

# THE PAKEMAN PRESS



Pakeman  
Primary  
School

Thank you for taking the time to read this weekly newsletter.  
We hope you will find its contents useful.

Issue 10 Spring Term 2026

Friday 20th March 2026

## Science Week

During British Science Week, our school enjoyed a range of exciting, hands-on science activities.

Children and staff were inspired by a whole-school assembly featuring live demonstrations, including kinetic energy experiments, disappearing water and spinning like a skater. The finale enthralled everyone as they watched a giant bubble ring encase audience volunteers.



Some children did follow-up practical workshops. These included activities such as the Grab the Orange Challenge, Bernoulli's Windbags, ZipString engineering, the inertia tablecloth trick, building a human electrical circuit and controlling a hovering ping-pong ball.

Throughout the week, classes also carried out a range of practical investigations - a sample of which we showcase in our newsletter today. All of these workshops and activities gave the children opportunities to explore scientific concepts in a fun and interactive way, bringing science to life across the whole school.

Thanks to all our staff for the additional energy you all brought to science week to make this a thrilling time for the children. We also say a special thanks to Marta for sourcing the funding for our workshops and to Nesim for orchestrating the week.



Trying out science investigations can be fun to try at home with both adults and children working alongside together and following all the safety rules. Take a look at the link to see if there is something that you might want to investigate.

[Science Ideas - for the family](#)



**Spring Term:**

**End of Term:**  
Friday 27 March  
**1.30 FINISH**

**Summer Term:**

Monday 13<sup>th</sup> April **INSET**

**First day back for children:**  
**Tuesday 14th April**



Steve trying to grab a competition prize t-shirt before realising it didn't fit!  
**Prize winners to be announced next week!**

## SUPER STARS

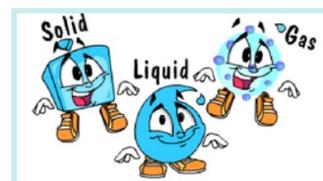


Elm  
Pine  
Cherry  
Holly  
Maple  
Willow  
Palm  
Banyan  
Olive  
Cedar  
Mahogany  
Eucalyptus  
Sequoia

Tahjae  
Tasrif  
Ethan  
Jace  
Cruz  
Aniah  
Sami  
Ash  
Jasmine  
Amara  
Ethan  
Kolin  
Ryanna

## Investigating in Key Stage 1

Our Year 1 and 2 children had a fantastic time celebrating Science Week. The children became real scientists as they explored three exciting experiments. They investigated which objects sink or float, tested which materials could keep Teddy dry and discovered what happens when solids and liquids are mixed together. There were lots of predictions, observations, and surprised faces along the way! The children had an absolute blast experimenting, learning and thinking like scientists.



## Jack and the Beanstalk in Reception

The children in Reception have been reading '*Jack and the Beanstalk*' as part of their 'Traditional Tales' topic.

On Monday, they arrived at school to see a video of a giant beanstalk growing in our playground! We explained that Steve had cut it down over the weekend to make sure the children were safe. They had lots of fun hunting for any remaining evidence and planting their own beans.



## Little Scientists in the Nursery

In nursery the children became little scientists as they experimented with different materials. They carried out some investigations with ice to test sinking and floating. They all observed very carefully and talked about what they noticed as the ice began to melt and change. They also tested different objects to see whether they would sink to the bottom or float on the water.



## Electrical Safety

A huge thank you to Electrical Safety First who provided funding that helped to kickstart our Science Week with an assembly and workshops that taught us all about the force of electricity and plasma!



The Pakeman Bright Sparks Project means we have been busy learning about electrical safety in the home and having a playground event where parents and carers could come and pick up information and leaflets.



We even held a poster competition with some amazing entries which will be displayed in the community. Our winners will be announced next week.

For more information on e-bikes and scooters: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=O3k8Mj8g4EY>

### Top Tips:

- Never charge phones, tablets, or e-bikes on beds, under pillows, or overnight, as this causes overheating and fires.
- Never plug one extension lead into another or use fake chargers.
- Keep liquids away from electronics. Ensure hands are dry. Children must be fully dried after baths before using consoles or hair dryers.

## Parent/Carer Event

At our parent/carers playground event we shared information about electrical safety. Many received lovely tote bags with guides on how to stay safe at home and on buying electrical goods online. They also received snazzy labels for sorting and identify cables at home.



## Separating Mixtures

Year 5 and 6 children had a fun session looking at making and separating mixtures in the classroom. They made some new discoveries through their investigations.



## Fossil Formation

Year 3 and 4 children investigated how fossils are formed using layers of bread.



*In today's lesson, we learned how fossils are formed. We used bread and a plastic dinosaur to show how animals or plants can be buried in layers of sediment, preserved over time, and how a fossil can form. We also made a short film to explain the process.*





## Attendance and Punctuality

Year Group	Best Attendance	Most Improved	Best Punctuality
EYFS & KS1	Willow Class	Cherry Class	Elm Class Holly Class
KS2	Olive Class	Under 95%	Olive Class



## PUNCTUALITY MATTERS

IN ONE SCHOOL YEAR

**5 MINUTES**

late each day

= **3** days off in total



**Be on time!**

## Playcentre Fun

The children continue to have so much fun at Playcentre. Here we see some drawing ocean pictures as part of a competition - with some fantastic entries! Others are enjoying building with lego, playing board games and just having a super time.



## Remember Sabina is raising funds for Artis at Pakeman

Sabina is raising money so YOUR child can experience [Artis](#). Every week, Artis practitioners transform our school with music, movement and storytelling. They help children build confidence, express themselves, collaborate and discover joy in creativity. For many of our pupils - even those who find traditional learning challenging - Artis sessions are a highlight of the week!



Sabina sees the impact first-hand: children who blossom when they can move, act, imagine and create. That's why she wants to raise money for this. She wants to help ensure this work continues to reach every child at Pakeman. **Have you sponsored her yet?**

If you'd like to help her reach her **£1000 target**, you can donate here:  
[Sabina - Just Giving page for Pakeman](#)

## Incredible Years - Parent/Carer Course (Under 5s)

*Incredible Years* is a free, evidence-based course for parents and carers of young children, offering practical strategies to support positive behaviour and build strong relationships in a friendly, non-judgemental group.

**Toddler group (1–3 years):** Friday mornings, **20 March – 10 July**, Ambler Children’s Centre ([Bright Start North](#)).

**Early Childhood group (3–6 years):** Tuesday mornings, **17 March – 7 July**, New River Green ([Bright Start Central](#)).

To find out more please contact [Bright Start North](#) or [Bright Start Central](#).

## A Child’s Digital Day

The [London Grid for Learning](#) along with Islington Nurseries have created a tool for parents and carers navigating life in a digital world with little ones.

We know there are risks with technology, but there are benefits too! This guide will help you to spot high quality, useful tech to use with your child, effectively teaching them how to access digital media, safely and meaningfully.

### [A Child’s Digital Day](#)



## Oral Health Day

With World Oral Health Day approaching on 20 March, it’s an ideal opportunity to remind your children about the importance of caring for their teeth and building healthy daily habits.

### [Oral Health Day](#)



A HAPPY MOUTH IS...  
**a happy life**

**To prevent painful tooth decay, brush all of your child’s teeth twice a day**

**Help your child care for their milk teeth to give them a healthy smile for life!**

**Did you know?**

- Good oral health is important for a strong start in life, helping children smile with confidence, speak clearly and make friends.
- It’s important to look after your child’s milk teeth, as these help adult teeth grow strong.
- Teeth shed a quarter of 5-year-olds across the UK have had experience of white tooth decay.\*
- And tooth decay is the main reason why 5-9-year-olds are admitted to hospital\*\*.

**Top tips to prevent tooth decay**

- Supervise your child’s toothbrushing until they are at least 7** if it can be hard to brush all surfaces of all teeth. Encourage your child by brushing your teeth at the same time.
- Use a fluoride toothpaste.** Fluoride helps shield teeth and protect them from acid.
- Visit the dentist regularly.** This helps catch problems early, to keep your child’s teeth healthy for life.
- Be playful with the Shine Bright song!** Download the free Brush DJ app and make toothbrushing fun!
- Scan QR for the Shine Bright app!**
- Brush when you wake!**
- Brush before bed!**

**How to brush your child’s teeth**

- Step 1** Pop a pea-sized blob of toothpaste on your child’s brush.
- Step 2** Gently brush the outside, the whole way around using small circles.
- Step 3** Open wide! Brush the surfaces that crunch. Slowly does it!
- Step 4** Next, gently brush all inside surfaces, top and bottom.
- Step 5** Spit, don’t rinse! Keep the fluoride shield on the teeth.