



# School News & Updates - 13th February, 2026.

## A note from Mr Jolley:

What a busy and brilliant end to the half term! We are delighted to share all the fantastic activities and achievements in this week's newsletter. We wrapped up the term with our fantastic theme week, which was a huge success—the children loved learning to journal and exploring their thoughts and emotions, and we were pleased to see the fantastic turnout for our community doodling sessions. It was also wonderful to see everyone enjoying their lunchtimes together. As always, the full details of all the fun and learning, plus important dates for the next half term, are inside.

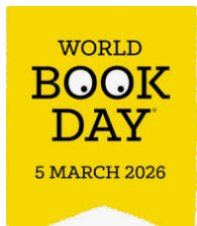
### SEND Parent Event

Do you have a child with diagnosed or suspected SEND? We'd love to see you at our informal coffee morning on **Friday 27th February at 9am.**

We know that parents are often the best support for one another, so come along to share advice and experiences in a casual setting. To add a little extra help, specialists from the **Family Hub** will be on hand to answer questions, provide support and signpost you to local services.

We hope to make these meetings a regular occurrence if well-attended. We'll provide the coffee and biscuits—we just need you!

**If you are thinking of attending please drop an email to [Pastoral@cps.owlcotesmat.org](mailto:Pastoral@cps.owlcotesmat.org)**



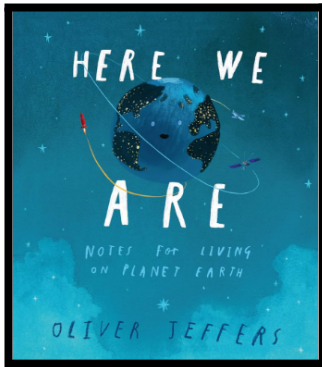
### World Book Day Plans

We are very excited to share our plans to celebrate **World Book Day on Thursday 5th March.** There are two things that we are asking parents to help us with this year.

1. Children (and teachers) will **come to school dressed as a favourite book character.** Please let us know (confidentially) if this is something that might be tricky for you to sort this year and we will do our best to help.
2. Pupils are asked to **bring in one (or two) books** that they don't mind saying goodbye to. During the day, pupils will take part in a 'swap and sip' event. They will swap their book with a friend and spend some time reading their new books and sipping hot chocolate.

We have lots of other exciting activities planned and this promises to be a fantastic day celebrating how much we love to read.

## Literature Week 9th-13th February: This is where I belong

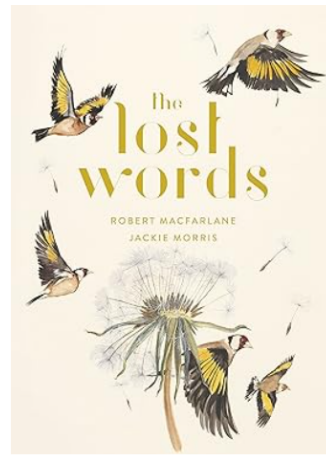


***“If you're feeling lost - start with what you know...”*** Oliver Jeffers, Here We Are.

Our literature week happened to fall during Children's Mental Health week. We began the week in the best way with every class visiting the wonderdome (thank you to FOCPS for organising and funding this). This provided us with awe and wonder and prompted us to think about our place in the world, what is really important in our lives and how we can look after the planet, ourselves and each other.

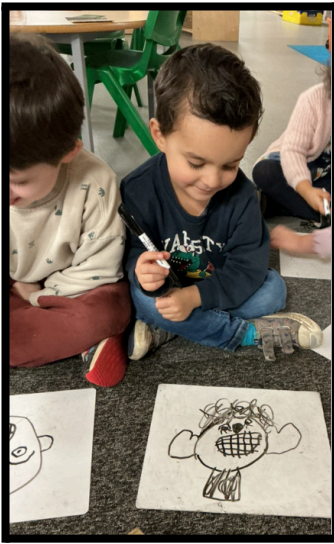
We have been using our writing sessions to learn how to journal and explore our thoughts and emotions, doodling alongside our written thoughts. This has been a really mindful and calm time for all pupils in class and has helped us to regulate, reflect and press pause. We have decorated our journals and Miss Parker will continue to journal with us on our active well being days.

During story time we have shared a selection of beautiful picture books that link to our theme of belonging (see some of these pictured below).



Thank you so much to families who joined us for the community doodle- inspired by artist 'Mr Doodle'. It has been fantastic to see how many talented doodlers we have in our community. We're excited to display and share the finished 'doodle tapestry' which depicts every single family here at Calverley Parkside.

A gallery of photos from the week can be found below...



Nursery - Doodles of happy faces, things we like and exploring mark-making in our outdoor area too.



Year 2 community walk- We had a walk around our local area and discussed different places within our community. We discussed the importance of cafes, shops, hairdressers, parks and libraries in our community.

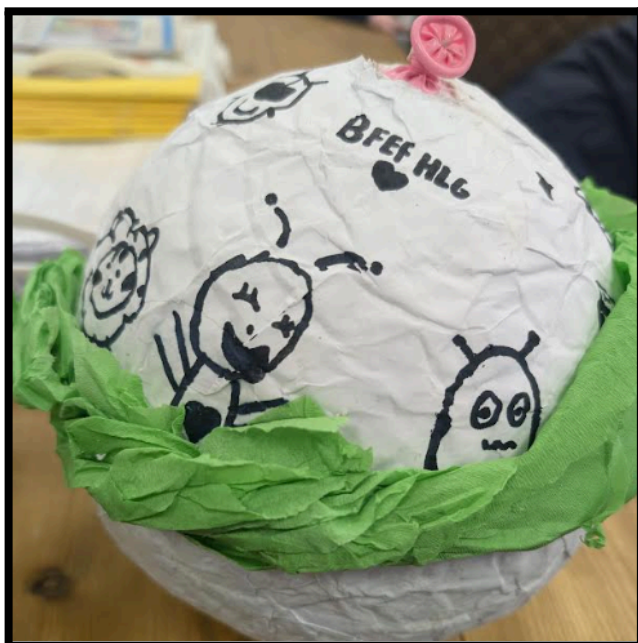
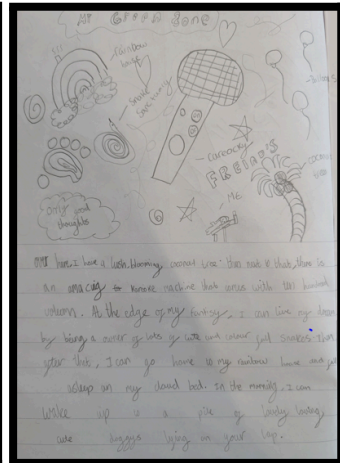
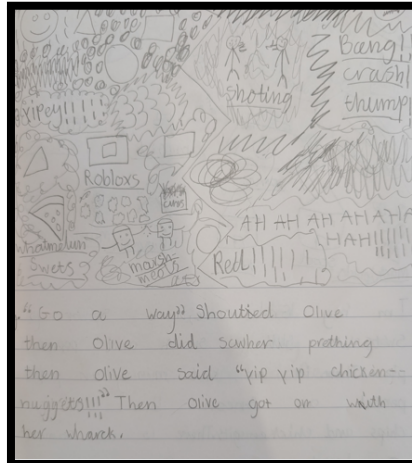
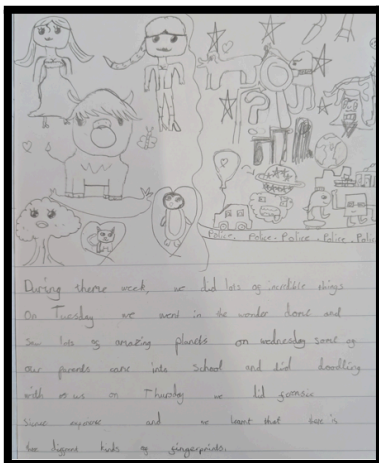


Year 1 community doodle - It was fantastic to see so many parents come and support our community doodle. We never knew how many talented artists we have in our school ( and amongst our parents!)



EYFS Enjoying the mud pit!

Year Three - Journal Activities and paper mache planets





**More photos of the community doodle sessions!**

### **Forensic Science Experience**

On Thursday, Years 3-5 took part in an exciting forensic science experiment where they had to solve a crime. Pupils collected evidence including finger prints, footprints and DNA in order to figure out who the suspect was. It was a superb experience which will hopefully inspire a future generation of Parkside detectives.



### **A Royal Visit**

On Thursday, King Charles II travelled through time to visit our Year 2 pupils. Following the Great Fire of London, The King was looking for ways to rebuild a new London. The Year 2 pupils pitched numerous ideas to him which he excitedly took back to 1666.



### **Outdoor learning plea**



As part of our initiative to improve outdoor learning experiences for our children, we'd love to add some large loose parts to our ever-improving EYFS area and lunchtime provisions.

Loose parts offer significant developmental benefits by promoting open-ended, self-directed play. They foster creativity, critical thinking and social skills, while also developing gross and fine motor skills through lifting, stacking and balancing.

Do you know a scaffolder who could donate planks? A joiner with large off-cuts? Or an electrician with access to cable drums? Guttering, pipes, tyres and traffic cones all make fantastic loose parts.

Any donated parts would need to be safe for children to use, with no sharp edges, splinters, nails or screws.

If you can help or know someone who can, please email the school office on [office@cps.owlcotesmat.org](mailto:office@cps.owlcotesmat.org) — thank you for supporting our children's learning.



***Make sure you check out our Instagram for more this term.***

***Please see important dates for the next half term***

<b>Date</b>	<b>Event</b>
Monday 23rd February	School opens
Thursday 26th February	Children's Laureate, Frank Cottrell-Boyce event in school - KS2 - Separate communication has been sent
<b>27th February 9am (Fri)</b>	<b>SEND workshop with Specialist SEND coordinators from the family HUB</b>
<b>9th March</b>	<b>Y6 World War 2 Play in a Day workshop and performance</b>
<b>22nd April 9am (Wed)</b>	<b>Mindmate workshop</b>
<b>10th June 9am (Wed)</b>	<b>Mindmate workshop - anxiety workshop</b>

**Assembly Awards:**

<p><b>Year 3</b></p>	<p>Handwriting: Finn Reading: Holly M Writing: Evelyn Maths: Toby Listener: Rowan Independent Learner: Holly B</p>
<p><b>Year 4</b></p>	<p>Handwriting: Andy Reading: Tabitha Writing: Aoife Maths: Jude Listener: Joseph Independent Learner: Oscar</p>
<p><b>Year 5</b></p>	<p>Handwriting: Teddy Theme Week Star: Brandon Writing: Rومان Maths: Praise Listener: Leo Collaborative Learner: Jenson</p>
<p><b>Year 6</b></p>	<p>Handwriting: Marina Reading: Jasmine Writing: Amaya Maths: George Listener: Charlie Independent Learner: Summer</p>



# We Are All Inventors! with Kate Pankhurst

Wednesday 18th February, 2pm-3pm

Calverley Community Centre and Library, now at the Mechanics'  
Institute building on Thornhill Street

Part of Leeds Storytelling Festival 2026

Join bestselling local children's author and illustrator Kate Pankhurst for a fabulous pay-as-you-feel workshop. Taking inspiration from her recent book, *We Are All Inventors*, come up with a marvellous design or magnificent invention. What's more, you'll get a sneak peek at a fabulously exciting mural Kate is developing for our very own new children's library, and hear all about how she has created the design.

We hope you will join us in celebrating our lovely new library space, and maybe even throw some of your own ideas into the mix for our mural... see you there!

A pay-what-you-decide event recommended for children aged 6+.

All children must be accompanied by an adult.

Booking essential. Scan the QR code, or go to [bit.ly/calverleylibraryevents](https://bit.ly/calverleylibraryevents)



    @LeedsLibraries

