



# The William Ransom **Orbit**



## **This time of year always has a positive feel to it!**

The sun seems to make more frequent appearances, trees and plants start to reawaken, the sound of nature is clearer in the air and everyone starts to spend a little more time outside in the fresh air, receiving all of the health benefits that being outside for extended periods of time brings with it!

The same is true in school, as the many outside lunchtime clubs that we operate are enjoyed all the more as the warmer months arrive. The outside aspects of the many different trips that we take the children on are also enjoyed that much more and the experiences become all the richer for it! We will see our new school garden start to develop soon, which will be very exciting for everyone, and we look forward to further developing this year on year as we move forward. This will mean that each spring will see more new plant life than the one before it!

Our new library, which has an ever-increasing range of books in it for children across the school to enjoy, will also benefit from the spring weather, bringing a warm feel with it and bathing the library in beautiful sunlight, making everyone's reading adventure that much more pleasurable!

The other clear benefit is that summer is right around the corner and that brings with it a wealth of outdoor activities and experiences for everyone to enjoy!

## **Mr Plunkett**



**Happy Easter to everyone at William Ransom**



# Happy Easter



Welcome to the Easter issue of the Orbit. We hope you enjoy reading it.

Congratulations to the winners of the Design a stocking competition from the last issue: Charlotte and Sophie. We had so many amazing entries! We wish you all a very Happy Easter!

**The Orbit Team**



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Focus on . . .

# Mr Vincent

**Mr Vincent is training to be a teacher.**

He is training because he wants to be a qualified teacher. He tells us that training to be a teacher is hard work as you must be organised and have good time management, but it is good fun.

Mr Vincent's favourite subject is P.E. (unsurprisingly) and his least favourite is probably geography. Mr Vincent wanted to become a teacher because when he was in school, he hated it, and he wants children he teaches not to have the same experience as he had. His favourite sports are football and golf but if he had to choose between the two it would be golf.

If he had to change anything in the school, he would want a bigger field for better playtimes and more sports. He would love to have a Red Tibetan Mastiff which is a big and fluffy type of dog. In his spare time, he plays golf, football and even does some DIY. Mr Vincent is grateful to be able to work at this school as he has been here for 6 years, but he will be leaving us soon. Good luck in your new job, we will miss you.

By Jessica and  
Jasmine



## Adam Whitehead



By Eliza and Theo

On Friday 7th Feb an Olympian swimmer called Adam Whitehead came to William Ransom to talk about water safety and his achievements. He talked about never swimming without a lifeguard or without a parent. He told the school to never swim in lakes, canals or rivers or anywhere without a green flag. He won a gold medal at the commonwealth games in 2002. He competed at the 2000 summer Olympics in Sydney, Australia. There he was eliminated in the qualifying heats of the men's 100m and 200m breaststroke. He represented England and won a bronze medal in the 200 metres breaststroke event, at the 1998 Commonwealth games.



## Storytelling Chip

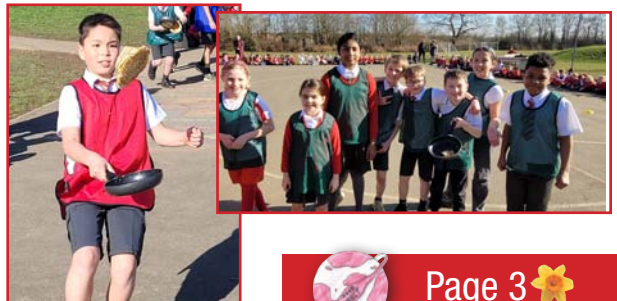
On Monday 24th February a storyteller called Chip from Chip and Korky's Fables & Fairy Tales Book Club came to tell us interactive stories from the past. Year four had a story about a very greedy dragon. Year three had a story about a family that needed wood for the fire. Their mum sent the strongest son first to get wood but there was a troll that said 'blabltthgb' and the son ran away. Then she sent the next son which ran away. Then the mother sent the youngest son called Boot because that's what the two older brothers liked to wear to kick Boot in the bottom. Year 1 had a story about a dragon that kidnapped a princess then a prince came on a horse to rescue her.

## Pancake Day Race



On Tuesday the 4th of March it was Pancake Day. William Ransom had a Pancake race and Neptune won. Jupiter came 4th, Mars came 3rd, Saturn came 2nd, and Neptune came 1st. 2 People from each year in KS2 took part in the race.

Sadie in Year 4, who took part in the race said: *"It was tiring but worth it."*



# Tasty Treats

By Arthur  
and Diego

## The History of Eggs

Throughout history, people have given each other eggs at spring festivals to celebrate the new season. Eggs represent new life and rebirth, and this ancient custom has become a part of Easter celebrations.

In the medieval period, eating eggs was forbidden during Lent (the 40 days before Easter) so on Easter Sunday, tucking into an egg was a real treat! This was especially true for poorer people who couldn't afford to buy meat. Eggs were given to the church as Good Friday offerings, and villagers often gave eggs as gifts to the lord of the manor at Easter. Even royals got involved – in 1290, Edward I purchased 450 eggs, which were decorated with colours or gold leaf and given out to his household.



## Superstitions

There were lots of superstitions about eggs at Easter too. Eggs laid on Good Friday were said to turn into diamonds if they were kept for 100 years, and if your egg had two yolks it was a sign you would soon become rich. Some people thought that eggs cooked on Good Friday and eaten on Easter Sunday would improve fertility and prevent sudden death, and it became the custom for people to have their eggs blessed before eating them.

## Eggsact Facts

- Painting Easter eggs actually comes from Ukraine.
- The first ever Easter egg was sold in 1873 in UK.
- The worlds biggest Easter egg was over 34 feet tall.
- The most expensive chocolate Easter egg was sold for £7,000.
- Around 80 million Easter eggs are sold in the UK each year.
- Creme eggs were invented in 1923.

## Pace Eggs

In Lancashire in the 18th century, 'pace eggs' became very popular. Pace eggs were made from hard boiled hen, duck or goose eggs, with decorated shells dyed with bright colours.

Pace eggs were also rolled along the ground in a race called an egg roll. Children would roll a decorated pace egg down a hill, and see whose egg rolled the furthest without breaking. .

Egg rolling is a tradition that still continues in some parts of England, although today it is chocolate eggs being rolled down the hill! There is an egg rolling event every year in Preston, Lancashire, but the most famous egg roll takes place in the United States of America, on the lawn of the White House.



We did a survey on who supports which Premier League football team in the school. The top two teams were Liverpool and Arsenal. This is how they compare. By Noah



## Liverpool FC

- 19 Premier League wins
- 8 FA Cup wins
- Manager = Arne Slot.
- Star player = Mo Salah
- Anfield Stadium
- The media and supporters coined Liverpool: the Reds.
- It is the most successful English team in European football tournament history, having won six European Cup/Champions League trophies.
- The club's anthem is YNWA (You'll Never Walk Alone) originally sung by Gerry and the Pacemakers.

*Liverpool's colour wasn't red since the beginning. The original colour of the club was white and blue stripes, whereas its rival team Everton used to play in red colour. It was only in 1896, that Liverpool wore red shirts for the first time. They merged these shirts with white-coloured shorts.*



## Arsenal

- 13 Premier League wins
- 14 FA Cup wins
- Manager = Mikel Arteta.
- Star player = Gabriel Magalhaes
- Emirates Stadium
- The club became known as Royal Arsenal in 1886 and took the nickname The Gunners in tribute to the factory our founding fathers worked at.
- In European football, they have one European Cup Winners' Cup and one Inter-Cities Fairs Cup.

Because of their unbeaten 'Invincibles' season in 2003-2004, Arsenal were awarded a special gold version of the Premier League trophy by the Football Association.



# Ancient Greek Day

On 30th January, Year Six had their Ancient Greek day. We dressed up before going to the hall which was filled with several fun activities. After a vote, the mosaic making and the medicine with scent bags won. So, here's what happened with our favourites.



On the mosaics, you were given little cubes with different colours, and you could make your own pattern. You would put your pattern on a piece of paper before putting A LOT of PVA glue on a card. Then you would place the card on top of the cubes and after it dries you have your finished mosaic product!

With the medicine activity, you had to go into partners and one of you would be given a card. On the card, you had different illnesses and the person who got the card must act out what the card says. Some of us overreacted a lot! The other person gets to make a scent bag to heal the injured person. There was cinnamon, elderflower and extremely tough berries and many more to make a smell from heaven. When you had finished, you gave the scent bag to your partner to heal them!



By Jasmine  
and Faye

In the afternoon, we had a full festival filled with unique plays, dances and we even got food! There were 2 tragedies and a comedy to end it all. There was a dance but for anyone that didn't want to dance you could perform the tragedies and the comedy and act along with musical instruments. For the people who wanted to do neither, you became a slave and served food (which was bread, grapes and cheese) to the crowd.



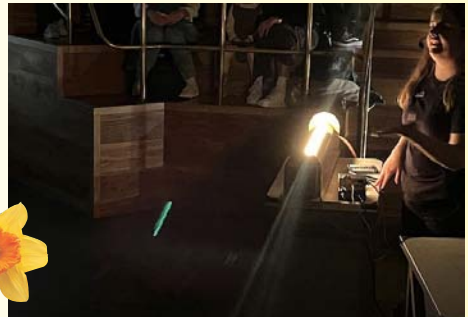
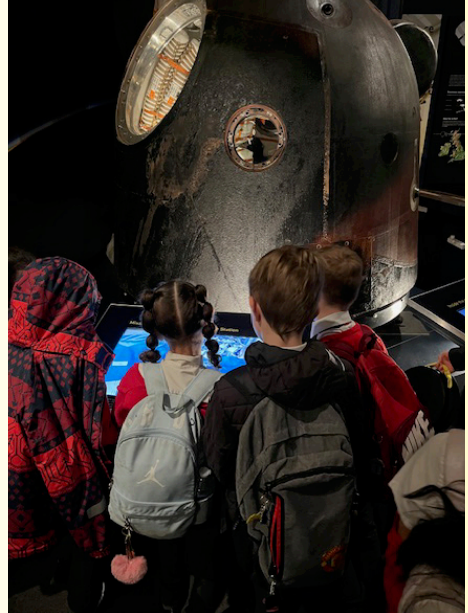
# Super Science

Science week was on the 7th of March until the 16th of March. The theme this year was change and adapt. Every year group had an experiment to investigate and everyone had lots of fun learning new things.



Year four were lucky enough to visit the Science Museum in London. Everyone in Year four loved their school trip and learned lots of interesting facts. Here are some photos from the day.

We also had some guest speakers who came in to school to tell us about science and their jobs in the science industry.



All the years made bridges out of Lego, cardboard, paper, Knex and Duplo to hold a toy car. Finally there was a whole school poster competition based around the theme of change and adapt.

By Theo  
and Eliza



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# Wonder World Book

at William Ran  
Thursday 7th

On Thursday 6th March it was World Book Day (to) came dressed in a costume from books such as Harry Potter, Wicked, a wonderful day and our head teacher from Charlie and the Chocolate Factory



All of the classes decorated their classroom doors with a book cover design.



## Brilliant Book Reviews

By Eliza and Theo

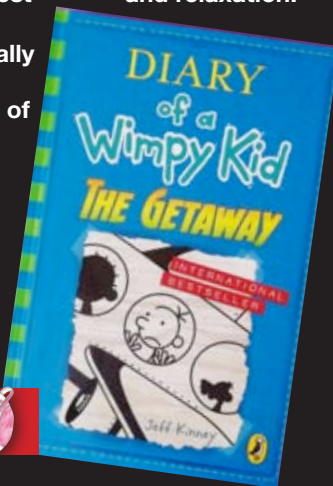
There are lots of books around the school that children love reading.

The first book we want to show you is Diary of a Wimpy Kid the Getaway.

The blurb: Greg Heffley and his family are getting out of town. They decide to escape to a tropical island resort for some much-needed rest and relaxation.

I like this book because it is really funny. It is also part of a series of books.

Would recommend.



The next book is Looshkin.

The author is Jamie Smarts. He is from England. Looshkin is a crazy talking cat that could set the whole house on fire. There are witches and one of those witches is called Doreen. Looshkin puts a fish finger in the cauldron which makes the witches angry. Someone accidentally drinks it and turns into a fish finger with a face and some hair. There is a teddy bear who gets scared of bears and the bears say they won't eat him because he's a bear, but they almost eat Looshkin. This book is suitable for children age 6 and over.



# Wonderful Book Day

Ransom School

7th March 2025



World Book Day and everyone (who wanted) came from a book. We had characters from Picked, Dog Man and many others. It was our teacher (Mr Plunkett) who was Mr Willy Wonka at the Factory.



By Noah and Faye



At the end of the day we had parents come in to read with us.

*"I really enjoyed showing my mum our library and my classroom."*





# Eggcellent Jokes!



**How can you make Easter shopping go faster?**

**Use the eggs-press lane!**

**Why was the little kid sad after the egg hunt?**

**Because an egg beater.**

**Christmas does come before Easter but where?**

**The dictionary!**

**One Easter, a father was teaching his son to drive when out of nowhere a rabbit jumped on the road.**

**Slamming on the brakes, the son said, "I nearly ruined Easter! I almost ran over the Easter Bunny." His father replied, "It's okay son - you missed it by a hare."**

**How do you make Easter easier?**  
**Replace the "t" with an "i."**

**How do dinosaurs celebrate Easter?**  
**They don't. They're eggs-tinct.**

**I can't believe it's Pancake Day...**  
**It's just crêped up on me!**

By Arthur and Diego



## Fun Film Club

Film Club takes place after school and Miss Eldridge is in charge of the club. We started off by looking at small clips from other movies. Next, we looked at different camera angles: far, super far, medium, close up, super close up. We then started making our own small clips.

To start with we all made short clips to practice different techniques. We all took it in turns to be the director and camera operator.

Ben's clip was me, (Jessica) all lonely on the computer drawing when Narjis, Ella, Teddy and James walked up and complemented the picture.

Next was James's clip. He decided to make a zombie infection video. We decided to use the reception fake-grass area. We put the camera at a certain angle, making it look like zombies were coming out of the ground. Henry was the boss zombie being hit by a cone three times as the others were only being hit once. The clip ended with Ben getting infected and they all went towards the camera to eat us.

Teddy's clip was hogging the beanbags and Henry's clip was about a science lesson. I'll do mine about World Book Day.

After Easter, we will be making the final video to show at a competition at the French Institute in London.

*"I really like making all the clips and editing them."*



# Clubs and Tournaments

## Indoor Athletics

On Thursday 15th of January some children from Years 5 and 6 took part in the Indoor Athletics Tournament. They went to the Hitchin Boys' Sports Hall. In the middle there was a track. On one side the schools were sitting. On the other side there was long jump, triple jump and shotput. In the middle there was relay and javelin. The girls team came fourth. The boys came third.



## Dodgeball

By Jessica  
and Noah

Some children from Year 5 and Year 6 took part in the Dodgeball tournament. There were 6 games running at a time. I think everyone had fun. There were two teams: the blacks and the reds. The reds won 2 out of 7 games.



## Super Speedstacking



Recently, some children from Year 3 and 4 took part in a Speedstacking competition held at the Knights Templar school in Baldock. After a lot of practising, they had the opportunity to go and compete. Everyone loved it and came home with a smile on their faces!

## Clubs Galore!

At our school we have clubs for all years. Here is a selection of some: Year 1 do girls' and boys' football. Year 3 have mini tennis and golf. Years 3 and 4 do cricket. For year 5 and 6 there is a street dance club, and some year sixes help in football for younger years. There are lots more!!



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