



Weekly Letter from Mrs Alford

Good morning from a beautifully sunny Malvern Wells—this spring sunshine has been a very welcome sight.

It has been another productive and engaging week in school, with all year groups immersing themselves in their learning. Class 2 had a fantastic trip to Smyte Farm on Tuesday and returned as even more enthusiastic young scientists, full of excitement and curiosity.

In collective worship this week, we have been exploring the concept of circles of control. While it is quite a complex idea, it is also a powerful one. It helps children understand the difference between what they can influence and what they cannot. There are many things beyond our control, such as the past, wider events, or the choices others make.

However, there is also an inner circle where our true power lies. This includes how we behave, the effort we give, how we take care of ourselves, and the choices we make each day **(please see the diagrams on the following page).**

We have been encouraging the children to focus their energy here. By doing so, they build confidence, resilience, and self-belief. A key part of this learning is recognising that none of us are perfect. When we make mistakes—as we all do—we can use them as opportunities to learn and grow into even brighter versions of ourselves.

This is a strategy I often turn to when life feels a little overwhelming, and I have encouraged the children to do the same. Sometimes, simply recognising where things feel unsettled and acknowledging those feelings can be enough to reduce their impact.

Wishing you all a lovely and restful weekend.

Attendance

Whole School Target: 96%

School attendance this week: 95.35%

Class 1, Reception: 98.5%

Class 2, Y1 & Y2: 95.5%

Class 3: Y3 & Y4: 94.8%

Class 4: Y5 & Y6: 92.6%



Best Seats

Class 1, Reception:
Edith & George

Class 2:
Dean & Ralph

Class 3:
Isabelle & Gustaw

Class 4:
Phoebe & Monty



Your Circle of Control

You can't control everything,
but you can control **your choices**.

Outside My Control



Inside My Control



I can choose to be kind.

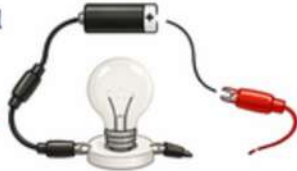
I can choose to try my best.

I can choose a positive attitude.

I can choose to keep going even when it's hard.

Unkind or unhelpful choices can break the circuit.

The light flickers... or goes out.



★ You have the power to **choose**.
You have the power to **shine**.



Good choices connect the circuit.

Your light shines bright!

★ Every choice you make is a connection. Every connection helps your light shine. **Let your light shine!** ★

Out of My Control

In My Control

Other people's actions

Other people's opinions

Other people's emotions

Laws and rules

Genetics and Biology

The past

The future

The economy

The environment
(weather, natural disasters, traffic, etc.)

Unexpected events



THIS WEEK:

27 APRIL- 01 May 2026

Monday, 27

Forest School Class 1 & 2

Choir Club: Mrs Hopkins 15:30-16:05

Tuesday, 28

Sign Language Club with Mrs Sharrock, Lunchtime 12:45-13:10

Wednesday, 29

Class & Leavers Photos: please come in school uniform and bring in PE clothes to change

Football with Mr. Tilley 15:15-16:15

Thursday, 30

Coding Club: Mr Bisland, 15:15- 16:15

Friday, 01

Knitting Club: Mrs Groza 15:25-16:05

Best Seats Café 08:40AM

MY PRE-SATs CHECKLIST

- I went to bed early and had a good night's sleep
- I ate a healthy breakfast
- I brought my water bottle to school
- I arrived at school on time
- I listened carefully to my teacher
- I tried my best in all my practice work
- I asked for help if I needed it
- I practised my reading, spelling, and times tables
- I stayed positive and believed in myself
- I talked to an adult if I felt worried
- I took time to relax and have fun

I am ready to show what I can do!

SATS	Monday Mrs Adams Punctuation 8:15-8:40	Tuesday Mrs H.C Reading 8:15-8:40	Wednesday Mrs Morgan Maths 8:15-8:40	Thursday Mrs H.C Grammar 8:15-8:40	Thursday Mrs Morgan Drop in 12:15- 12:45	Friday Mrs Alford Spelling 12:15- 12:45	Friday Mrs Morgan Maths 3:25-4:15
WB 27.4.26	Unpicking punctuation SATS questions	Strategies for 3-mark questions	Reasoning - 2-mark questions	SATS grammar questions -filling gaps		Common spelling patterns -revision	Algebra
WB 4.5.26	Unpicking punctuation SATS questions	Strategies for 3-mark questions	Shape and space	SATS grammar questions -filling gaps		Common spelling patterns -revision	Reasoning questions



Stars Beyond the Test...

We know how bright you truly are, And how you love to shine, So step into this moment now, And show us what is thine.

These tests may feel important, But they don't show all you do, They cannot hold your kindness, Or the wonderful things in you.

They don't reflect your laughter, Your courage or your care, The way you help and share your light, Or how you're always there.

So take a breath and do your best, Be proud of what you try,

Let your light shine strong and bright, Like stars up in the sky.

Whatever happens, always know, We see your strength and you, And every day, in every way,

We're so, so proud of you.



May

- **11th – 14th May:** Year 6 SATs
- **21st May:** Last day of Summer Term 1
- **22nd May:** INSET Day (school closed to pupils)



June

- **1st June:** Pupils return for Summer Term 2
- **1st June:** Year 6 “Moving On Day” at St Andrew’s Church (9:00am – 2:30pm)
- **3rd June:** Class 4 (Years 5 & 6) Life Support / CPR Training
- **12th June:** Royal Three Counties Show Workshops (8:45am – 3:15pm)
Parents to drop off and collect. Whole school event – no EMPOWER provision available.
- **16th – 19th June:** Arete Residential Trip (Class 4)
- **23rd June:** Year 6 – “Magic of Science” at Malvern College
(9:30am) Parents to drop off at Malvern College. Children will return to school by coach at approximately 2:15–2:30pm.
- **24th June:** New Reception 2026 Parents’ Evening (5:00pm – 6:00pm)
- **25th June:** Lifepath 2026 (Years 5 & 6) (9:50am – 2:40pm)
- **26th June:** Sports Day at Assarts Park (1:00pm – 3:30pm)
- **26th June:** Summer Fayre (PTA-led) (3:30pm – 5:30pm)
- **30th June:** Year 5 Athletics at The Chase

CLASSROOM HIGHLIGHTS:

Class 1:

This week during Muddy Mondays, the children explored the natural environment by identifying and comparing different leaves. They looked closely at their shape, colour, and texture, developing their observation skills while enjoying outdoor learning.

Class 2:

Class 2 had an exciting trip to SMITE, where they learned all about rotters and decayers. The children discovered how these organisms play an important role in breaking down materials in the environment.

Class 3:

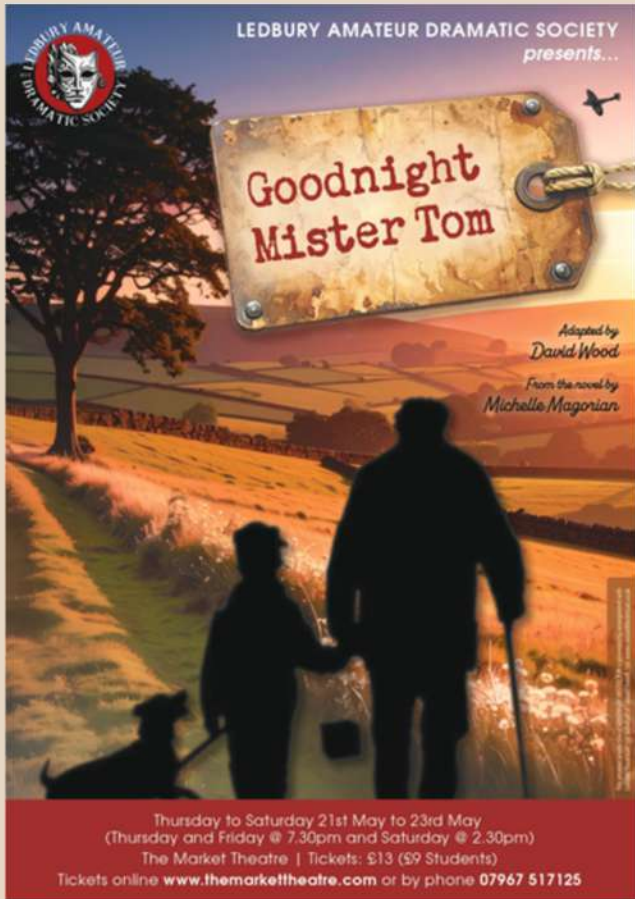
In Geography, Class 3 used Google Earth to explore different locations around the world, enhancing their map skills and global awareness. They have also been busy planning their Pentecost party, which will take place at the end of half term.

Class 4:

Class 4 have been working hard revising for their SATs, showing great focus and determination. In Geography, they have been learning about the physical and human features of South America.



GET YOUR TICKETS



EMPOWER UPDATE

Please use the link below to take you to the booking site for **Wrap Around Care, :**
<https://empoweractivecic.kidsclubhq.co.uk/login>

For any office queries concerning finances to EMPOWER contact lisa@empoweractive.co.uk

SYNAGOGUE TRIP

Reminder: Birmingham Progressive Synagogue Visit (Tuesday 19th May 2026)

We are still awaiting a number of consent forms and payments for our upcoming visit to Birmingham Progressive Synagogue.

This is a valuable part of our RE curriculum, giving children the opportunity to deepen their understanding of Judaism through first-hand experience.

Please ensure you provide consent and payment as soon as possible. **Without sufficient contributions, we may unfortunately be unable to proceed with the trip.**

Thank you to those who have already responded, your support is greatly appreciated.

may FUN FACT-MAY DAY

May Day is a European festival that dates back nearly a thousand years.

It marks the beginning of summer and is usually celebrated at the beginning of May - halfway between the spring equinox and summer solstice.

It's thought to have been inspired by three older festivals: Beltane fires, Walpurgisnacht and Floralia.

People around the UK celebrate May Day in lots of different ways including maypole dancing, Morris dancing and crowning a May Queen.



SUMMER UNIFORM

Summer Uniform Reminder
As the weather begins to improve, children are welcome to wear their summer uniform to school on warmer days. Please use your discretion each morning depending on the forecast, ensuring your child is comfortable for the day ahead.

We also recommend that children bring a water bottle and, if needed, a sun hat to stay cool and protected.
Thank you for your support.





May 2026 Timetable

All regular sessions delivered live online via zoom. 90 minutes long
£24 each or FREE with School Membership

Book online at facefamilyadvice.co.uk

Recordings available for 48 hours

School Anxiety	4 May 10am
Understanding Anger	4 May 7pm
Facing Defiance	5 May 10am
Supporting Healthy Screen Use	5 May 7pm
Cannabis and Ketamine Awareness	11 May 10am
Anxiety Explained	11 May 7pm
Introduction to OCD	12 May 10am
What is ACT?	12 May 7pm
Decreasing Depression	18 May 10am
Raising Self-Esteem	18 May 7pm
Supporting Healthy Sleep	19 May 10am
Understanding the Teenage Brain	19 May 7pm
Autism: Improving Communication	25 May 10am
Improving Family Communication	25 May 7pm
Supporting a Child with ADHD	26 May 10am
Understanding Addictive Behaviour	26 May 7pm
FREE Getting a Good Nights Sleep	28 May 7-8pm

THE DOWNS MALVERN

Open Day
 The Downs Malvern
 Saturday 9th May 2026
 9.30am - 12.30pm
 Nursery - Year 8

QR code:

Please use the QR code or visit www.thedownsmalvern.org.uk to book your place

WINNER OF SMALL INDEPENDENT SCHOOL OF THE YEAR

Charlie: Drama Scholar, Scientist, Prefect, Explorer

What did the pencil say to the sharpener?
 My life would be pointless without you.

