



Riverwalk School



SCHOOL *NEWS*

Message from Senior Leadership Team

Dear Parents, Carers and Guardians,

It has been a pleasure to welcome our students back following the Easter break. They have returned refreshed, settled, and ready to make the most of the final term of the academic year. There is a strong sense of focus and enthusiasm across the school, which is wonderful to see.

I am also delighted to share the continued success of our breakfast club. It has been embraced by a large number of students each day and is clearly making a positive difference to their start to the school day. We are incredibly grateful to those parents and carers who have contributed so generously to help sustain the club in its current form. Every penny truly does make a difference. While donations are not compulsory, they enable us to support all students, including those with more complex needs, ensuring everyone has access to a nutritious snack in the morning. This initiative also provides a valuable opportunity to promote healthy choices and encourage a balanced diet.

A reminder that our parent survey is currently open. We warmly welcome your feedback. Whether positive or constructive, your views are essential in helping us understand what we are doing well and where we can continue to improve. Your input plays a vital role in shaping the experience we provide for all our students.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support.

Kind regards,
Lukasz Rumanowski
Academy Head



Important dates for your diary

Riverwalk Careers Fair: Monday 18th and Tuesday 19th of May

PD day: Friday 22nd May

Half term: 25th to 29th May

Doorstep Theatre - Tuesday 16th and Wednesday 17th June to perform Seaside Snapshot





Family Support **NEWS**

As you know we have recently launched breakfast club. We would like to say a huge thank you to all the parents & carers that have made donations to support this initiative. Please see below some lovely pictures of the students enjoying their breakfast.



A big thank you to Mrs Holland, St Louis School in Newmarket and Our Lady and St Etheldreda RC Church for helping to raise £316.65 for the school by selling World Down's Syndrome Day badges.



Sensory Garden News

1st Bury St. Edmunds Mayors Own Scout Group helping to develop the sensory garden

Steph and Louise were delighted to welcome 1st Bury St. Edmunds Mayors Own Scout Group to school on Friday evening to help with developing our sensory garden. They were very enthusiastic and interested (asking lots of questions) in what we were doing and the communication, physical and sensory benefits our garden offers our students.

Fruit cage

The Scouts dug out the fruit cage removing large nettles. They took great care to save as many of the existing fruit plants as possible. They also painted the cage.

Willow arches

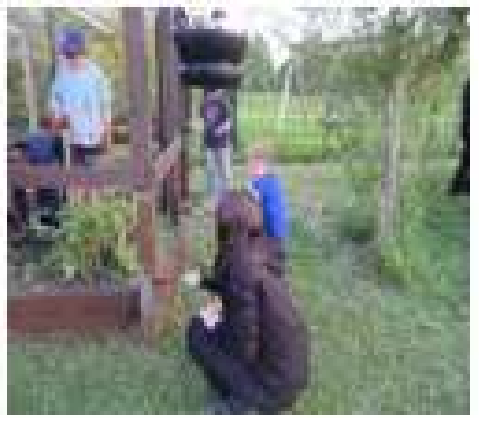
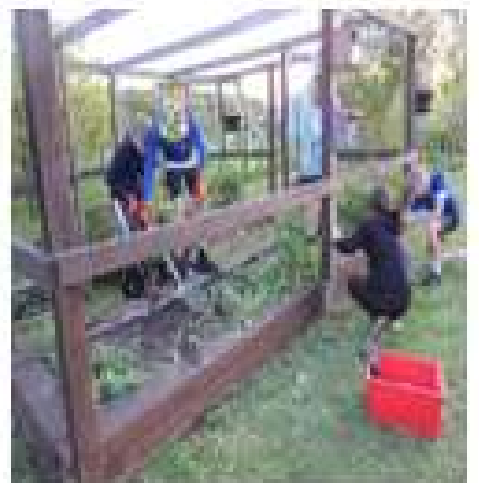
The Scouts cut this back our arches and used cable ties to form the arch.

Insect hotels

Recycled wheels have been used to make bug hotels, filling them with cut offs from the willow arch.

We would like to extend a huge thank you to Andrew Lambell (our Deputy Site Manager) who is the Leader of the Scout group for bringing his Scouts to help us. What fantastic community engagement between the School and the Scouting movement. We would also like to thank Martin Barnes-Smith (our Site Manager) and Matt Porter for coming along to support the Scouts. The Scout's visit to school will contribute towards them gaining their Community Badge.

Well done and thank you to everyone for your enthusiasm and hard work.





Bumblebee



NEWS

We've been very busy Bees! We've worked on our gross and fine motor skills, explored coastal environments (sometimes maybe getting a bit wet!) really enjoyed all the sensory sessions including messy play and art, and worked on our communication skills throughout the weeks with our peers and staff.

We're looking forward to our trips to Nowton Park with Bears, and we're loving the good weather here that's enabling us to use all the equipment and sensory areas outside.



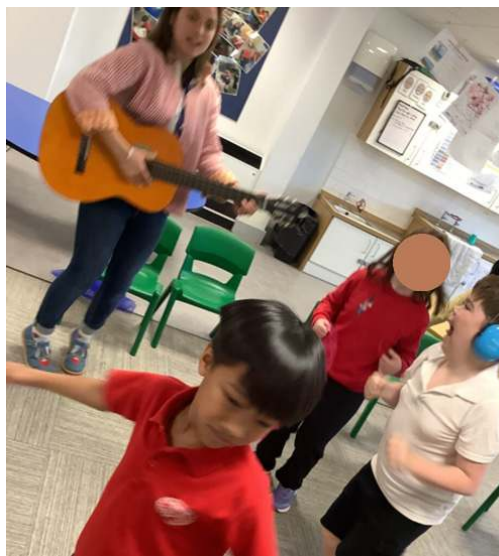


Butterflies NEWS

Butterflies have enjoyed using their senses to explore and engage.

We loved Animal World's exotic animals, learning how to touch them with gentle hands.

Lili gets us on our feet in Music Therapy, feeling the beat and joining in action songs. We have been busy with sensory activities related to our seaside topic, too. Well done, Butterflies!





Badgers



NEWS

Little Badgers have had a busy and exciting term exploring and learning together. We enjoyed visiting the trim trail to practise walking and balancing, as well as our Friday library sessions where the children chose and shared books with an adult. In messy play, the children explored wet sand by digging, squeezing, and pressing it, and they also enjoyed building towers, completing puzzles, and matching 2D shapes. In Arts, we have been singing the “Big Bugs, Small Bugs” song and creating colourful bug paintings — well done, Little Badgers!



As the weather gets warmer, could you please remember to send your child in with sun cream and a hat.
Thank you!



Giraffes



NEWS

This term, Giraffes Class has been enjoying a variety of exciting sensory experiences. We had a wonderful time during the visit from the petting zoo, where we explored and met lots of different animals. Everyone was very excited to interact with them.

Giraffes Class are looking forward to taking part in horse-riding sessions next half term. We had great fun riding and grooming the horses during the autumn term, and this will continue to be a fantastic hands-on sensory experience for everyone.

During our Science and Geography lessons, we explored both the classroom and outdoor environment using our senses. We enjoyed smelling flowers, watching the clouds, and touching trees, grass, and other natural materials while exploring the world around us.

We have also had lots of fun during messy play and seaside-themed activities. The children have loved using different textures and materials to develop their sensory exploration skills.

Giraffes Class have been exploring our new sensory story, 'Billy's Bucket'. We have enjoyed experiencing different sensory textures linked to the seaside theme, including edible sand, water play, shells, bubbles, and a variety of textured materials. Everyone is particularly enjoying the outdoor learning activities.

We have explored both coastal environments with sand and shells, as well as our local outdoor environment by collecting leaves, sticks, and other natural objects in the playground. As the weather becomes warmer, we will continue with more outdoor learning and water play activities.

Could we please ask for a set of spare clothes to be sent in for your child if you have not already done so.

Many thanks from the Giraffes Team





Kangaroos NEWS

Kangaroos have been enjoying a range of exciting sensory activities. We have been practicing rubbing techniques using different textures and painting our feet to create summer theme pieces of lovely art. We loved meeting and interacting with the animals during the petting zoo visit, and everyone was thrilled to take part. Yoga and story massage have now become part of our daily routine, helping us to relax, focus, and enjoy calm sensory experiences together.



A gentle reminder to please send your child in with sun cream as the weather is getting warmer. Thank you.

Kangaroos team :)



Owls



NEWS

Owls Class have been exploring our new Theme of Coastlines. We have experienced different textures of materials, listened to different sounds in phonics and used our noses to smell during a sensory story. We have even made our own binoculars to explore details of coastal environment.

We have also begun Music therapy this term, which we all love!! we have made lots of different noises and enjoyed a variety of songs with the lovely music therapist.

Everyday we complete a variety of sensory tasks during sensory circuits! This helps us get ready to learn!! Look at us balance and stretch!





Rabbits NEWS

Rabbits Class have been exploring our new sensory story 'Sharing a Shell'. We have explored the sensory textures of wet sand with our hands, edible sand made with crushed cereal and experienced different textures of materials.

Everyone enjoyed the outside learning with bubbles tracking and popping whilst listening to the story.

We explored a coastal environment with shells and sand and also our more local environment being out in the playground picking up leaves and sticks whilst exploring.



We will be doing some outside learning and water play as weather gets warmer. Could we have some spare clothes sent in please. Also, Sun cream with a permission slip if you haven't already sent it in.

Many thanks from Rabbits Team



Riverwalk School



Sharks NEWS

Last term was filled with many exciting learning opportunities and memorable experiences for the pupils in Sharks class.

Our sensory focus was a great success, with the children particularly enjoying the petting zoo visit and horse riding sessions. These activities encouraged confidence, sensory exploration, and social interaction.

In Communication & Social Interaction, pupils continued developing their phonics skills through Twinkl Phonics. We also enjoyed reading *Bear and Bird: The Picnic and Other Stories* as part of our Power of Reading sessions, alongside our weekly visits to the library.

During Maths and Science lessons, pupils explored shape, time, number, and place value in Maths, while in Science they investigated physical processes linked to light.

For Wellbeing & Independence, pupils practised cooking skills by following recipes and safely using ingredients and utensils. In PSHE, we explored topics around relationships, consent and managing pressure in a supportive and age-appropriate way.

In Physical & Sensory Development, pupils took part in movement and dance during PE, enjoyed tennis sessions, and loved our weekly walks at Nowton Park, which became a real highlight of the term.

Thank you for your continued support throughout the term. We are very proud of all the pupils and their achievements.





Wolves



NEWS

This term, Wolves class has been enjoying a variety of sensory experiences. We had a lovely time during the visit from the petting zoo, where we enjoyed exploring and meeting different types of animals. We were very excited to interact with them!

Wolves class is also taking part in horse-riding sessions. We are having great fun riding the horses and also experienced grooming them, which is a wonderful hands-on experience for everyone.

During Science and Geography lessons, we explored both the classroom and the outdoor environment using our senses. We had the opportunity to smell flowers, observe the clouds, and walk around touching trees and grass. These activities helped Wolves class to engage with the world around us.

We also had lots of fun during messy play activities, where we explored the coastline using rice, edible play dough, and animal figurines. Wolves class enjoyed using different textures and materials to develop our sensory exploration skills.





NEWS

A few days left to have your say!

Our Summer Term Parental Survey is still open, and we would really value your feedback. Your responses help us understand what's working well across our school and where we can continue to improve.

It only takes a few minutes to complete, but it really does make a difference in shaping our plans and support for pupils and families.

Deadline: Monday 18th May 2026

Thank you, as always, for your continued support, we really appreciate you taking the time to share your thoughts - [Link to Survey](#)

