



The Ridgeway CE Primary School

'Building for Life'

Newsletter 16th October 2026

News from Mrs Blockley

What a lovely opportunity for our KS2 children this week! We joined schools from across the country for a live online workshop with the British Museum, exploring one of history's most fascinating treasures – the Bayeux Tapestry! We even had an impromptu appearance from Claudia Winkleman, who took us on a tour of the hall housing the tapestry – an unexpected little bonus that certainly added to the excitement!

The timing made it even more special, as the workshop took place on the anniversary of the Battle of Hastings. We explored parts of the tapestry and discovered how it works a bit like a giant comic strip, using pictures to tell the story of the events of 1066. It was fascinating to see how this incredible piece of history has survived for so long and continues to tell a story nearly 1,000 years later.

But we didn't stop there! Our budding historians became history detectives, exploring how historians use different sources to check facts and build a picture of the past. We thought about who commissioned the tapestry, whether they had their own reasons for telling the story in a particular way, and how what has been left out can be just as revealing as what has been included.

It was a brilliant opportunity to bring history to life, spark curiosity and encourage the children to look beyond the obvious. Being part of a live event alongside schools across the country also made it a lovely shared cultural experience, connecting our children with an important part of our heritage.

A huge well done to our young historians for getting stuck in and thinking so carefully about what the past can teach us. Who knew a tapestry could give us so much to think about?!

Have a lovely weekend - *Mrs Blockley*

Notices

[@ridgewayprimary](https://www.ridgewayprimary.co.uk)



The Ridgeway CE Primary

Open Morning 20th October 2026
9:30 - 11:30 am



Is your child starting school in September 2027?

Choosing the right school matters. At The Ridgeway, children come first — with their wellbeing, development and learning at the heart of school life.



COME AND EXPERIENCE LIFE AT THE RIDGEWAY

See our children learning, exploring and enjoying school, meet the people who know and support them, and discover what makes The Ridgeway a special place to learn and grow.

See the school through their eyes.

WRAPAROUND CARE

Flexible care to support busy family life.

Our in-house wraparound care provides a safe and welcoming start and finish to the school day.

Breakfast Club From 7:30am
After School Club Until 6:00pm

To book your place or find out more, please contact our school office: 01235 751254
office.3231@ridgeway.oxon.sch.uk

www.ridgewayprimary.co.uk

The Ridgeway CE School PTA

Christmas Raffle



The PTA is seeking donations of hamper prizes (e.g. treats, wine, vouchers) or event sponsorship. Can you help? Your generosity will support our local school community, enriching the children's education experience and school facilities. Please contact the school office or the PTA team (ridgewayschoolpta@gmail.com).

Christmas Jumpers

Do you have any preloved Christmas jumpers or t-shirts, in sizes 5-12yrs, your children have outgrown? Please consider donating to our sustainability shop. Drop off is at the school office between November 2nd and November 20th. Please only donate items of good quality.





Wren Class – Class attendance for the week: 97%

Amazing week in Wren's – Bayeaux Tapestry Workshop, school disco and school photos! Phew. In the class – we've been building our non-chronological reports into the Maya Civilisation – researching and collecting facts and then putting them together into sub-headings – we're starting our writing and the reports will be completed next week – they should look amazing. Our Art unit is covering Street Art and we have been creating our own names in graffiti style for a display wall – they look great. The Bayeaux Tapestry workshop was fantastic – who knew it was 70 meters long and that it covers such dramatic events in such great detail. Our Maths unit is pushing the pupils to apply their knowledge to a variety of scenarios and thinking about how making minor adjustments can make subtraction so much simpler. Well done to the Year 6's for keeping up with the homework – they're working really hard. The home reading is proving to be really popular in the class, they enjoy seeing their names and faces rising up the tree – next stop – Krypton and Neverland! Last week of the half-term next week – well done everyone. Have a great weekend – Mr Minter

House Martin – Class attendance for the week: 97%

One of the highlights of the week in House Martins was the Bayeux Tapestry online workshop we did with Wrens on Wednesday. We found out some fascinating facts about the Battle of Hastings and looked in detail at some key scenes on the tapestry and learnt about Harold and William and why they met on the battlefield in 1066. In Geography we looked in more detail at the structure of the Earth and discovered why earthquakes and volcanoes tend to be found on or near the tectonic plate boundaries. In Art we took the next step in our Mosaic project and in PE we played our first proper 8 v 8 matches of tag rugby. In our writing sessions we have been learning about cause & effect sentences and how to use a relative clause effectively. In Maths we found 10 more or 10 less than a given number and learnt how to cross the 100 boundary by adding or subtracting multiples of 10. Our RE lesson focused on the story of the Good Samaritan and what lessons we could learn from it. Nearly half term – have a great weekend.

Skylarks - Class attendance for the week: 96%

Skylarks have had a brilliant week. In Maths, year one have been comparing numbers to 100 using the more than, less than and equal to symbols. Year 2 have been writing "first, then, then, now" stories to add three numbers and thinking about how the order of addends doesn't change the sum. In English, the children have started writing a job advert for a night soil man. They've been thinking about -ing verbs and using adjectives to describe what type of person they're looking for. In History, the children learned about Victorian toys and compared them to their modern ones. They found out about the differences in materials used to make the toys and how careful the Victorian children must have had to be - especially with their porcelain dolls!

Robin- Class attendance for the week: 100%

The week began in Robin Class by tasting the children's Hedgerow Jelly. Most of the Robins said it tasted yummy and enjoyed getting it all around their faces! When tasting time was over the children explored the Forest School area, many of them making their own jams in the mud kitchen, others chose to clean and "paint" the hut or collect beautiful autumn leaves. In Phonics, the children have been working hard blending and segmenting CVC words and sorting objects by their initial sounds. The focus in Maths was comparison. Robins used mathematical language such as larger, smaller, more than, less than and were introduced to the new vocabulary such as 'equal' and 'fewer' to describe amounts. The children learnt that Christian people believe that God created the world in seven days. They could recall the events in the creation story and know that the story can be found in the special book for Christians, The Bible. They were particularly fond of sleeping on the seventh day as the end of term draws nearer!



What a disco-tastic time we had!

A huge thank you to everyone who joined us for our PTA Autumn Disco – it was a truly glittery affair! It was wonderful to see everyone hitting the dance floor, showing off their best moves and strutting their stuff!

A very special thank you goes to **Going Green**, who very kindly donated all the popcorn for our much-appreciated mid-disco snack! Your generosity helped keep our little dancers fuelled and ready to boogie!

Thank you all for helping make it such a fun and memorable event!

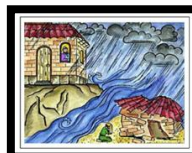
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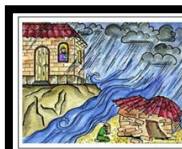
*Practical hints and tips
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Email
contact@growfamilies.co.uk
to book your place

*Starts 12th November
Thursdays 9.30 - 11.30am
St John's Church Rooms, Grove*

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SATURDAY 24 OCTOBER

1:30PM & 4PM

The Beacon, Wantage

wantageband.org/events