



Lavender Field provides innovative and enjoyable education, therapy and early intervention for pupils, enabling them to become independent, happy, positive and valuable members of society.



Spring 1 Newsletter 2025

Welcome back to Spring term 2025! School has been buzzing with renewed energy and new possibilities in the new year. Our dedicated team have prepared exciting lessons and activities that will inspire curiosity and ignite a passion for learning. Let's embrace this season of renewal together, supporting one another in our collective journey towards success and accomplishment. Here's to a fun and productive Spring term filled with exciting opportunities!

We finish on **Friday 14th February 2025** for the February half term and return to school on **Monday 24th February 2025**.

Notices



Parking at drop off and pick up times.

We kindly ask all parents and carers to park safely and responsibly when dropping off or collecting children from school. Please be mindful of our local residents by avoiding blocking driveways, parking on verges, or causing obstructions. Let's work together to ensure everyone's safety and maintain positive relationships with our community. Thank you for your cooperation!

Parent Contact Details

A reminder to please ensure that school always has your most recent contact details, including phone numbers and addresses. You can contact the school office if you need to inform us of any changes. The majority of communication from school is now via email. If you are not receiving emails from school, please contact the school office to check your details are up to date.

School Website

Our school website is full of lots of useful information about school and is an excellent way for parents and carers to find out more about Stanley Road. To view our website please visit: <https://www.lavenderfieldschool.co.uk/news> On our website you will find information about Lavender Field, lots of detail on the curriculum we deliver to our children and lots of useful documents and school policies that you are able to download and read in your own time. As always if you have any questions or concerns, please contact the school office and we will get back to you. If you ever have any queries, I can be found outside of school most days in the morning and at home time, your child's teacher will also be on the playground at the end of each day. For discussions of a more private nature, you can make an appointment to see me with the school office. Please don't hesitate to speak to us should you need to. Thank you for your continued support!

Letter from the head

As we draw this half-term to a close, I want to take a moment to reflect on the incredible achievements, experiences, and progress we have made as a school community. It has been a term filled with learning, exploration, and opportunities that have enriched the lives of our pupils.

From the moment the term began, our classrooms have been buzzing with curiosity and creativity. National Storytelling Week ignited a passion for reading, with pupils decorating doors in tribute to their favourite books, reading to care home residents, and even taking part in a 'Reading in an Unusual Place' challenge. In the heart of our curriculum, pupils in Class Broadman immersed themselves in the wonders of science, exploring experiments and crafting their own alternative endings to 'Peter and the Wolf', while Class Comet journeyed through Europe, discovering new cultures and creating artwork inspired by French masters.

In our KS2 Coronation class, instructional writing became a hands-on experience, as pupils developed practical literacy skills, while Class Orient travelled through time, retracing the footsteps of Isaac Newton and Mary Anning in their scientific discoveries. Meanwhile, Class Riviera honed their ability to work scientifically, learning not just the 'what' but the 'why' behind their experiments.

Beyond the classroom, our pupils have embraced opportunities to step out into the wider world. Educational visits have brought learning to life, with KS3 and KS4 pupils exploring career paths at KMF Precision Sheet Metal Factory, sparking aspirations for the future. Religious studies classes have stepped inside places of worship to deepen their understanding, while younger pupils in Classes Mayflower and Jubilee embarked on journeys of their own—through nature, farms, and parks—connecting their experiences with their learning. Class Orient, in particular, has discovered confidence and responsibility through horse riding, forming meaningful bonds with the animals they care for.

It has been inspiring to see our School Council take ownership of their school environment, ensuring that pupil voices shape our daily experiences. Whether it's introducing new activities at break times, planning World Book Day celebrations, or reinstating hot chocolate Fridays for Red Nose Day, their enthusiasm has been a reminder of how empowered young people can be when given the opportunity to lead.

In the digital age, staying safe online is more important than ever. Our pupils engaged meaningfully in Safer Internet Day, discussing stranger danger, digital footprints, and the importance of respectful interactions online. I encourage families to continue these conversations at home to reinforce these essential lessons.

The importance of well-being has remained central to our school ethos. Parent support sessions, led by our in-house therapist Debra, have offered a space for families to come together, share experiences, and seek advice. Meanwhile, in school, pupils have continued to benefit from personalised well-being sessions, including music, relaxation, and Hobbycraft activities.

Sport has also played a key role this term, with our KS2 Handball Team making us proud in an inter-school tournament, securing third place and demonstrating fantastic teamwork and perseverance. In addition, pupils in Class Waverly have embraced the challenges of gymnastics, developing flexibility, strength, and confidence at LS Gymnastics.

As we look ahead, we have an exciting calendar of events to bring our community together. World Book Day will see the school filled with characters from the pages of beloved books, and Red Nose Day will allow pupils to take part in fun fundraising initiatives. We will round off the term with our Easter Fayre, where families can join us for an afternoon of celebration.

As always, I am immensely grateful for the dedication of our staff, the enthusiasm of our pupils, and the unwavering support of our families. This term has been a testament to what we can achieve when we work together, and I look forward to continuing this journey with you all.

Wishing you all a restful and enjoyable half-term.

Neil Smith

Head of School

What have we been doing?



National story telling week.

We love storytelling with the children at Lavender Field School. We know how valuable it is to children's development, knowledge, and abilities, and how it boosts key areas of learning. Communication and language, literacy, expressive arts and design are just some examples of this. With that in mind, we ensure every child is nurtured, encouraged, and given every opportunity to garner a complete range of skills that will stand them in great stead as they grow older. And, when the time comes to leave us to begin school, they will have all the tools and abilities they'll need to thrive independently and with confidence.

As part of National story telling week, children have participated in a host of exciting opportunities designed to ignite their passion and love for reading. Pupils have decorated their classroom doors based on a story, stories to local Care Home, visited the library, enjoyed guest readers in their classrooms and taken part in a 'Reading in an Unusual Place' challenge and design a bookmark competition.

Extracurricular trips

- Classes Broadman, Riviera and KS2 Coronation enjoyed a visit to our local Church as part of their Religious Education topic – Christianity and baptisms.
- Class Mayflower and Jubilee have enjoyed lots of adventures this half term as part of their English topic – journeys. They have visited Peak wildlife Farm, a local farm and the park.
- Class Orient enjoyed a wonderful treat when they went to McDonalds for lunch as their prize for winning the Christmas door competition.
- Some of our KS3 and KS4 students visited KMF precision sheet metal factory as part of their Careers education to get an insight into their apprenticeship program.

School council

Our school council meet every for weeks and pupils have an opportunity to suggest and request things they would like at our school. Here are some recent requests we have actioned from the school council.

Pupils said...	We did...
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• We want more grown up things for break times.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• We ordered chess and dart boards.
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• We want to dress up for world book day.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• We have scheduled a fancy-dress theme for world book day.
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• We want to sell hot chocolate for red nose day.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Hot chocolates will be back on sale each Friday in March
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• We want to visit a care home.	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• We organised for pupils to read at the care home for National story telling week.

Inter school competitions!

This half term we have kicked off the inter school sports competitions with a fantastic handball tournament. Our KS2 team showed excellent teamwork skills. They gave their all in every game and finished third in the tournament. The pupils played with passion, learned valuable skills and most importantly, had a great time representing our school. We are so proud of their hard work and effort – what a brilliant achievement!



Comet

Class Comet have been exploring Europe in their topic lessons. We have learnt all about the different countries that comprise Europe and the seas that surround them. We have explored maps and graphs to look at the weather and climate of European countries. We enjoyed art where we explored different French artists and completed work following their techniques. The picture above shows Class Comet exploring a forest backdrop inspired by our Europe topic.



Coronation

Little Coronation have been up to lots this half term. They have enjoyed ticking off lots of Lavender 50 activities and spending lots of social skill lessons together with new members of the class. They have particularly enjoyed their science lessons where our focus has been the senses. We have explored lots of different things with our 5 senses and made sure we know which body part we use to do so. They did a great job making a smoothie together and using their sense of touch, taste, smell and sight to explore it.



In KS2 Coronation this term, we have been learning about the features of instructional texts in English. We have looked at a range of instructions including instructions for games, how to use different technologies and how an escalator works. We have recognised different features in the instructions, including organisational features, imperative verbs and time adverbials. We have then used these to create our own instructional texts.

Torbay and KS4 Jubilee

It has been a hard-working term for class Torbay who have completed coursework in a range of subjects for their BTEC and sat their Functional Skills Maths and English exams. Amongst all of this, the class have visited a care home, serviced motor vehicles, been assessed as athletes, prepared for job interviews, created individual artwork, created digital products, worked on mental arithmetic via darts for Number day, voted for our new class school councillor, read in random locations for Story Telling week and cooked up a storm in home cooking.



Broadsman

Class Broadsman have had another great term! We really enjoyed our visit from the local fire service.

KS2 children have enjoyed becoming scientists and have been conducting lots of exciting experiments. In English, they have focused on the story 'Peter and the Wolf' and created their own alternative ending for this book. Throughout Topic, we have been learning about Europe and they have created some beautiful artwork from around the world, inspired by a range of artists. During Maths, the children have started to work with fractions and have been identifying odd and even numbers.

KS1 children have been busy exploring with our senses in science! In English, they have listened to different fables and created their own story with a moral message. In Topic, we have been looking at the carnival of the animals and they have produced some lovely pieces of art in response to music. During Maths, we have focused on our IEP targets (number bonds) and have started to identify odd and even numbers.

All children participated in horse riding for PE in Spring 1 and their confidence has developed each week. We look forward to continuing this in Spring 2!

Have a lovely half term. Class Broadsman

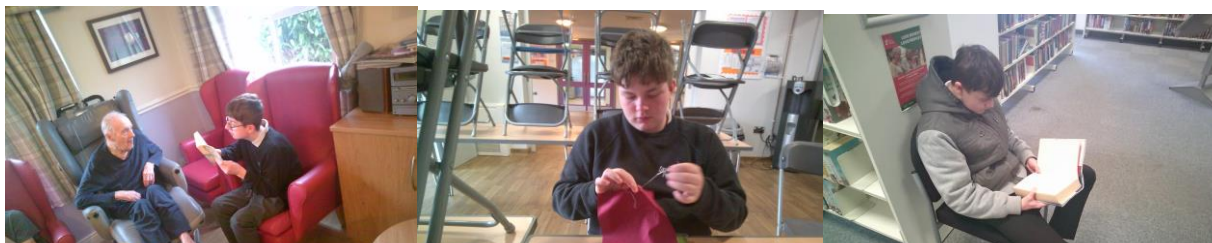


Rose

Class Rose have had another busy half term. They have focused mainly on speaking and listening in English and completed their speaking and listening assessments ready to be sent to the exam board. In Maths they have been exploring many concepts including shape and the differences between 2D and 3D shapes. In Science, they have continued their unit on human biology exploring the menstrual cycle as well as cellular respiration and gas exchange. In the afternoons, they have been working on a range of BTEC projects including hospitality and tourism, sport and recreation, work skills and personal growth.

Condor

Condor have been busy this half term. We have been exploring a range of non-fiction texts in English, ranging from 19th century inventions to dramatic news reports. Pupils have enjoyed creating their own TV news stories and explanations. In maths, pupils have been challenging themselves with algebra and percentages. In our science topic, pupils have learned all about combustion and the fire triangle. Pupils have enjoyed creating our own wallets in art. This involved lots of tricky, fiddly fine-motor skills that we have practised each week. We have also enjoyed various trips this half term. As part of National Reading Week, pupils had the opportunity to visit a local care home where we shared stories with residents and listened to stories of their lives. We also visited Crewe library, where we explored a range of books and shared them with our peers. Some of our pupils also had the opportunity to visit the KMF Precision Sheet Metal factory, where we learned about the apprenticeships that they offer, helping us to begin thinking about life after Lavender!



Belle

This Half-term Class Belle have been looking in detail at the role of a scientist. We have explored the importance of their job, as well as how they ensure their safety when performing different types of experiments. Throughout the term we have completed many different types of experiment from watermelon volcanoes to exploring the reaction between coke and mentos. We have also been exploring different fables/stories in our English lessons. KS1 have been exploring the story the dog that wouldn't stop barking. In KS2 we have been exploring the two versions of the story 'Peter and the wolf' looking in detail at the characters. We have also been comparing the similarities and differences between different authors styles of writing.



Orient

This term class Orient have been learning about fantasy stories in English. They have written some lovely stories of their own, adding adverbs, adjectives and dialogue to their writing to make it more interesting.

In topic they have been learning about Europe. They have explored French artists, using techniques such as pointillism, to create their own pieces of artwork. They have created 3d models in D and T, looking at some of the features of European countries, making the coastline of Greece and the French Alps.

The children have enjoyed learning about Great scientists in science. They have explored the discoveries of Issac Newton, carrying out experiments to test his theory on gravity. They looked at Mary Anings work, making their own fossils, digging for fossils and thinking about evolution and the changes that have occurred over time.

The children have taken part in some diversity days, they had a lovely Chinese feast for Chinese New Year. For National reading week, they visited a care home and shared their favourite stories with the residents.

Class Orient have had a great time at horse riding also this term, setting up obstacle courses for the horses, leading the horses, riding the horses and how to steer them, as well as being taught how to look after a horse including helping to muck out the stables.



Riviera

This half term in science Class Riviera have been looking at what scientists do; the children have been developing their skills to work scientifically and learning new scientific vocabulary. The children have carried out many experiments using these skills making predictions, explaining the method and drawing conclusions. Throughout these experiments the children have followed safety guidance and understood the importance of why we need to follow these.



Waverly

Camaraderie

Class Waverley have come back after Christmas with great spirits and even more class camaraderie. The students are always on the look out to help each other and their attitude towards each other is fantastic.

Boosting those super clever words

This term we have introduced a fun challenge to stretch the students higher end vocabulary, by using Mrs Wordsmith's *Word Day* flip book. The students are introduced to a new word, and then they are set the challenge of using that word at some point in that week. Now here comes the team effort point; once the word has been used by three different students in the correct context, we as a class can then move on to find out what the next new word is. This term we have covered the words; *swagger, grating, tongue-tied, vacant, demolish, flawless, humiliated and tempestuous*. It really is a thrill to hear the students using these higher-end vocabulary words in and around the school and I sincerely hope that they are using these at home too.

Bounding to success

This Spring term we have been fortunate enough to once again visit the top-class facility of LS Gymnastics, with outstanding coaching and support for the wonderful coach and gymnast Nam. The students worked on their strength, flexibility and more importantly their confidence. All of the students made amazing personal progress, with some being able to achieve new skills such as forwards rolls or even forward somersaults. We would like to thank both LS Gymnastics and Nam for their continued support and expertise. We would also like to wish Nam the absolute best of luck in her upcoming Gymnastics competition, she certainly wowed our class with her amazing skills.



Reading to the elderly

During *National Story Week* the students thoroughly enjoyed visiting a local Elderly Person's Home where they took along their reading books and shared their own stories with the residents. It was so lovely to see the smiles across the many different generations, from student, to staff, to resident.

Mayflower

This half term class Mayflower have done a topic on journeys. We have taken the opportunity to get out and about as much as possible. We have been to the farm, Delamere and McDonalds. We have used all these to think about different places and the words we could use to describe them. We have also used them as opportunities to practise our social skills.

In topic we have been thinking about the rainforest and as part of this the pupils got the opportunity to do some fruit tasting.



Jubilee

Little Jubilee have been on lots of exciting journeys this half term for their English curriculum. We have visited the Farm, Delamere Forrest, a cafe, the park, and the library. This photograph was taken on the Gruffalo Walk, where we went on a journey with our other KS3 friends to find a Gruffalo.

