



Norfolk House School

# NEWSLETTER

## END OF SPRING TERM 2018



Norfolk House School

29th March 2018

Dear Parents,

The Spring Term finished on a high note with the two Spring Concerts held in recent days. With so many keen performers, the new format of spanning the events over two afternoons offered the perfect opportunity for families to join us and to see the wide range of talent on show at the school. From Years 1 to 6, the pupils displayed skills in violin, piano and guitar as well as performances by choir and the orchestra and it was moving to observe how the pupils applied themselves with such concentration and enjoyment. Thank you especially to Mrs Brockman and her team of music peripatetic teachers and, most importantly, our performers for making the event so special.

Once again, our Mother's Day event was very well attended and we are very grateful for your support in what is an afternoon highly cherished by the excited pupils. Looking ahead to next term, there are many events to look forward to and these will be shared with parents at the start of next term with full details of the arrangements for the sports events, Speech Day, Father's Day and other plans in place.

May I wish you a very enjoyable and relaxing Easter break and we look forward to welcoming the pupils back on Tuesday, April 24th.

Warmest wishes,

Mrs S Morris



### Dudley Festival of Music, Drama & Dance

Miss Clark was especially thrilled with the outcomes for our pupils who attended this year's Dudley Festival of Music, Drama and Dance with an impressive total of 21 certificates, including 4 first place medals and 2 trophies. It

was wonderful to present the pupils with their certificates and awards in our own assembly today and our congratulations go to each one of the pupils for this considerable achievement. A special thanks also to Miss Clark for her energy and enthusiasm in preparing the pupils so thoroughly.



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# Dudley Festival Results



## Verse Reading, 7 years and under

2nd Place Certificate: Dylan Dadra  
3rd Place Certificates: Zachariah Johngir & Gurjeevan Sunner

## Verse Speaking, 9 years

The Arthur Elwin Cook Trophy and Winner's Medal: Anika Duggal  
1st Place Winner's Medal: Lois Morgan  
2nd Place Certificates: Jayden Sandhu & Saanvi Duggal  
3rd Place Certificates: Krishna Ankolekar & Shaun Chacko

## Prose Reading, 9 years

2nd Place Certificates: Anika Duggal & Jayden Sandhu  
3rd Place Certificates: Charlotte Gebelin & Saanvi Duggal

## Verse Speaking, 10 years

The Ada Jackson Trophy and Winner's Medal: Uthman Ahmed  
3rd Place Certificates: Raed Shaheed & Ryan Bahmani

## Prose Reading, 10 years

1st Place Winner's Medal: Uthman Ahmed  
3rd Place Certificate: Ryan Bahmani

## Prose Reading, 11 years

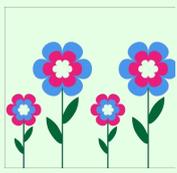
2nd Place Certificate: Amaiya Burmi

## Bible Reading, 12 years and under

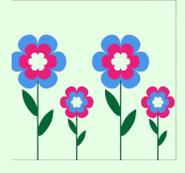
2nd Place Certificates: Shaun Chacko

### STAFF NEWS

This term we say goodbye to Mrs McAuslan, who has been teaching at the school part-time since 2016. We are grateful to Mrs McAuslan for her caring and energetic approach to all aspects of school life and wish her every success and happiness for the years ahead. In her place, we welcome Mrs Meehan, who has been teaching since 2007, most recently as Literacy Leader in an independent school. She is looking forward to settling into her new role and to getting to know the pupils.



# Mothers' Day Event



This Mothers' Day, Norfolk House School enjoyed hosting the lovely mothers of their pupils. Mothers and pupils spent time creating fun and craft activities allowing mother and child to bond. The activities ranged from singing together as a whole class, creating book covers, dressing up and drawing silhouettes of each other. Here is a taste of what the mothers did.

Transition began by singing together as a whole class, including the mums. Each table had its very own activity; ranging from moulding play dough, doing arts and crafts, reading books and playing board games or they had the option of reading with mum on the carpet.



As the Mothers' Day drew to a close the mothers and their children couldn't resist having one last song. The mothers and children loved the event and all the Transition mothers can't wait for the next one.

Reception sang the song 'I love my Mummy' to their mothers then every child played board games with their mothers. To end the afternoon the children and their mummies sat down to watch a black and white programme called "The Wooden Tops" Reception and their mothers had an amazing time at this Mothers' Day event and they all look forward to many more.



Year 1 had a Victorian theme which the mothers were amazed by. The theme included Year 1 creating hand crafted dolls and cup in a ball games. All the children and mothers had a great time working together to make their dolls and cup in a ball. Overall, the mothers loved the Victorian theme and the time they spent bonding with their child.

Year 2 opened Mothers' Day by singing a song called 'It's Mother's Day'. Then they created cards with a heart in the middle and gave their mummies cut out vouchers of what they would be entitled to receive from their children on Mothers' Day. One of the vouchers entitled mum to a free hug, which went down very well. The mummies were excited to see their children during the event but were even more excited to take part in the singing and making sock puppets. Everyone loved the event and the song was so catchy even Miss Gill joined in.

Year 3 designed book covers and wrote blurbs as the characters they were dressed up as. The mothers enjoyed dressing up with their children and being creative, writing the blurbs and designing the front covers. All the mothers of Year 3 said, "I can't wait to come back next year!"

Year 4 created bookmarks that were designed in the shape of a flower. The mothers



enjoyed the craftwork and the creativity with their sons and daughters. Year 5 constructed plant pots out of craft foam with flowers in the middle; each petal had its own sentence such as: 'I love my Mummy because' and in that space they would say the reasons they love their mummy.



Year 6 created silhouettes with mothers. Mr Morgans had carefully crafted frames for the silhouettes to be placed. The children and Mothers of Year 6 thoroughly enjoyed their last Mothers' Day at Norfolk House School. We received plenty of positive feedback such as: 'Best Mothers' Day ever!' and 'I definitely had a lovely afternoon.'



Reporters: Khepri Sewell and Aisha Afroz.

Year 6 School Councillors at Norfolk House School.

### What is Maths Mastery?

Teaching maths for mastery is a transformational approach to maths teaching which stems from high performing Asian nations such as Singapore. When taught to master maths, children develop their mathematical fluency without resorting to rote learning and are able to solve non-routine maths problems without having to memorise procedures.

In a traditional maths lesson, children are put in different groups and given different content based on their anticipated ability. This means that from an early age children are classed as those who can and can't "do maths". Teaching maths for mastery is different because it offers all pupils access to the full maths curriculum. This inclusive approach, and its emphasis on promoting multiple methods of solving a problem, builds self-confidence and resilience in pupils.

Though the whole class goes through the same content at the same pace, there is still plenty of opportunity for differentiation. Unlike the old model of differentiated groups of pupils, where advanced learners are accelerated through new content, those pupils who grasp concepts quickly are challenged with rich and sophisticated problems within the topic. Those children who are not sufficiently fluent are provided additional support to consolidate their understanding before moving on.

Teaching maths for mastery is a key part of the Government's education reforms and is reflected in the 2014 English national curriculum for mathematics. The NCETM, Department for Education and OFSTED have all endorsed this evidence-based approach and our pupils have thoroughly enjoyed their introduction to the mastery approach and I look forward to continuing this technique on a weekly basis during our investigation sessions.

Mr N Champs

Head of Teaching and Learning



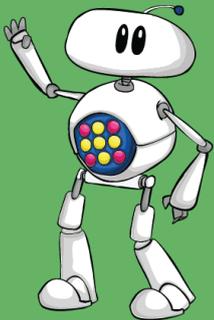
### Primary Maths Challenge - March 2018

We are delighted to have put in four of our pupils for the Bonus Round of the Primary Mathematics Challenge this year and even more pleased to learn that Yuvruj Lall (Year 6) and Mufaddal Kaderbhai (Year 5) earned a Bronze Award and badge.

Benjamin Little and Christopher Nyangoni were both awarded certificates for their participation.

The attainment of a Bronze Award is not easy. Out of the 1857 medals awarded nationally, only those earning 15 marks or higher win a Bronze. We are very proud of what they achieved in this nationally-respected competition.

### My Maths



We have been delighted with the pupils' continued response to the MyMaths programme this term and Mr Champs was very impressed with how many certificates he was able to present in our Awards Assembly.

Well done to everyone who received a certificate!

Please note all pupils should be wearing full Summer Uniform from Tuesday 24th April.

### Clubs & Activities

The new programme for the Summer Term is in place with clubs like Rounders and Cricket looking to take advantage of the warmer weather. Origami Club is a brand new addition and we are looking forward to seeing the children's fantastic creations.

Please, do not hesitate to speak to your child's teacher if you have any questions regarding these clubs or if you would like more information about joining our Speech & Elocution classes or taking up an instrument taught by our peripatetic teachers.

### 11+ Meeting

Thank you to the parents in Year 3 who joined us for our introduction to the 11+ process. We hope that you found the meeting a useful overview and look forward to keeping you updated in the coming years.

### Year 4 - Challinor Scholarship

This year, the Challinor Scholarship examinations will take place during the School Assessment Week. The scholarship, which is awarded to one pupil on academic merit and offers a £200 termly discount in fees throughout the last two years of education in Years 5 & 6, is based upon the results of an internal assessment in Mathematics, English, Verbal and Non-Verbal Reasoning.



### Summer Uniform Details

Pupils should return to school for the start of the Summer Term in their Summer Uniform. All girls require a summer hat with hat band and badge, while the boys continue to wear their caps. Blazers are required for all pupils. Girls may wear ankle or knee length socks but no tights, please. All items of uniform are available from Early Years, who will deliver ordered and paid for goods to school every Wednesday and Friday. Shorts should be worn by all boys in Transition to Year 4 but are optional for boys in Years 5 & 6. The shorts may be purchased from any uniform supplier but should be in traditional style and not the style that have large external pockets. All boys should wear short sleeve shirts.

Please speak to your son or daughter's teacher if you have any questions.



### Sun Cream & Sun Hats

It is very important that children are protected from the strong rays of the sun and sun cream is essential for all skin types. Due to school policy, staff can not apply sun cream, therefore, we ask that parents apply a long-lasting, high factor sun cream before their son or daughter comes into school on sunny days.

Please, also note that school uniform sun hats are available to purchase from Early Years.

We thank you for your support with this.

### Key Calendar Dates

Please note, key dates for the Summer Term will be issued to you at the start of term so that you can make a note of them and join us for many exciting events. However, term dates are as follows:

Tuesday 24th April - Pupils return to school

Monday 7th May - Bank Holiday Monday

Friday 25th May - School breaks for half term

Monday 4th June - Pupils return to school

Thursday 12th July (noon) - School breaks for Summer Holiday

### 11+ Results

We are always very proud of the achievements of our Year 6 pupils.

Since receiving their results in October 2017, the Year 6 pupils have been eagerly awaiting the letter or e-mail informing them of the school places they have been offered for September. As a school, we are still awaiting all the information and will notify you all as soon as possible as to the children's success.

11+

### Labelling Uniform

From time to time we all lose something and it is so much easier and quicker to reunite lost items with their owner if they are names.

Can we ask that you, therefore, please label your child's uniform? Thank you.



### Swimming - Years 4, 5 & 6

There are no further swimming awards at the end of this term. However, due to the continuous assessment that the teachers undertake, awards will be won and presented throughout next term.

### Polite Request - Parking



Please would parents kindly refrain from driving on to the school forecourt during the times in which the school is open, 8:00am until 5:30pm.



We are mindful to provide the safest possible environment for our pupils who are arriving and leaving the school at different times and thank you very much for your support with this.



# World Book Day

This year we celebrated World Book Day with all classes getting involved in a wide variety of activities to celebrate books and the English language.

The children in Transition had lots of fun sharing their favourite stories and talking about their favourite story characters. They also created special book marks to take home.



The children in Reception found the character that they were dressed as in books and read excerpts from the stories. They categorised the books as either fiction or non-fiction. If the children couldn't find their character in one of our class library books, we used the Internet to find a picture and put it on the big screen.



One of the Reception children's favourite authors is Julia Donaldson, therefore, they had fun with various activities related to her books. The pursuits involved, for example, the Room on the Broom story using ICT in an interactive SMART board activity, using magnetic words to write sentences to match the pictures and role play/acting out the story using masks of the 'Room on the Broom' characters.



Among many other activities, Year One created a character description, wrote their own books and shared stories with each other.

In Year 2, the children created a route and then the children had to produce a step-by-step guide instructing how to follow the route from

Little Red Riding Hood's home to Grandma's home. The children also created their own word search puzzles based on a book.



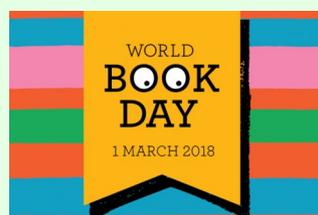
In Year 3, the children created their own book covers and blurbs of books.

Year 4 undertook an activity linking causal conjunctions and adverbials together with looking at a puzzler book featuring different authors and books; this included a crossword, a quiz and a word search.

Year 5 have been looking at how many homes of children and adults do not have a single book and how this is impacting on education and life as a whole.

Year 6 considered their favourite book and authors then focused on biographical books, creating a cover for a biography of a figure they admire.

Thank you to all of our parents for providing superb costumes, which the children loved wearing.



# Spring Concert

Forty-nine children took part in this year's Spring Concert, meaning that we performed the event twice to enable all parents to attend. Both events were a huge success and the standard of music was excellent. Many of our solo performers took to the stage without any written music and played, from memory, confidently and beautifully. The concert opened with performances from Samba Ensemble and Orchestra. We also heard a selection of pieces performed by Miss Kerry's violin ensemble, consisting of six Year 1 pupils demonstrating their newly learned skills.



A number of children, that learn instruments both in school and at home, then gave solo performances on a range of instruments including violin, guitar, recorder, piano. They had clearly worked very hard rehearsing at home and played beautifully. This year, we also included some classroom music in our concert. A group of children from Year 6 performed their own composition, created in curriculum music lessons, using influences from the Gamelan style of music of Indonesia. This gave a glimpse of not only the performance capabilities of the pupils, but also the creative talent that many of the children have been displaying in music lessons at Norfolk House.

Finally we heard the School Choir perform 4 pieces during the concert. They demonstrated their wonderful cohesion as a musical ensemble by singing not only unison, but in two part call and response, in three part canon, and into two part harmony. We also heard fabulous solos from Megan and Khepri in Year 6 as well as from a small group of children in Year 4.

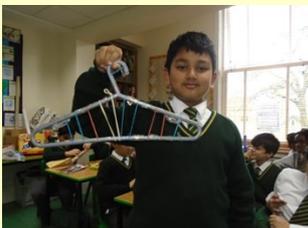
We are delighted to have such breadth of talent at our school and to see so many pupils rise to the occasion, performing so competently. It was a thoroughly enjoyably concert.

Mrs Brockman

## Year 4 Science Topic - Sound

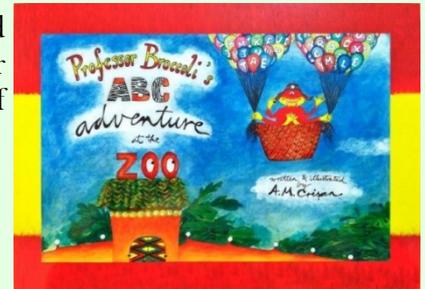
As part of the Year 4 Science topic 'Sound', the pupils have been designing musical instruments from junk. Initially, the pupils designed their musical instrument thinking about how it could change in pitch and the type of instrument that they wanted - blow, bang, pluck, scrape.

Once each child had a design, they went home to find the component parts for their instrument and then in the next Science lesson, they made them. As you can see from the pictures, they really enjoyed making the musical instruments. Once the instruments were complete, they tried them to see if they worked and evaluated how well they worked, thinking about the change in pitch that they could create. Some were really good and made some interestingly pitched sounds, whilst others collapsed due to excess tension. However, everyone learned about how to change pitch through width and length of strings or through size of beans in a shaker.



# The Day Professor Broccoli Came

On Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> February, the children in Transition, Reception and Year 1 welcomed a rather strange looking, but friendly, monster into their classrooms. He was brought to School by Alina Crisan, the author of *Professor Broccoli's ABC Adventure at the Zoo*.



Alina grew up in Transylvania where she completed an English teaching degree and a post-graduate diploma in fine art. She became a schoolteacher and then a professional artist and has continued to work with children both in schools and privately since moving to the UK more than ten years ago. The character, *Professor Broccoli*, was created by Alina's son when he won a Smart Stories competition. Alina was sure young children would love his happy monster and decided to write and illustrate a book for learning to read years. A handmade *Professor Broccoli* furry monster goes with her into schools whilst she shares his story.

Our children in the lower years at Norfolk House School listened intently to Alina whilst she read the story, emphasising letter sounds and names, described the characters and talked about her beautiful illustrations. During a question and answer session when we found out that it took a whole year for Alina to write *Professor Broccoli's ABC Adventure at the Zoo*.



## Benefits of Author Visits

There is nothing quite like school author visits to get children reading, writing, and understanding the creative process. It is not magic; It is not talent; It is not even the books the author has written that make these visits so successful. It is because meeting authors makes the writing process, books, and the authors themselves accessible and real to students. Here is what school author visits can do:

## Promote Reading

When children learn the “inside stories” and ideas behind books, they can't help but be drawn to them. Children identify with the struggles and joys of the writing and publication process because they hear about it directly from the author. Authors become real to pupils, opening up relationships with the books they read. As they have a new understanding of what goes on while an author writes, young readers can start recognizing the choices made by authors of the books they read, which helps them develop the ability to make predictions, inferences, and associations, and other traits of good readers.

## Motivate Writing

When authors visit classrooms with their favourite tips and tricks for teaching writing, children are encouraged to give writing a try. Hearing from published writers about their real--life process, from ideas to publication, often inspires children to experiment with the written word long after the author visit is over.



## Ignite Sparks

We are hopeful that our school author visit by Alina Crisan will have the potential for jumpstarting not only writing projects and reading, but for following any dream.



Alina very kindly signed all the children's purchased books with a personal message and provided a *Professor Broccoli* worksheet which the children thoroughly enjoyed completing. The children were also delighted with their furry *Professor Broccoli* bookmark. We thank Alina Crisan sincerely for visiting Norfolk House School.

Reporter: Mrs R. Hifle  
Head of Lower School



## Transition & Reception Easter Egg Hunt



On Monday 26th March, the Transition and Reception children went hunting. The hunted were Easter Eggs and the children thoroughly enjoyed searching all around the school playground to find the delightful, shiny treats.



It was wonderful to see the children racing around with huge smiles on their faces, enjoying the hunt.

# People Who Help Us



Transition's topic this half term has been 'People Who Help Us'. The children have been learning about a variety of occupations, and talking about what they would like to be when they grow up. The children have particularly enjoyed playing in our 'Fire Station' role play area, and dressing up as police officers, doctors and builders. They have been exploring colour mixing on a large scale, using brightly coloured paints and toy vehicles. In Maths, they have been using positional language to find (and rescue) various 'Fireman Sam' characters in the outdoor area. The children also used their developing phonic knowledge to label a picture of a fire fighter independently. The children have also been looking at road

safety, and role-playing various road safety scenarios with the bikes and scooters. As part of our 'Doctors and Nurses Week' we discussed the importance of keeping healthy through diet, exercise and good hygiene.

We would all like to say a big thank you to the parents for getting our new topic off to a great start by supporting the children with their half term holiday homework. The children were so excited to share their junk model 'emergency vehicles' in class, generating much discussion and encouraging the children to describe different functions and features. It has been wonderful to see the children so immersed in their topic.



Reporter: Mrs R Brookes  
Transition Class Teacher



## Open Morning

Saturday 12th May 2018, 10:00am - 1:00pm

As you are aware, this event represents an important date in our school calendar and provides an excellent opportunity for us to celebrate all that we do at Norfolk House School. It also serves as a valuable occasion for our Year 6 pupils to act as ambassadors by guiding prospective families around the school and promote its values and facilities. Again, this term we hope to offer a range of exciting activities for pupils in Year 3 and above on this morning and letters to sign up for the event will follow shortly.

Thank you.

# The Three Little Pigs



Year One have been busy bringing traditional tales to life this half term. The children were interested to learn that traditional tales have been told for many, many years and were quite shocked to hear that my mummy used to read them to me!

We have read a lot of stories and discussed the main features of traditional tales.

One of our favourite tales has to be The Three Little Pigs. The children learned the story off by heart using actions, which they made up, to help them remember the story.

They were so confident that we thought it would be a good idea to perform for Mrs Hifle and the Reception Class. The children were excellent story tellers, using loud, clear voices. Well done Year One and thank you to Reception Class for being such a wonderful audience.



Reporter: Mrs L Reeves

Year One Class Teacher

# Year 5 English Workshop



What an amazing morning at King Edwards High School for Girls!

Year 5, plus Miss Allender and Mrs Platts, went off on a jaunt to learn more about writing a good story. The excitement on the bus was tangible and even Year 5 were excited!

KES had invited a real life author to come and teach five local schools about how to create an exciting short story from a published author's perspective. He spent some time discussing with the pupils how to keep the tension of the story going. We all learnt that most stories come from our own experiences and Mike managed to create so much tension that he had us all on the edge of our seats, particularly when he recounted his 'ghostly' experience. The moment in the story when he revealed... Unfortunately, I can't tell you about the story itself and you will need to speak to your Year 5 child to find out what happened in his story and how it ended.

Here you can see Miss Allender listening to the stories of three of our Year 5 students. Oscar's story was particularly gruesome and had Miss Allender gripped for several minutes.

Well done Year 5 - all that's left to do now is a little 'editing and improving' and we shall have some amazing short stories.



Reporter: Mrs J Platts

Year 5 Class Teacher

# The Romans

'This army's building a road and it's heading straight for you! You'd better stand back when the Romans attack otherwise you might find chains on your back!'

Year Three have completely immersed themselves in the Wonderful World of Romans and have gone potty with all things Roman!

Adarsh has made us some 'delightful' Roman treats, while Ashleigh and Abu-Bakr wrote a persuasive advert for soldiers to join the Roman Army.



*'Do you want to be in the army? Then you can! You have your own food cooked by our own master chef! You can go on strolls. We pay for your equipment. If you join the army, you don't have to pay to go to the baths. After you stay for a certain amount of time, you can earn a massive piece of land to build your own temple on. If we beat the Celts, you get DOUBLE the pay. You can keep what you steal off our enemies and you get to fight the witch Boudicca and her monstrous 'Celts'. You get to use the latest weapons, our catapults fire burning boulder, and we travel around the World.'*

Abu-Bakr

## **JOIN THE ARMY!!**

*'Have you ever wanted your own farm or mansion? Well, if you do, join the Roman Army and get to have your own piece of land. If you join the Roman army, you are sure to impress the ladies with your WOW muscles and your Caesar crown! Yes, I said Caesar Crown! You get one if you are successful in battle. You will get physically fit too. Do you want your own personal trainer? You can have one if you join the Roman Army!'*

Ashleigh



They only went and enlisted!

After successfully invading nearly all of Europe and the known world, Rome set about turning each city into a city worthy of Rome itself. With that in mind, Tanvi, Arwa, Rahul, Yandy and Aiden have been attempting to recreate Roman Britannia! Just look at all those pediments and columns!



Year 3 have really enjoyed this topic and are now firm believers in the old adage that .....

'All Roads lead to Rome'

Reporter: Mrs K Kristal

Year 3 Class Teacher

# Awards Assembly Winners

In our half-termly awards Assembly we look to celebrate the success of those pupils who have impressed their teachers in each year group from Reception upwards.

## Awards Certificates

Reception -	Ayra Naeem
Year 1 -	Arjoi Sahota
Year 2 -	Laila Owens
Year 3 -	Tanvi Farmah
Year 4 -	Ariyan Burmi
Year 5 -	Jai Dhillon
Year 6 -	Madeleine Hunt-Cox

## Headmistress' Send Ups

**For excellent creative writing:**

Amar Dhillon (Year 2)

Carter Gabriel (Year 2)

**For excellent Viking work:**

Megan Humphries (Year 6)

Khepri Sewell (Year 6)

## My Maths Certificates

**Year 1** Yellow: Sachin Chand Blue: Shay Bailey, Veer Basra, Sachin Chand, Maria Habal, Owen Koo, Arjoi Sahota, Srika Sreekantam, Jesse Tandy Green: Sachin Chand

**Year 2** Yellow: Amar Dhillon Blue: Cole Gabriel Green: Amar Dhillon

**Year 3** Yellow: Aneel Dhaliwal Blue: Tanvi Farmah Green: Yandy Chen

**Year 4** Yellow: Saanvi Duggal Blue: Raafey Huda Green: Anika Duggal, Raafey Huda

**Year 5** Yellow: Jai Dhillon Blue: Ariana Ahmed Green: Jai Dhillon, Joshua Chinnaiyan

**Year 6** Yellow: Sarjan Hujan Blue: Sarjan Hujan

## **Individual House Point Winners**

The following pupils won the highest number of house points in their class:

Reception -	Esther Sun
Year 1 -	Jovan Rakar
Year 2 -	Ava Fisher
Year 3 -	Arwa Kaderbhai
Year 4 -	Anika Duggal
Year 4 -	Saanvi Duggal
Year 5 -	Amari Hughes
Year 6 -	Aisha Afroz

## House Positions

**1st Place : Warwick**

**2nd Place : Kenilworth**

**3rd Place : Ludlow**