

St Mary's Acton St David's Wettenhall & St Oswald's Worleston August 2025



**The Cross Country Parishes
of
Acton with Worleston, Church
Minshull and Wettenhall**

Dear Friends

[A Sabbath] Rest



August is often a month when regular activities stop, and life can, for a week or two, slow down at least a fraction.

I've been thinking about rest recently, partly because I had a few days holiday last month and partly because I was asked by a small group of school staff if they could have a quiet, meditative service after school. They recognised the need to be quiet and rest for a while.

I had very much hoped that one of the positive legacies of lockdown five years ago would be a willingness to slow life down a little. Clearly that hasn't happened, and, if anything life has sped up. And yet, at the heart of our human nature is the need to rest.

The most cursory reading of the accounts of creation in Genesis chapters 1 and 2 reveals that on the seventh day of creation, God rested. The need to rest is so important in the Jewish tradition, that the Jewish day begins with rest, starting at sundown. The creation accounts state that: 'It was evening and it was morning, that day'. There is something beautiful, and necessary, about the day starting with rest. The fourth of the Ten Commandments is a commandment to 'Remember the Sabbath day and keep it holy', what that means in our hectic 24 hour society is for each of us to work out, but for our individual well being and mental health, it is important that we do grapple with what it means in our individual lives.

Finally, in the Letter to the Hebrews, the writer (whoever they may be), tells us that, 'There remains a sabbath rest for the people of God.' (Hebrews 4:9). In the context in which this verse sits, this can be read as a hint of the eternal rest which awaits all those who believe in Jesus.

Perhaps August, or at least a small portion of it, will have a glimpse of the rest for which we long because it is hard baked into our human nature.

Yours in the Lord of the Sabbath

Revd Anne

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Sunday Services

11:00 am

Acton

- 3rd Aug 11:00 am United Communion at Worleston
- 10th Aug 11:00 am United Cafe Church at Church Minshull
- 17th Aug 10:00 am United Messy Church at Acton
- 24th Aug 11:00 am United Communion at Wettenhall
- 31st Aug 11:00 am United Communion at Acton
- 7th Sep 11:00 am Communion

Church Minshull

- 3rd Aug 11:00 am United Communion at Worleston
- 10th Aug 11:00 am United Cafe Church at Church Minshull
- 17th Aug 10:00 am United Messy Church at Acton
- 24th Aug 11:00 am United Communion at Wettenhall
- 31st Aug 11:00 am United Communion at Acton
- 7th Sep 11:00 am Service of the Word

Worleston

- 3rd Aug 11:00 am United Communion at Worleston
- 10th Aug 11:00 am United Cafe Church at Church Minshull
- 17th Aug 10:00 am United Messy Church at Acton
- 24th Aug 11:00 am United Communion at Wettenhall
- 31st Aug 11:00 am United Communion at Acton
- 7th Sep No Service

Wettenhall

- 3rd Aug 11:00 am United Communion at Worleston
- 10th Aug 11:00 am United Cafe Church at Church Minshull
- 17th Aug 10:00 am United Messy Church at Acton
- 24th Aug 11:00 am United Communion at Wettenhall
- 31st Aug 11:00 am United Communion at Acton
- 7th Sep 11:00 am Morning Prayer

Additionally there is a 10:30 Communion at Acton every Wednesday

St David's Church Wettenhall			
Sidespersons		Cleaning and Flowers	
3 rd	Aug	United at Worleston	Mrs M Sherry
10 th	Aug	United at Church Minshull	
17 th	Aug	United at Acton	Mrs A Nicholas
24 th	Aug	Churchwardens	
31 st	Aug	United at Acton	Mrs A Brooks
7 th	Sep	Mrs A Hignett	
Website currently unavailable			

Darnhall Brownies

We've had a busy few weeks at 1st Darnhall Brownies. Here's what we've been up to: Some of our pack attended the Royal Cheshire Show on 18th June, where they helped the organisers take show results to the secretary's tent. They also visited the Girl-Guiding stand and had a go at some of their games.

On the 6th July the Brownies helped to run the refreshments stand at Darnhall Show. The girls had been busy making signs and posters the week before. The girls also entered some of the competitions, so well done to Mollie who came 2nd in her class! While we've not been visiting shows, the Brownies dug up their potatoes that they planted a few months ago, which they all took home, along with lettuce that we've been growing.



Coffee and Cake

The next meetings will be on
August 7th and September 4th
from 10-12 noon in Church.
Everyone is very welcome to pop in for as
little or as long as they wish.



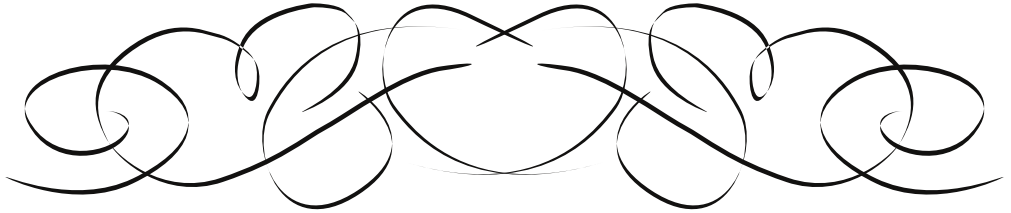


Darnhall and Wettenhall WI

The members of our Women's Institute met at the Village Hall on Tuesday 1st July. We gathered together for the monthly meeting to sing 'Jerusalem' and open the meeting. The President proposed a toast to all those who were involved in the Second World War, whether armed forces personnel, civilians, and all those affected by the aftermath of the conflict. In memory of that whole generation a substantial afternoon tea was served to commemorate their resilience and the events of V.E. Day across this country and Europe. A table quiz followed the refreshments.

The committee business was discussed, together with county WI events and dates and our own activities such as lunch and walking groups. Dates for village hall and wider community events were given out. The special afternoon tea was rounded off with the singing of the National Anthem.

The next meeting is Tuesday 5th August 7.00pm at Darnhall Village Hall. Visitors are always welcome to come along and share in the meetings.



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Local Officers Gary and Sharon popped into today's coffee and chat at St David's Church Wettenhall

We couldn't resist a picture with this little cutie called mouse

It was good to see people getting together on a monthly basis and not just local residents, people from surrounding villages who enjoy the company

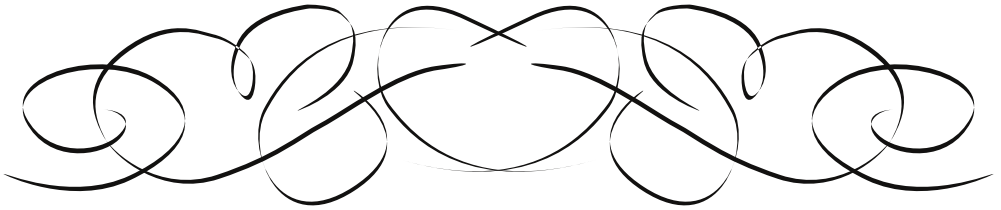


Eco Church

In August there are two opportunities to spend some time in quiet reflective prayer and worship on Tuesday 12th August at 2.30pm at Poole Methodist Quiet Garden. The garden has a prayer labyrinth, a range of scented plants and lots of seating to find a spot to unwind and spend time reflecting and praying. There will be a short time of



worship to end our time together. The other date is Thursday 21st August at St David's Wettenhall at 10.30am This time, a short prayer walk and possibly a scavenger hunt, finishing with worship in the outdoors (weather permitting). You can come for the walk or the worship, or both! For more details, contact Brenda Brockbank on 01606 593651.



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St Mary's Church, Acton Sidespersons	
3 rd Aug	United at Worleston
10 th Aug	United at Church Minshull
17 th Aug	Tracy and Peter Foster
24 th Aug	United at Wettenhall
31 st Aug	Ena Furber and Gill Evans
7 th Sep	Sue and Charles Hull
Visit: www.stmarysacton.org	

Tea at the Tower Guided Walks

The next walks are:

No walk in August

14th September

5th October

Tea at the Tower is open every Sunday from 2:30 pm - 4:30 pm.

On the above dates there is a guided walk departing the church at 12:45 pm. Nick organises circular walks varying between 3 to 5 miles, then returning to the church for a refreshing cup of tea or coffee and a slice of delicious cake.

The pace of the walks is relaxed, and the routes generally involve canal towpath and lane walking. The footpaths should be good (also hopefully dry?) and only a small number of stiles are negotiated. Stout outdoor shoes or walking shoes/boots are recommended.

All are welcome including dogs on leads

For further information please phone Nick Harley, Lead Walker, on 01270-620612 or 07710983125.



From the Registers

Burials

24th June 2025 **Brian Darlington** Aged 88

30th June 2025 **Richard Geoffrey Woolley** Aged 74

16th July 2025 **Clive Robert Dunning** Aged 68

Condolences are expressed to family and friends following their sad loss.



Movie Nights

Acton Village Movie Night

Movie Nights are held once a month on a Friday night and doors open at 7pm for a 7:30pm start. The event is run by local volunteers and profits go towards the upkeep and running of Acton Church and Acton Parish Hall. There is always a friendly atmosphere – no bookings needed; seating on a first come, first served basis. Cost: £5 per person – free parking in village car park.

Friday 5th September 2025

The Fugitive – certificate 15 – stars Harrison Ford

Friday 17th October 2025

The Good Liar – certificate 15 – stars Ian McKellen and Helen Mirren.

Legacies

Bequests have recently been received from the Estates of the following:

Malcolm Boot who regularly attended our services and events and was a past joint Treasurer with his Wife Kitty at St Mary's. The bequest was made to all **Cross Country parishes.**

Eileen Allwood who regularly attended our services and events and was very much part of our church family. This bequest was made to **St Mary's.**

Bequests in Wills contribute substantially to both the maintenance and running of our Church. If you would like to discuss making a bequest in your Will and how best to ensure your wishes are followed please contact either Revd Anne Lawson or the Treasurer, James Hickie, to ensure your wishes are clearly stated in your Will.

A Big Thank You from Penni Doyle

I would like to say a heartfelt thank you for the generous gift voucher that I received on Sunday - I was so excited that we made a trip to the garden centre yesterday and I am now the proud owner of a beautiful Heritage Garden Pottery pot. The timing is perfect as I got carried away at Bodnant Garden in May and unwisely bought a Cornus Kousa Chinensis, a white flowering dogwood, only to return home to discover there really was no room in the garden for yet another plant! Yet, thanks to your generosity, it is now happy and healthy in its new pot - a wonderful reminder of my time as churchwarden at St. Mary's Acton with Worleston. I would also like to take this opportunity to say thank you for the kind support and guidance I received from so many of you enabling me to carry out God's work in the parish which I hope to continue in my retirement.



Gratitude

Gratitude

Gratitude is a profound emotional response to the kindness of others. Hopefully, we have all come to experience this emotion at some time or another. Indeed, it might be that someone has stepped in to share the heavy load during a time of particular stress.

It is true; we have much to be grateful for. Perhaps we can spare a moment to recognise and value our own blessings? It could be said that gratitude goes beyond being thankful (which in itself is a wonderful place to be!). Indeed, while thankfulness is part of our gratitude; gratitude can also encompass a deeper sense of appreciation for life, relationships and the good things we might experience. Studies have shown that practising gratitude can lead to increased happiness, improved relationships and a better sense of overall well-being (something for us to remember when we are saying our prayers tonight!).

Recently at Acton Church, we have received a series of gifts - gifts left to the church in the Wills of very dear friends. They have come as a complete surprise at a time when urgent repair works to our beautiful medieval building are stacking up.

We are deeply grateful and humbled by the thought and kindness that lies behind these acts of generosity.

Stephan Davies





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Cross Country Pages

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

this month to

Amber Spencer	Leo Haughan
Benjamin Glover	Maisie Rowland
Cerys Howells	Morgan Standeven
Conor Smith	Pheobe Corley
Emma Parkin	Quinn Williams
Hannah Corley	Scarlett Hyland
Harry Smith	Sienna Hyland

Special Birthday Greetings

Special Birthday wishes to Barbara Robinson

Condolences

We send our deepest sympathy to the family of **Mrs Janet George** who died on July 6th.

Janet became part of our churches when her late husband, Alan, was a Reader here.

Also condolences to the family and friends of **Stanley Hamlett Orme** of Mill Lane Cottage Darnhall who sadly passed a month ago.



On The Funny Side

It was an exceptionally hot day, and they were having company for dinner. Mother asked her five-year old Simon to say a prayer before they ate. "But what should I say?" asked Simon. "Just say what you've heard me say," said his mother. Little Simon bent his head and said, "Dear Lord, why did I ever invite these people over for dinner on a hot day like this?"

Ladies' Lunch

Tuesday 19th August
at

White Lodge, Chester Rd, Acton
12:30 pm
All Welcome
£12.00

For further details contact:
Joyce Percival 01270 691315,
Heather (07887 760930), Isobel
(624521), or Ann (528273)

Mobile Library

Aug	Sep	Sep	Tuesdays	
12 th	2 nd	23 rd	Arr	Dep
Badger Church Minshull			10:20	10:45
Home Farm Park South			11:10	11:20
Lea Green				
Home Farm Park North			11:30	11:50
Lea Green				
Wettenhall Church			12:05	12:20
Station Rd Calveley			13:35	13:55
Tollemache Arms			14:05	14:30
Alraham				
Aug	Aug	Sep	Thursdays	
7 th	28 th	18 th	Arr	Dep
Pinfold Craft Centre			11:00	11:25
Poole				
Worleston Station			11:35	11:45
Aston Juxta Mondrum				
Worleston Village Hall			11:50	12:10
Aug	Sep	Sep	Thursdays	
14 th	4 th	25 th	Arr	Dep
Farmers Arms			10:00	10:15
Ravensmoor				
Goodwill Hall Faddiley			10:30	10:50
Greenfields Farm			11:05	11:20
Gradeley Green				

Favourite Hymns; For the Beauty of the Earth

August is usually associated with holidays, either at home, somewhere else in the UK or abroad. Most people look to visit or stay in a place that they consider 'beautiful', whether that is at the coast, the countryside, historic cities or simply by a cooling pool with a lounger. The Earth is a beautiful planet, despite all that has happened to it over millions of years. This beauty is celebrated in a well-loved hymn written by Folliot Sandford Pierpoint in 1864, when he was 29 years old. He was a well-educated graduate of Queen's College Cambridge, a teacher at Somersetshire College in his hometown of Bath, and a poet. He was a 'Tractarian' – a member of a religious revival group within the Church of England which looked back to its Catholic roots. Their beliefs were published in 'Tracts For the Times', which gave them their name. Folliot loved the natural World and is said to have written this hymn after sitting on the hills above Bath and looking at the countryside below. He went on to publish books of poetry, including 'The Chalice of Nature' and 'Songs of Love'.

'For The Beauty of the Earth' reflects on the beauty of hills, streams and sky and our place in this World. It also brings in our close family relationships and connections with God. The hymn was originally written as a Eucharistic hymn, meaning that it was to be used at Holy Communion services, which is why the phrase 'this our sacrifice of praise' is included in the verses. Psalm 19 has similar themes, and both remind us that nature has a repeating rhythm with the order of the four seasons and day following night.

The original melody was written by Conrad Kocher in 1838 as a chorale tune for the hymn 'Faithful Saviour, We Are Here'. This melody was then adapted by William Monk, although it is usually

known as 'Dix' after William Chatterton Dix. He used it for his Christmas carol 'As With Gladness Men Of Old' and the name stuck! Originally there were eight verses, but these were reduced to four or five over the decades. One of the most popular melodies for the hymn is now David Evans tune known as 'Lucerna Laudonine', although John Rutter wrote a truly lovely setting in 1980. At the time Rutter said that he 'wrote the melody and it was nice that it had a sense of being inevitable – you can't imagine it having been written in any other way. 'If you are not familiar with this version, then it's well worth looking it up on YouTube because it is beautiful in itself. Whatever the melody, this hymn is published in over 450 hymnals around the World, different countries and religious groups adapting it slightly to reflect their beliefs. It seems to have universal themes which are accessible to all. It is a particular favourite for American Thanksgiving celebrations, which show just how far it has travelled since the City of Bath in the 19th Century. Wherever you are for August, have a break from routine, if only to listen to this hymn.



Heather Pope

SCAM Alert

If you receive the Text Message below **DELETE** it.



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Wednesday >

Department for Work and Pensions
official reminder:...

This is a message I received myself and have to say it is horribly realistic and I almost fell for it.

It was only because I spent a few years working in cyber security, that I paused and thought, would the HMRC really contact me via SMSNO it's highly unlikely.

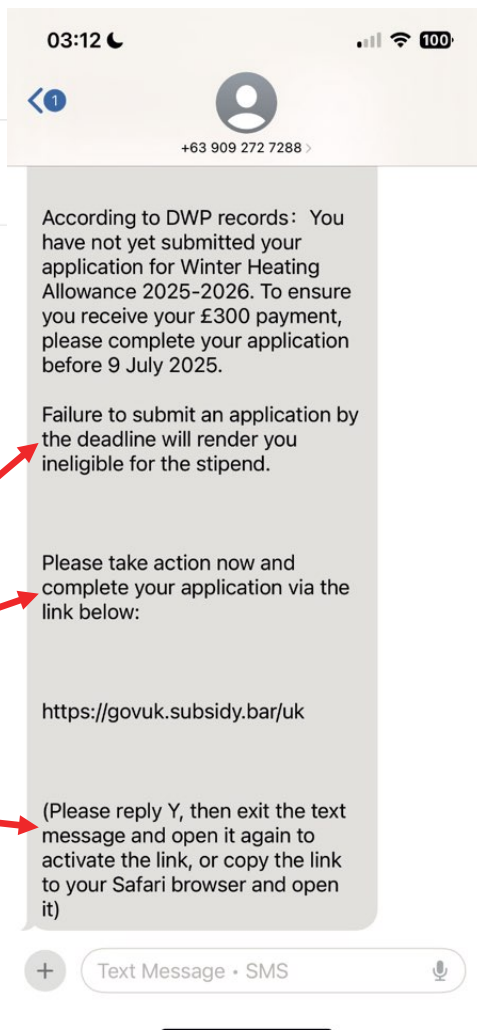
Once you pause and read the message again you see it has a number of key pointers:

Fear of Missing Out

Act Now

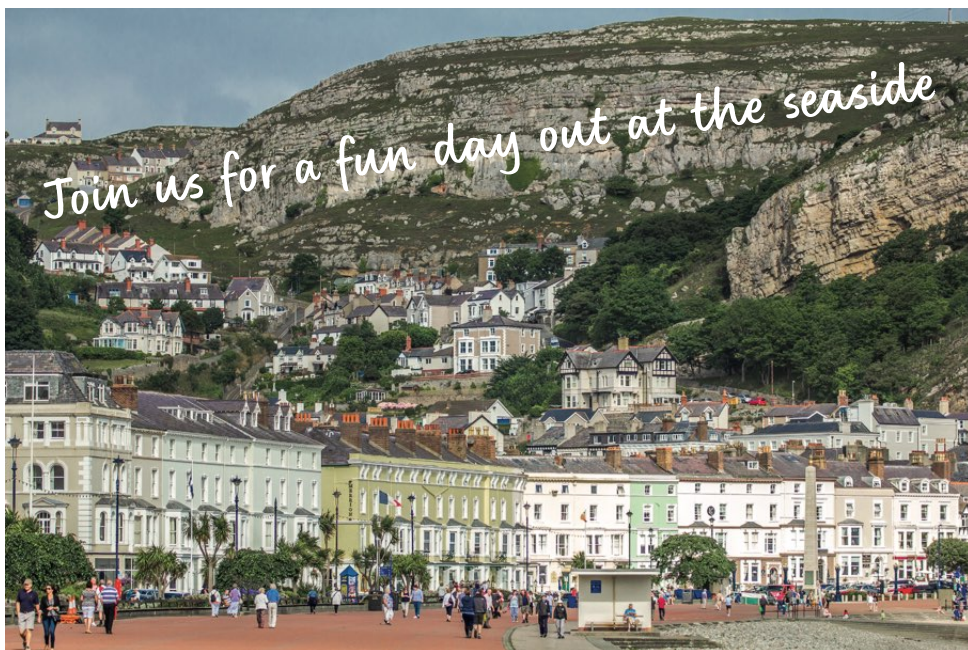
Strange instructions

This is a very good example of a Smishing (SMS fishing) message. Please be careful with all text messages and emails you receive, Cyber Crime is not going away anytime soon.



If you know what you're doing you can forward messages like these to fraud alert on 7726, HMRC scams can also be reported by forwarding to 60599.

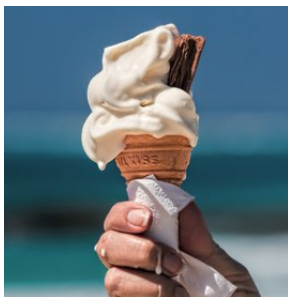
Cross Country Parishes Day Trip to Llandudno



Thursday 14th August 2024

Cost: £12 per Person

Depart from Acton Church at 9am - Return at 5pm from Llandudno



Details from Joyce Percival 07703 292900

Contacting the emergency services if you are Deaf or Hard of hearing

If you struggle to hear someone on the phone, then getting help in an emergency could be difficult, however you can now contact the emergency services via a text message, but you **MUST** register your phone beforehand. What to do :-

1. Register your phone - Text the word 'register' to 999
2. You will get an automatic reply - please read it.
3. Reply to the message saying 'yes'
4. You will then get a text telling you your mobile is now registered.

In an emergency you can now text 999 - type which service you require and brief details of the emergency and where you are.

Example of a good text

'Ambulance. Man having a heart attack. Outside St Mary's Church, Acton, Nantwich CW5'

Register today, don't leave it until you need help!



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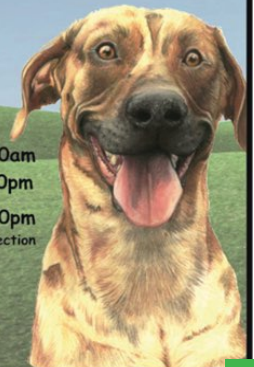
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St Oswald's Church, Worleston				
Sidespersons			Coffee	
3 rd Aug	Diane Darlington		Pam Haigh	
14 th Sep	Anne Fletton		Marilyn Booth	
Flowers			Cleaning	
3 rd Aug	Alison Stokes		Aug	Volunteers
14 th Sep	Felicity Adams			
Website currently unavailable				

Malbank WI Group

The Malbank Group Committee and Coordinator, Rosalind Lea organised a friendly bowls competition between members representing a number of WIs from the Nantwich area.

The competition was between pairs of players at Wrenbury Bowls Club on Monday 23rd June. We were fortunate that the weather was kind to us without being too hot but with the sun breaking through occasionally.

Malbank Committee Member, Joyce Percival, organised refreshments with a variety of homemade delicious cakes and drinks for players, scorers and supporters.

The shield was eventually won by two players from Aston WI.

Photographs Opposite



Coffee and Cake

There will be NO Coffee and Cake on August 2nd. We are giving **Diane Darlington** a well deserved break.

She will be back on September 6th with a selection of her delicious cakes.

Thank you Diane!

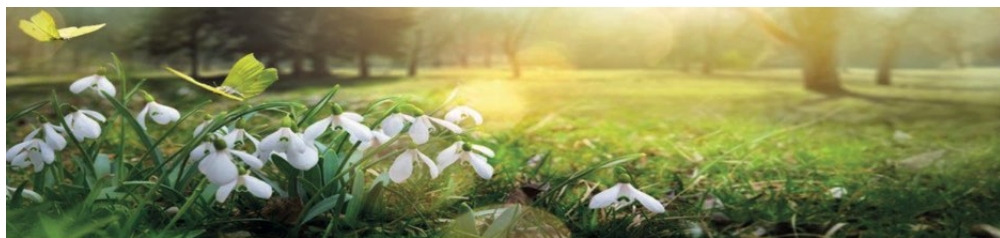
Coffee and Cake

Saturday 6th September from 10-12 noon in Church.

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Calveley School

As part of their end-of-year celebrations, **Year 6** enjoyed a truly unforgettable **trip to London**, packed with learning, laughter, and once-in-a-lifetime experiences. At Parliament, pupils learned about how laws are made, the roles of MPs and Lords, and walked in the footsteps of political leaders. The visit sparked lots of brilliant questions and meaningful discussions.

The class headed to the Apollo Victoria Theatre to watch *Wicked* and visited the Frameless Immersive Art Experience – they were totally enthralled by this new, fun and interactive way to discover so many different artists. They even found time for a trip on the London Eye and to see Buckingham Palace.

It was a special last few days of primary school with their friends, we were so proud of their conduct, enthusiasm, curiosity and kindness throughout the visit. We wish all of our year sixes the very best for the next steps of their journey, they will be missed! This month also saw the return of our much-anticipated Sports Week, and what an action-packed week it was! Pupils from all year groups got stuck into a range of exciting and challenging activities designed to promote teamwork, confidence, and physical fitness.

Scooter skills sessions had everyone zipping around with big smiles, learning balance and coordination in a fun and safe way. Meanwhile, the climbing wall tested bravery and strength, as pupils scaled to new heights with determination and encouragement from their peers.

For those seeking adventure, the caving experience offered a thrilling challenge, simulating real cave exploration with twists, turns, and a sense of discovery. One of the week's most talked-about events was the Tough Runner obstacle course—a muddy, energetic, and unforgettable experience filled with crawling, climbing, and plenty of cheering.

It was fantastic to see so many pupils pushing themselves, trying new things, and showing excellent sportsmanship throughout the week.

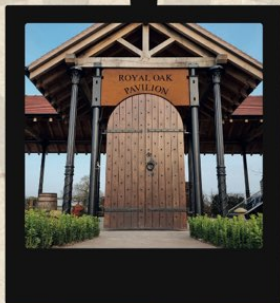






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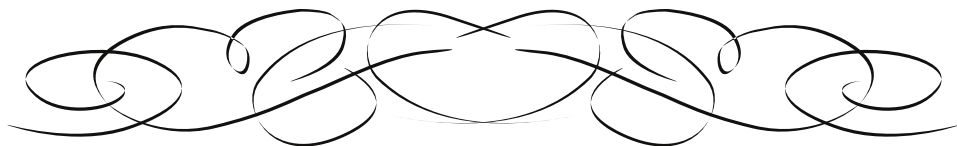
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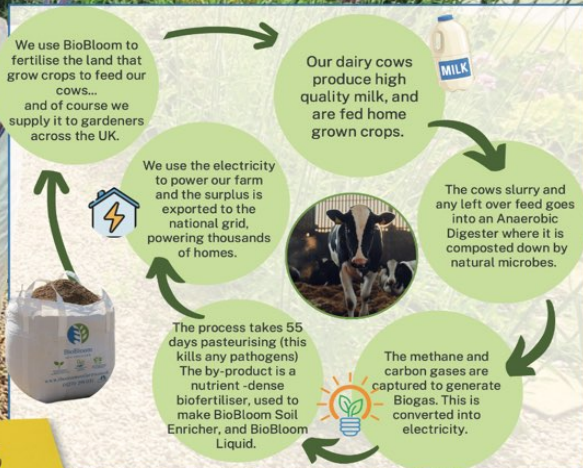
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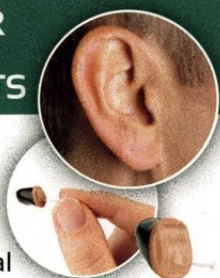
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