Weekly Newsletter: Friday 13th February 2026

Redwood Park Academy's Vision

Our vision is that all pupils at Redwood Park Academy will be confident communicators, who are growing to be more independent, so that they are happy and healthy young adults who make positive contributions to their community.

Kindness | Communication | Ambition

Class Spotlight: Mountbatten

Mountbatten Class have made a really positive start to the new term, producing some really impressive work!

In English we have been using the book 'Where the Wild Things Are' to help us create and describe our own monsters, and we are currently learning how to write instructions to tell someone how to catch our monster safely.

We have been creating our own chameleon pictures this half term in our art lessons, using a variety of techniques such as watercolour, oil pastels and collage to create colourful and imaginative designs.

We have explored mythical creatures in our project lessons, locating on a map of the world where they come from. We also really enjoyed our Stunning Start where we sculpted and painted our own monsters from clay, then went on a monster hunt to discover other pupils' creations! We are currently looking at habitats around the world and are creating our own wooden animal habitat chests filled with creatures that live in those habitats.

Our STEM lessons this half term has allowed us to explore our inner Van Goughs as we learned to recreate famous works of art using digital drawing and painting, exploring the different techniques on the laptop to help us create different effects. We produced some truly amazing creations.

In maths we have explored 3D shapes and symmetry and are now starting to challenge ourselves with multiplication problems and exploring the order of operations.

We're excited to see what the rest of the term has in store for us!

Class Spotlight: Mountbatten

CEA CARD:

The UK Cinema Association (UKCA) and its members want to make visiting the cinema an inclusive and enjoyable experience for all. Some disabled people need to be accompanied by someone else to enjoy the cinema experience because of the barriers they experience resulting from the effect of their disability. To make being accompanied as easy as possible the UKCA operates the CEA Card scheme.

The scheme allows a cardholder to be accompanied by someone, free of charge, when they purchase the applicable full price ticket to visit a participating cinema with that person.

To apply please go to the following website:

Apply or Renew - CEA Card

Subject of the week: Therapeutic Provision

This term, in provisions the pupils engaged in a range of activities that supported both their Thrive targets and wider SEMH development. They showed creativity and confidence by creating stickman posters, using drawing as a way to express their thoughts and ideas. They also demonstrated positive social and emotional growth by sharing a game with a peer, practising turn-taking, cooperation, and managing shared space.

The pupils further built their resilience by exploring and touching new materials, an important step in supporting sensory regulation and expanding their comfort zone. Throughout these experiences, they continued to build positive relationships with peers, strengthening their sense of connection, belonging, and emotional safety—key elements within the Thrive approach.

Signs of the week

Quarrel

Dragon

Forthcoming events:

Monday 16th February-Friday 20th February – Half term
Thursday 5th March- World Book Day (more details on how you can be involved to follow)

Value of the Week: Ambition

We are ambitious; we do our best to be our best.

Cascades: Savanna for attempting more challenging maths work with support.

Castle: Charlie H for always putting in the effort to produce his best work.

Castle: Presley for showing leadership skills at the fort. Presley suggested a game and gave excellent instructions on how to play it.

Clarence: Dan P for showing ambition in all respects of school life, particularly with his writing.

D-Day: Alex M for showing ambition in his class assembly by learning new Makaton signs and performing them to the whole school.

Dockyard: Kacie for trying different levels of exam papers and pushing herself to get the highest grade possible.

Eastney: Zach R for being incredibly ambitious with his work in class and going out his way to help others in his classroom.

Fratton Park: Teddy for pushing himself to complete activities he finds tricky.

Guildhall: Sebastian for always wanting to improve on himself, his skills and working hard towards his learning and personal goals.

Gunwharf: Freya has shown great ambition in her reading. She is working hard to blend words, and her progress is wonderful to see.

Mountbatten: Theo M for persevering in his maths lessons this week, even when it was quite tricky, to help him find success.

Museum: Luca for always completing his work to the highest ability and mirroring teaching skills with his class peers.

Nelson: Bronson has been trying his best in all his lessons and sharing his achievements with others!

Seaside: Theo T has been focusing on his work for longer periods of time and achieving more in his learning.

Southsea: Charlie P for working extra hard in options lessons and supporting other pupils. He went over and above in food tech this week to achieve the best for Lyn, himself and others.

Spinnaker: Maya for doing well at pushing herself to sit in the hall and eat her lunch with her class.

Warrior: Leo M for engaging with his lessons and other adults this week.

Wedgewood: Finley S for setting himself high goals, understanding his English work this week and working hard towards his targets!

The next value will be communication.

Portsmouth Families First Survey

We have been asked by Portsmouth City Council to reach out to our families to complete Portsmouth Families First Survey. This survey is a chance for families to influence the future of how services are delivered in Portsmouth.

Why is this important?
The voices of children and families are central to PCC's service improvement. By taking part, families help us create a system that is easy to navigate, responsive, and designed for everyone – whether they access support through schools, health services, early years, or community settings.

What is Families First?
This is a national reform programme led by the Department for Education. In Portsmouth PCC will be focusing on providing help earlier to keep children safely with their families, reducing handovers between services by developing a joined up 'Family Help' offer, co-producing solutions with families putting them at the heart of decisions and creating innovative care options for children we care for and care-experienced young people.

Please click on the link below or scan the QR code to complete the survey.

Portsmouth Families First Survey

Sensory Exploration of Food

Pupils in Gunwharf class have been busy engaging in our food programme this week — a wonderful **sensory exploration of food**!

This week the theme was food art! Our pupils had the opportunity to explore a variety of ingredients through smell, texture, and touch, which is helping them build confidence, curiosity, and positive experiences around food. It's been fantastic to see them engaging, experimenting, and having fun while developing important sensory and life skills.

Great job, Gunwharf Class!