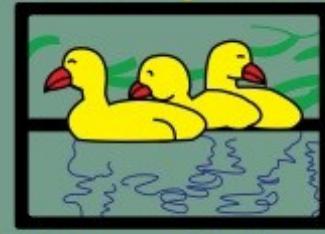


Fleckney CE Newsletter



Headteacher update

It's been a wonderful start to the year here at Fleckney Primary School! I'm pleased to report that our children are focused, motivated, and thriving in their lessons. We officially reached the '50% day' on the 27th of January, marking the halfway point of the academic year - and what a busy, successful term it has been!

Our new after-school clubs, which began in January, have been a huge hit, with a club running every evening. It's fantastic to see so many children taking the opportunity to explore new interests and develop new skills.

A special highlight this term was Year 4's residential trip to Edale. The children were a credit to the school, exhibiting excellent behaviour throughout the trip. I would like to extend a huge thank you to Mrs. Galpin, Mr. Pullen, Mrs. Gibson, Miss Pearson, Miss Freeman, Miss Battersby, and Mrs. Larvor for dedicating their time and supporting the children on this fantastic adventure. Without the staff giving up their time, this fantastic opportunity for our children would not happen.

I also had the pleasure of accompanying some of our students to the Cross Country event last week. The children displayed great sportsmanship, and I am thrilled to announce that four of our runners have qualified for the County Championship!

A big thank you to all who attended our Parents' Evening in January - with an impressive 95.1% attendance. It's always so important to come together to discuss your child's progress and how we can continue to support them at home and at school.

We also welcomed our school governors this term, who took a closer look at our Maths curriculum. They were incredibly impressed with the children's engagement and participation in their lessons, and it's clear that we are making great strides in achieving our goals as a school.

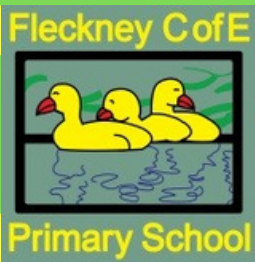
Have a great half-term and we look forward to seeing you
on Monday 24th!

Mr Richards



Spring 1 edition

Spaces Available



Fleckney CE Primary School



Calling all parents seeking an extraordinary educational experience for their child. Look no further than our exceptional school!

Spaces in most year groups!

Enquires below...

To book a tour or enquire about school places contact the school office

0116 240 2288

fleckneyprimary@fleckney.leics.sch.uk

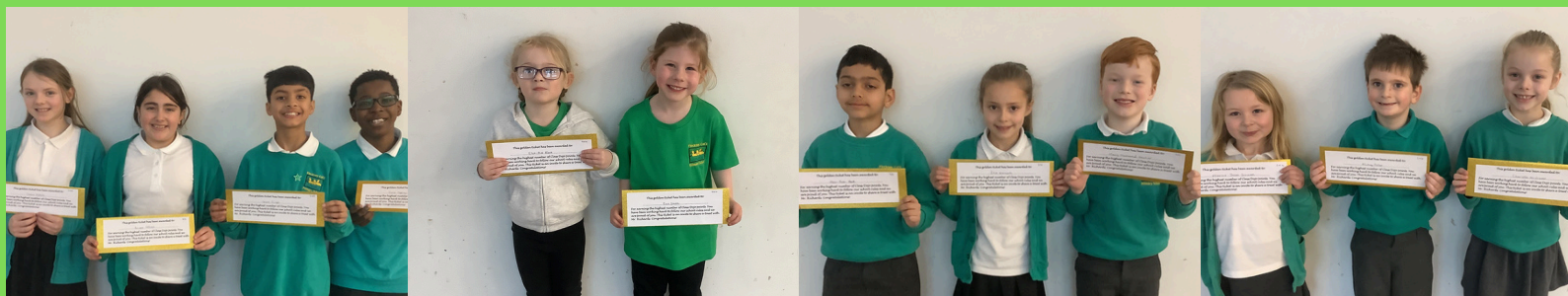


Dojo Termly Winners

As we reach the end of this half term, we want to take a moment to celebrate the fantastic efforts of all our children in earning positive Dojo points. It has been wonderful to see pupils working hard both inside and outside the classroom, demonstrating dedication to their learning and showing kindness to one another.

A huge well done to our Dojo reward point winners! With excellent attitudes towards lessons and a willingness to go over and above to help others – they have truly stood out. Whether it is supporting a friend, showing great teamwork, or putting extra effort into your work, these qualities have been noticed, are appreciated and valued – well done!

Looking ahead to next half term, we would love to see even more Dojo points being awarded for 'being ready', especially in Key Stage Two. This means taking responsibility for home learning tasks and showing independence in completing them. Responsibility is our Christian value for this half term and we would love to see this in action as we encourage all our pupils to take pride in managing their own learning both in the classroom and at home too. The new Dojo count has already begun, and we can't wait to see who will be recognised next! Keep up the fantastic work, everyone!



Kindness Cup

Kindness stands as a beacon of hope, reminding us that even the smallest act of compassion can create ripples of change and create a caring school.

It is our absolute pleasure to award the kindness cup this term to a young lady who brings so much joy, energy and warmth to our Fleckney school community. Lilia not only embraces kindness but makes it a part of her day to day life in school. Lilia shows us that kindness is not just a gesture—it is a force, a strength and a choice.

Lilia lifts the spirits of her peers and the adults around her; the impact is immeasurable.

Lilia has a way of making everyone feel welcome, valued, and respected. Whether it's a kind word to a friend, a helping hand to a classmate, or simply the warmth of a genuine smile, Lilia's kindness radiates throughout the classroom.

We are so proud of you, Lilia. Keep being you!



Reading @ Fleckney

The Buzz Around Reading for Pleasure – Our School is Thriving!

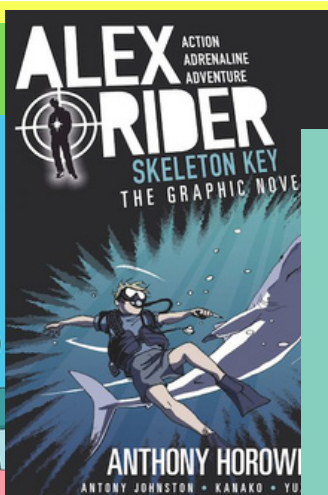
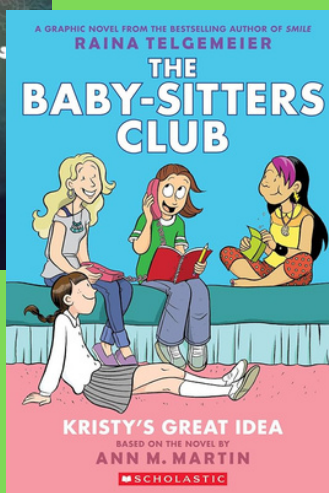
There's an exciting buzz around Fleckney at the moment, and it's all about reading for pleasure! It's wonderful to see so many children enjoying the fantastic new selection of books available at the bookcases outside Mr. Richards' office. These newly stocked shelves are brimming with top-quality books, including some brilliant additions to our collection of Graphic Novels – Amulet, Baby-Sitters Club, Alex Rider, and many more! Whether it's comics, adventures, or mysteries, there's something for everyone to dive into. The school has invested over £700 so far in these books, including a generous donation of £100 from local business Fiona Cairns Cakes.

The enthusiasm for reading is truly infectious, and it's fantastic to see so many children getting excited about books. This enthusiasm is especially important, as reading is such a valuable skill and a gateway to endless possibilities. To keep the momentum going, we've created an Amazon Wishlist for Fleckney, filled with a wide range of Graphic Novels that are perfect for readers of all ages. Take a look and see what gems you'd like to recommend next! <https://amzn.eu/2RtzlrB>

Our D.E.A.R Club (Drop Everything And Read) is also buzzing with over 30 children who take part every day at lunchtime. It's wonderful to see children dedicating time each day to enjoy a good book in a relaxed, fun environment.

And there's more to come! Keep an eye out for the Fleckney Review – our new electronic flyer launching next term. This will be a webpage full of book recommendations for various age groups. The first edition will be available in April, so look forward to discovering even more exciting reads!

Keep reading and let your imagination soar!

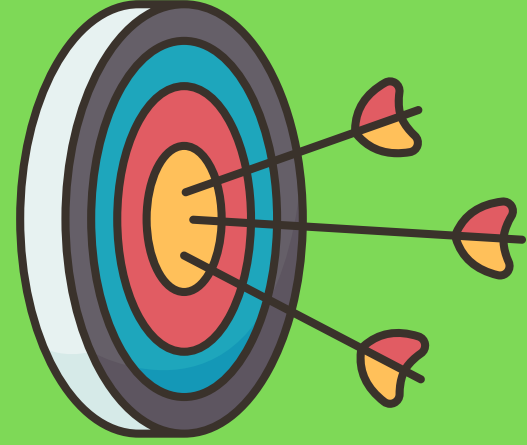


Clubs!

The after-school clubs at Fleckney continue to be a big hit, with excitement and enthusiasm filling the air each day! Our Archery, Chess, Programming, Film, and Draw with Rob clubs are all buzzing with activity, and it's been fantastic to see so many children engaging in such a wide variety of fun and educational activities. From perfecting their archery skills to learning coding and design in Programming, there's something for everyone. The Chess club has been growing in popularity, with students challenging themselves in strategic thinking, while the Film club is a great 'chill-out' club for children at the end of the week. Draw with Rob is also a favourite, where children can unleash their inner artists and explore their creativity.

The range of after-school clubs available here at Fleckney is truly amazing, offering children the chance to try new activities, develop new skills, and have lots of fun along the way.

Looking ahead to next term, we're excited to announce even more clubs for the Summer Term. Keep an eye out for details, as we have some fantastic options planned that will make the warmer months even more exciting for our pupils!



Outdoor Explorers



We're excited to announce the launch of our new Outdoor Explorers club for children on Mondays throughout March! Led by the wonderful Mrs. Warburton, who has already shared her passion for nature and adventure with our school this year, this club offers a unique opportunity for children to connect with the outdoors and explore nature through fun, hands-on activities.

Children in Foundation Stage (FS) and Key Stage 1 (KS1) can join from 3:15 PM to 4:15 PM, and children in Key Stage 2 (KS2) are invited from 4:30 PM to 5:30 PM. Each session will include exciting outdoor activities such as bug searching, making mud pies, gardening, building campfires, and many other adventurous tasks.

This club promises to be a fantastic way for children to develop teamwork, creativity, and a love for the natural world. Don't miss out - spaces are limited, so be sure to book through Mrs. Warburton's website at www.outdoor-explorers.co.uk to secure your child's spot!

For more details, please refer to the information sent out. We can't wait to see your little explorers outside!

Adventure awaits - join us for an unforgettable outdoor experience!

Foundation Stage

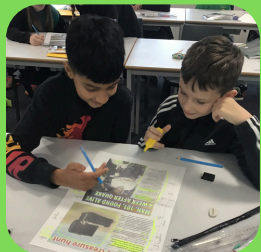
This term Foundation Stage have been busy learning about hot and cold places around the world. We have used a globe, google earth and maps to look at these places. We enjoyed exploring the cold through our ice experiments, talking about melting & freezing. We used the small world figures, looking at North & South pole animals. We had an igloo to read books about cold places.

When we went to a hot place, we travelled in our class jeep safari, wearing costumes, using binoculars and a compass to find our way. We enjoyed having lots of discussion about what we saw!

We have also celebrated "Chinese New Year" by using chopsticks, making Chinese lanterns, folding a Chinese dragon, writing Chinese and eating noodles!



Year 6

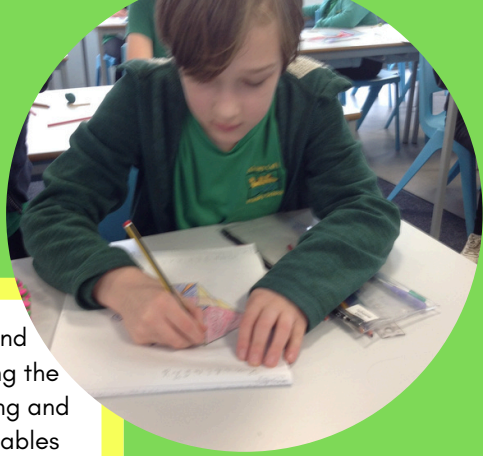


We have been very busy in year 6 since coming back from the Christmas holidays. In English, the children have been writing flashback stories based on the events that happened at Dunkirk in 1940. The children wrote some brilliant, emotive and thought-provoking pieces. We have also been looking at the skills needed for journalism and have been writing a newspaper article about plastic waste. During maths lessons, we have been focusing on algebra and decimals. The children have all shown great perseverance and determination in these topics. In Science, we have been studying light and thinking about how it travels, how shadows are formed and how light can be split using a prism. We have had lots of fun with the practical activities in this topic. In History, we have been learning all about the Chinese Shang Dynasty and this has influenced our Art lessons where we have been designing our own dragon eyes. The children have used lots of different techniques to try to make them look more realistic. This half-term has also been our practice SATs week in year 6. All the children worked incredibly hard and we are really proud of the progress they have made. Well done!

Year 5

In year five, we have been busy in maths developing our skills in multiplication and division. We have multiplied three digit numbers by two digit numbers (remembering the 'magic zero' on the second line. We have also practised short division and multiplying and dividing numbers by 10, 100 and 1000. Remember that it is important to use Times Tables Rock Stars each week for homework, so that we can rapidly recall multiplication tables questions. In English, the children have really enjoyed studying Kensuke's Kingdom, following Michael's adventures on a desert island. They have written character profiles, diary entries and their own ending to the story. It has been lovely to see their enthusiasm to find out more about the story. In science, we are investigating the properties of materials, testing them for electrical conductivity and transparency. The children enjoyed investigating which cup was the most effective thermal insulator. We used five cups made of different materials and measured the temperature of the water within them to see which had the warmest water after twenty minutes. The result was not what most of them expected. In computing, we have been exploring word processing and spreadsheets. Our RE unit this term is all about Judaism. Our art topic is focusing upon the abstract artwork of Kandinsky. The children are learning to represent feelings and music with colour and shape. Super creativity.

We are looking forward to the Year Five residential visit to Aylmerton in April. It is a lovely centre, set in woodland on the edge of the Felbrigg Hall estate. Apart from bringing the usual things, children will need a pair of normal length (approx. 30cm) wellies for our river study day. Each child will also need to bring a pillowcase and single duvet cover (all other bedding is provided). We will send a kit list out nearer the time.



Year 2



This half term we have been busy learning all about colours in our art lessons! We created a colour wheel which included all of the primary colours and started colour mixing to make secondary colours. We have also been looking at gradients of colours and what happens to a chosen colour when we add more and more white or more and more black.

On Wednesday 29th January, we celebrated Chinese New Year.

We learnt all about the 12 years of the zodiac and read The Great Race story. We found out what Zodiac animal represents our birth year and, as it is the Year of the Snake, we designed and made our own paper chain snakes. During our indoor PE lesson, Amelia Drummond-Harris taught us a dance related to Chinese New Year where we used a piece of material to create a dragon.

Our class reader this half term has been Fantastic Mr Fox by Roald Dahl. On Friday 31st January we enjoyed watching the Fantastic Mr Fox film and comparing it to the book. We even had a delicious biscuit treat!

Sport @ Fleckney



On Tuesday 14th January, six children from year five and six travelled to Robert Smyth Academy to take part in a Basketball tournament against teams from other local schools. The team really worked together effectively and each person made a positive contribution. They made good use of space, communicated effectively and encouraged each other throughout. Each game was very closely fought with the scores being separated by just one basket. They won, lost and drew games but the last game against Little Bowden was particularly exciting. We finally finished fourth out of six closely matched teams. Well done to all who took part.

In school, football training has resumed, in preparation for our forthcoming matches. Our playground leaders have been doing a super job at lunchtimes, leading games with the younger year groups.

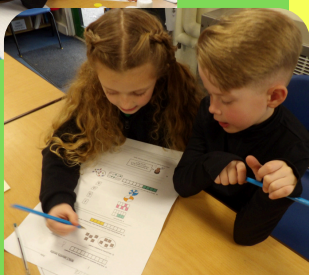
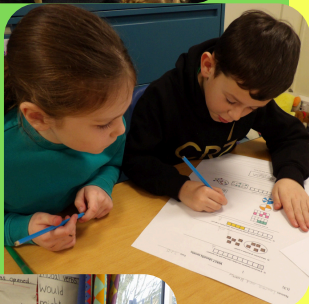
Our sporting ambassadors have had their second training session to go to and 12 children represented the school in cross-country last week at Harborough Town FC - the children were brilliant and we had some excellent placings.

Our school sports partnership encourages children to travel to school in an active way. For example walking or scootering. The council's Active Travel team organised a school banner competition for schools across the county. Children had to design a banner which would encourage the children to walk or scooter to school. We received many entries and the active travel team had a difficult job in selecting just one but in the end they selected the one created by India J.

A member of the Active Travel team came in to assembly to do the big reveal. It was lovely to see how happy India was and how well the other children applauded her super work. Well done! The banner has been put up in a prominent place for all to see.



Year 3

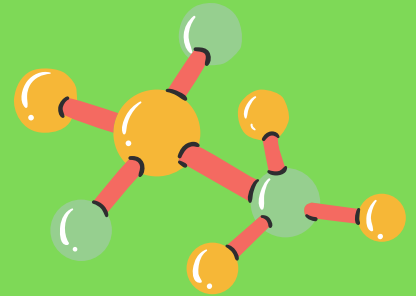


Our Year 3 children have excelled themselves in many areas and we are very proud of their achievements.

Our English units are themed 'Heritage and Belonging' this half term and we have been reading some wonderful books and writing our own short stories based on a Japanese fable. In maths, we have been dividing using the 'bus stop' method and have started studying fractions. We've been doing some exciting work with plants in science and are looking forward to a day trip to Leicester Botanic Gardens next term to consolidate this work. Following on from our Stone Age topic last term, we are now looking at the changes that humans made during the Bronze Age - ask your child how bronze is made; you'll be impressed! Our RE lessons have included finding out about what festivals are celebrated in the Islamic faith and why these are important to Muslims. 3RF has really enjoyed the swimming lessons this half term; it has been a joy to see the progress many of the children have made in such a short time. 3JS is looking forward to starting their lessons after the half term.

We have all thoroughly enjoyed this half term and can't wait for all we have in store after the break.

2025 STEM Conference



We had another fantastic time at the annual STEM Conference on Saturday 1st February. Almost 200 children from 8 different primary schools across the Market Harborough STEM Partnership took part in the day. We enjoyed some amazing demonstrations by Kerry from Super Scientists to get us excited about science and then took part in various workshops: from making cars that would protect eggs in a crash, shooting 'peas' across the classroom and making Ooblek to using Bunsen burners, investigating bubbles and making boats! We finished off by learning some inspiring facts about space! Phew! We could have done with another day in the weekend to recover! We're now looking forward to doing it all again next year!



Edale



Fun, excitement, teamwork, resilience and confidence! This is exactly what Edale is all about! 54 children ventured to the Peak District for 3 days to be outdoors and with nature. An amazing experience was had by all! The trip consisted of off-site activities - weaselling and abseiling. Both activities were challenging and nerve wracking; we were so proud of the children's determination and 'gumption' which they showed. On the first evening, we all ventured outside in the dark for a night hike. WOW! Other activities consisted of crate-stacking and exploring the grounds of the youth hostel.

Overall, it was a very busy and wonderful trip. The children were a joy to take and we hope they have taken away some great memories of their time in Edale.



Celebrating excellent attendance

We are delighted to share that our school's attendance for the year stands at an impressive 95.3%, surpassing the national average! This achievement is a testament to the dedication of our students and the support of our families.

Regular school attendance plays a crucial role in both academic success and social development. Each day in the classroom provides opportunities for our students to engage in learning, build essential skills, and grow intellectually. Consistent attendance also helps foster strong friendships and a sense of community, enhancing social skills and emotional well-being.

We would like to thank all our students and families for making attendance a priority and for contributing to the vibrant and supportive environment here at Fleckney. Keep up the fantastic work - every day counts!



Spring Term Podium

Attendance League Tables

Overall

1. Year 1	- 95.9%
T2. Year 2	- 95.6%
T2. Year 3	- 95.6%
T4. Year 6	- 95.4%
T4. Year 5	- 95.4%
6. Year 4	- 95.0%
7. Year FS	- 94.3%

Persistent Absence

1. Year 6	- 8.0%
2. Year 3	- 8.1%
3. Year 2	- 9.0%
4. Year 4	- 10.4%
5. Year 5	- 11.4%
6. Year 1	- 13.0%
7. Year FS	- 15.2%

(% of children less than 90% attendance, national is 15.2%)

Year 1

We have had a super half term of learning and fun in Year 1. Children have loved learning all about the 'Colours of Nature' in our Art topic. They have created wonderful pieces of Art, based on birds, using collage, mosaic and paint. We have enjoyed more practical maths when learning to measure length and to tell the time. In English, we have written many stories based on exciting texts we have read, such as, 'If I had a Gryphon', 'The Weather Monster' and 'Yeti and the Bird'. We have learnt about other religions and their faith communities in R.E and we had a lovely trip to the Fleckney Baptist Church. Children have loved practising their ball skills and incorporating these into games during outdoor P.E.

Most recently, children engaged in our History days, learning all about the 1960s through toys. They had the opportunity to explore old toys and compare how toys have changed over the years and how some toys have been relaunched and modernised. Children couldn't believe the advances in technology over the years and how these have impacted on the toys they now have today. The children enjoyed sharing their favourite toys from home and enjoying them with their friends.



Year 4

The Year 4 children have been exploring the theme of 'Animals - Real and Mythical' in English - focussing upon: 'The Rainbow Bear by Michael Morpurgo; Zoo by Anthony Browne and then looking at the debate about whether zoos should exist or not. Children then studied the animation, 'The Dragon Slayer' and explored the themes through carrying out a P4C enquiry (Philosophy for Children).

In Art, the children have been looking at Patterns in Nature, looking closely at the natural world and the patterns within it. The children have looked at artists who use collage to create images, combining these two elements to create a collage of their own.

During Science, the children have been looking at solids, liquids and gases with a focus of writing up and conducting a scientific experiment. However, for many of the children, their focus (and excitement) has been preparing for our residential to Edale!



Collective Worship

Our Collective Worship sessions at Fleckney continue to inspire and engage our students, all while focusing on our school vision of "Let your Light Shine" from Matthew 5:16. It's been wonderful to see how this theme resonates in the lives of our children, encouraging them to reflect the light of kindness, respect, and faith in all they do.

Throughout this term, we've been amazed by the children's knowledge of Bible scripture and the deeper meanings behind Jesus' teachings. Every Monday, Mr. Richards leads a retrieval quiz where all children, from Foundation Stage to Year 6, come together to test their understanding. The children's responses have been exceptional, showing just how much they've absorbed and internalised from these sessions.

We've explored some meaningful Bible stories this term, such as the Epiphany, where we learned about the three wise men's determination to travel to see the newborn King. Their journey teaches us the importance of perseverance, even in the face of difficulty. We also delved into the festival of Candlemas, reflecting on the moment when Mary and Joseph presented Jesus to Simeon, who had been waiting for the light of the world to come. It was a beautiful reminder of the significance of Jesus as the guiding light in our lives.

This term, we have also focused on the Christian value of Responsibility. We've discussed how important it is to take responsibility for our words, actions, and belongings, encouraging each child to think about their role in the community. The yellow Christian Value Star will be awarded to those who have demonstrated outstanding responsibility, and the first star will be given out on the Tuesday after half-term. It's been a truly reflective and inspiring term in Collective Worship, and we're looking forward to seeing how the children continue to let their light shine in the weeks ahead.



Diary Dates and Term Dates

Spring half-term:

Mon 17th Feb - Fri 21st Feb

School closes for Easter:

Friday 11th April

Summer term starts:

Monday 28th April

May day bank holiday:

Monday 5th May

Summer half-term:

Mon 26th May - Fri 30th May

School closes for summer:

Tuesday 8th July (early 1:30 finish)

School Open for 2025-2026:

Tuesday 26th August

February half-term: *Monday 17th February - Friday 21st February*

Yr 5/6 dodgeball @ RSA: *Thursday 27th February*

FSA meeting via zoom: *Friday 28th February*

Yr 5/6 Football @ Harborough Town FC: *Tuesday 4th March*

World Book day: *Thursday 6th March*

FS - Yr4 Girls Football Workshops: *Friday 7th March*

Yr 5/6 Girls Football @ Harborough Town: *Tuesday 11th March*

Yr 6 Dance Workshops: *Thursday 13th March*

Yr 5 Bikeability: *Monday 17th March - Friday 28th March*

FS carers assembly: *Wednesday 26th & Thursday 27th March*

Yr 3 Botanical Gardens trip: *Monday 31st March*

FSA disco: *Friday 4th April*

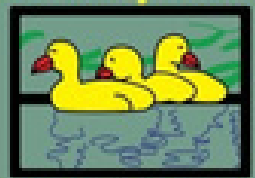
Easter church services: *Tuesday 8th April*

Yr5 Alymerton Residential: *Wednesday 9th April - Friday 11th April*

Holy Trinity Performance in school: *Thursday 10th April*

School closes for Easter Holidays: *Friday 11th April*

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