 6 Parents Meeting – Residential 3:30 – 4:15pm
19 th May	Potential RNLI Assembly to KS2
25 th – 1 st June	Half-Term
2 nd June	Children return to school
TBC	Year 3 Houghton Hall
5 th June	Mini Tennis Lynnsport
9 th June	Year 1 Phonics & Times Tables check
14 th June	Saturday Morning Library Hour 9-10am
19 th June	Aspens 'Dive into the Deep Blue' Special Lunch
23 rd June	School Sports Partnership Quadkids Athletics



27 th June	Year 6 Afterschool Leavers' Event
30 th June – 2 nd July	Year 6 Residential Claythorpe Court
1 st July	Downham Cluster Area Sports
7 th - 11 th July	Sport Week
9 th July	Whole School Sports Day (weather permitting)
10 th July	Mini Tennis event Lynnsport
15 th July	Reserve Sports Day
10 th July	FOSA End of Year Disco
14 th July	Transition Week - Move up Assembly 14 th July 9am
17 th July	Aspens 'The Big Picnic' Special Lunch
17 th July	New Class Teacher Parent Workshop 3:20-3:50pm
21 st July	Year 6 Leavers Assembly 2pm
22 nd July	Pupil Leadership Team Speeches and Polling Station
22 nd July	Term ends



World Book day
Pre-loved book sale
7th MARCH 2025
after school in the Hall

All donations very much welcomed and appreciated ahead of the event.
Please leave donations in the box located in reception.

The poster features a colorful illustration of three children reading books, a stack of books, and a butterfly. The FOSA logo is in the top right corner.

VALENTINES NON UNIFORM DAY

COME TO SCHOOL IN YOUR OWN CLOTHES AND DONATE SOME CHOCOLATE FOR OUR UPCOMING EASTER TOMBOLA! COLLECTION AT SCHOOL GATES!

FRIDAY 14TH FEBRUARY



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BIKEABILITY is

COMING

We're buzzing for Bikeability
Year 5 & 6 Course
24th February



Norfolk's Wonderdome
21st March

Year 5, Year 2, Reception
Planetarium Visit



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