



# Newsletter

8<sup>th</sup> September 2025

Hannah Crotty  
Headteacher



We are delighted to welcome everyone back after the summer holidays! We hope you enjoyed a well-deserved break, full of fun, relaxation, and special memories with family and friends. A new school year is always an exciting time, we are very much looking forward to the year ahead and noting the achievements of all the children.

## Core Values Launch Day

Our school ethos is underpinned by our twelve core values. They are split into the personal and the social values we feel are essential in developing our pupils into the leaders of the future. At the start of each half term the children focus on two of these, to further embed and develop their understanding of what they mean and how they can demonstrate these.

On Tuesday 2nd September children across the school participated in a range of learning activities to further develop their understanding of two of our Core Values: Resilience and Altruism.

## Core Values Launch



### Nursery

In Nursery we talked about the word 'resilience' and what this means. We discussed trying our best, and keeping on going even when we find things hard. We played a game of musical chairs to practice our resilience skills, and really tried our best to support our friends even when we didn't win!

### Reception

Reception children read the book 'Giraffe's Can't Dance' which illustrates resilience through Gerald the giraffe. Despite being laughed at because he 'can't dance' like the other animals, Gerald doesn't give up and learns to dance in his own unique way. This inspired the children to make their own music to dance to using different musical instruments!



## Year 1

Year 1 learnt that resilience means not giving up even when things may get difficult! As part of our learning about resilience, we got into groups and we formed a human knot with our hands and arms. We had to work as a team to untie ourselves from this difficult task. After we completed the task and didn't give up when it as hard, we felt very proud of ourselves!



## Year 2

As part of our core values day Year 2 had to line themselves up tallest to smallest without speaking to each other. The children started off in small groups and the groups gradually got bigger. The children demonstrated excellent teamwork and did not give up, showing their resilience.



## Year 3

In Year 3 the children explored two key core values: **altruism** and **resilience**. In the morning, they learned about altruism through stories, role-play, and a secret helper challenge. They also created helping hands to share their own ideas and wrote or illustrated stories about selfless acts. In the afternoon, the focus shifted to resilience. The children discussed strategies for persevering through challenges, developed their own resilience toolkits and engaged in practical team-based activities; which included untangling themselves out of a human knot and silently arranging themselves by height and shoe size. These tasks encouraged collaboration, problem-solving, and determination. By the end of the day, the children had developed a strong understanding of how both values contribute to a positive and supportive school community.



## Year 4

In Year 4, we focused on the core values: resilience and altruism. During part of our day, we used drama and role play to think about how we could be more altruistic. Our role plays gave us an opportunity to think about how we can help people at school, home and in the wider community. Our drama scenarios also allowed for us to show resilience too, as many of our scenarios showed that with a little bit of help, we can keep trying. This linked back to our learning pits that we created earlier in the day.



## Year 5

In year 5, we built on our understanding of altruism and how many things can influence acts of altruism. We listened to a story call 'Those Shoes' which explored the difference between 'want' and 'need'. We considered the question, "Is it harder to be altruistic when you also want something?" We used "hot seating" to consider how each character in the story felt and reflected on situations where we found it difficult to be altruistic in contrast to those times when it is easier.

When learning about our core value, resilience, We read the book 'Your Fantastic, Elastic Brain.' Then used string to demonstrate how when we learn, our brain makes connections which grow stronger. We learnt about the importance of having a growth mindset and how this can improve our learning before creating a piece of artwork that demonstrated our understanding.



## Year 6

To launch our core values learning, we discussed the importance of having a growth mindset and how Year 6 pupils can develop one. We explored strategies to shift our thinking from a fixed mindset to a growth mindset, and we also learnt about how the brain works, including the role of neurons.

As part of our learning, we created artwork that represented resilience. We also held a class debate to explore the concept of altruism, discussing its importance both in school and in the wider community. During the debate, we considered the thought-provoking question: *"Can true altruism really exist, or is there always something in it for us?"*



## Our Learning

During this half term our learning is linked to the theme 'Slavery'. The children will be focusing on different periods in history to look at the impact of slavery and how it still has an impact upon our world today. They will be taking opportunities to link their learning to all subject areas, using their skills in geography to map the journeys taken throughout history, as well as making links within design and technology to understand the impact a product can have on people and the environment.



## School News

We would like to say a huge thank you to volunteers from JLL, who came into school during the holidays to paint our classrooms. The classrooms look so much brighter! We really appreciate their time and hope to see them back next year.



## Key Dates – Autumn 1

<b>2nd September 2025</b>	<b>Core Values Launch day</b>
<b>17-19<sup>th</sup> September 2025</b>	<b>Bikeability (Year 6)</b>
<b>24 September 2025</b>	Year 6 Class assembly and curriculum showcase at 9am. Finishes at 9:30am.
<b>1<sup>st</sup> October 2025</b>	Year 5 Class assembly and curriculum showcase at 9am. Finishes at 9:30am.
<b>1<sup>st</sup> October 2025</b>	<b>Black History Month – Focused learning day</b>
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> October 2025</b>	<b>Individual Photos</b>
<b>6<sup>th</sup> October 2025</b>	<b>Harvest Assembly 9 – 10am. Parents welcome</b>
<b>8<sup>th</sup> October 2025</b>	<b>Nasal Flu Immunisations</b>
<b>8<sup>th</sup> October 2025</b>	Year 4 Class assembly and curriculum showcase at 9am. Finishes at 9:30am.
<b>10<sup>th</sup> October 2025</b>	<b>Mental Health Day</b>
<b>15<sup>th</sup> October 2025</b>	<b>Parents Evening</b>
<b>15<sup>th</sup> October 2025</b>	Year 3 Class assembly and curriculum showcase at 9am. Finishes at 9:30am.
<b>17th October 2025</b>	<b>Modern foreign language themed day</b>
<b>20th October – 31<sup>st</sup> October 2025</b>	<b>Half Term – School Closed</b>



# Core Values Achievers



Nursery	Suleyman	For returning to Nursery with a great attitude towards sharing and being kind to his friends.
	Nareh	For showing great motivation and concentration in her play this week.
Rec	Freya	For being kind and respectful to her friends and teachers and for being an enthusiastic learner in all activities this week
	Rio	For showing great resilience with settling in to Reception and for being a great listener during carpet times
Year 1	Marwan	For showing altruism at break time by helping his friend back up after a fall and making him feel better
	Elizabeth	For creating a brilliant tree and detailed fact file about Wangari Maathai for our holiday homework
Year 2	Issac	For showing resilience when settling into year 2 and always using his manners.
	Kiana	For taking personal responsibility and pride in her jobs.
Year 3	Danny	For finding out lots of information about slavery in Ancient Egypt for his holiday homework
	Lavarci	For creating a detailed pyramid with hieroglyphics for her holiday homework
Year 4	Lawren	For her detailed holiday homework and exploring Roman Britain's history
	Zion	For his motivation and determination in his first week in Year 4
Year 5	Ajbah	For her motivation, enthusiasm, respect in her learning and for being a fantastic learner all week.
	Kyran	For resilience and personal responsibility in his learning during our lunch days.
Year 6	Ashry	For demonstrating great resilience with her sewing during our book launch.
	Mohammed-Zaydan	For being consistently respectful and showing enthusiasm in all our activities this week.

Thank you for your continued support.

Mrs Hannah Crotty  
Headteacher