



Tudor Grange Samworth Academy

TUDOR TIMES



2025-26 Term: Spring | Issue 3 | Date: February 2026

Principal's Message

Dear Lord,

As we reach the February half term, we thank You for the hard work, growth, and resilience shown by our pupils, staff, and families. Grant our school community rest, peace, and safety over the break. May this time bring refreshment, joy, and renewed strength. Guide us as we return for the new half term, ready to learn, support one another, and continue to grow in hope and purpose.

Amen.



Dear Parents and Carers,

As we come to the end of this half term, I want to extend my sincere thanks for your continued support and partnership. It has been an incredibly productive and successful few weeks across all phases of the school, and our pupils have shown outstanding hard work, commitment, and resilience.

This half term has also been a significant milestone for the school, as we welcomed Ofsted for an inspection under the new framework. Although the final report has not yet been issued, we are very confident that it will reflect the high standards we set as a school. The process strongly indicated that we are continuing to make clear and sustained progress since our last inspection, which was graded Good. We are delighted with this, as it validates the hard work, dedication, and expertise of our staff, and the ongoing support of our pupils and families.

One particular highlight identified during the inspection was our Personal Development offer. Inspectors recognised the wide range of enrichment opportunities we provide, which help bring our school values to life and give pupils meaningful experiences beyond the classroom. We were commended for offering 19 extracurricular clubs across the school and 20 college competitions, which give students the chance to develop their interests, build confidence, and represent the school with pride. This term alone, pupils have taken part in Poetry Live in English, visited the Curve Theatre to enhance their understanding of drama, and challenged themselves through an escape-room-style experience in maths. These activities enrich learning and support academic achievement in powerful ways.

Inspectors also saw high-quality teaching, consistent practice, and excellent behaviour from pupils throughout the two-day visit. All judgements were agreed, and this gives us a strong foundation to continue improving outcomes for every pupil.

Looking ahead, with your continued support, we will remain focused on:

- Ensuring consistent high-quality teaching in every classroom
- Providing the right adaptations so every pupil can succeed
- Improving attendance, which remains a key priority
- Strengthening home learning completion, which has a significant impact on progress

Together, these improvements will help us secure even better outcomes and life chances for our pupils. A special mention must go to Year 6 who are preparing for their SATS and Year 11, who have made an excellent start to their GCSE Hospitality and Catering course. They are now preparing for their final mock examinations after the February half term, and we are very proud of the maturity and determination they have shown.

Finally, I want to thank our staff for their unwavering hard work and commitment this term. Their dedication makes all of this possible.

I wish all our families a restful and enjoyable half term break. We look forward to welcoming pupils back refreshed and ready for the next stage of their learning journey.

Yours sincerely,

Mr A Bannon

Principal

Primary Principal's Message



Dear Parents and Carers,

As we come to the end of a very busy and exciting half term, I wanted to take the opportunity to celebrate the fantastic learning, events, and achievements that have taken place across our Primary community.

We were delighted to see children so motivated by our Freddo Friday attendance rewards—a fun way to recognise and encourage great attendance throughout the term. Thank you for supporting this initiative; the children have loved it!

Our pupils have also taken part in a wide range of enriching experiences, including hate crime workshops, Roman workshops, and an engaging Year 5 trip to the synagogue, all of which have deepened their understanding of the wider world and supported our curriculum beautifully.

This half term also included important awareness events. During Children's Mental Health Week, children explored strategies for wellbeing, and it was wonderful to welcome so many of you to our Fab Friday mental health event. We appreciate your involvement and hope you enjoyed taking part in the activities with your children. We also marked Online Safety Day, helping our learners understand how to stay safe and responsible in the digital world.

A particular highlight was our visit from Olympic swimmer Joe Roebuck, who delivered a fantastic athlete event that inspired children to think about resilience, determination, and healthy lifestyles. Year 6 also benefited from a Red Cross workshop on migration, providing them with valuable insight into global issues and empathy for others.

It was wonderful to see so many of you at Parents' Evening, where we celebrated your children's successes and shared their progress with you. Your support and partnership make such a difference.

Looking ahead to next term, we are excited about offering even more Fab Friday events and welcoming parents to our celebration assemblies. We look forward to seeing you there and continuing to strengthen our school community.

Thank you for your ongoing support. I hope you all enjoy a restful and happy half-term break.

Warm regards,

Mrs W Cooper

Primary Principal

Reception



In Reception this term, one of our topics has been People Who Help Us and we were visited by a Doctor who answered the children's questions and shared some details about his job. This lovely interactive experience inspired them to create a medical centre in our home corner and they had many doctors and patients visiting through the week. They also learnt about police men and women, firefighters and paramedics.

The children have been working so hard on their writing. They have been practising their letter formation and they are learning to write a simple sentence. In RE the children have been learning about how different religions welcome new babies. They really enjoyed acting out a Christian baptism for their friends. This week we have been looking at the Lunar New Year and some of the traditions involved at this special time of year. The children have made lanterns and learnt about the dragon and lion dances that happen during street parades. What fun!



Young Carers



A young carer is a child under 18 who regularly looks after someone in their family or a friend who is ill, disabled or has a mental health problem or an addiction.

Children may engage in:

- Shopping, cleaning, cooking
- Managing medicines or money
- Providing personal care
- Helping get people out of the house
- Keeping an eye on someone
- Providing emotional support



TGSA can support young carers. If you, or a family member, needs support please contact Rohina Dassu at office@samworth.tgacademy.org.uk.

All contact will be treated in the strictest confidence. For more information about Young Carers in Schools, follow this link: [Young Carers in Schools](#)



Year 4 had great fun learning about perimeter in Maths today! They measured shapes taped onto the tables and calculated the distance around each one. A fantastic way to put their maths skills into practice!



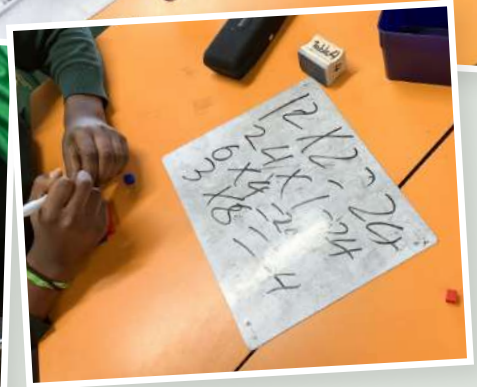
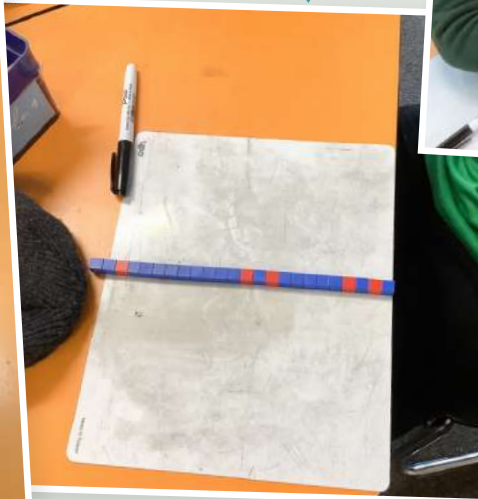
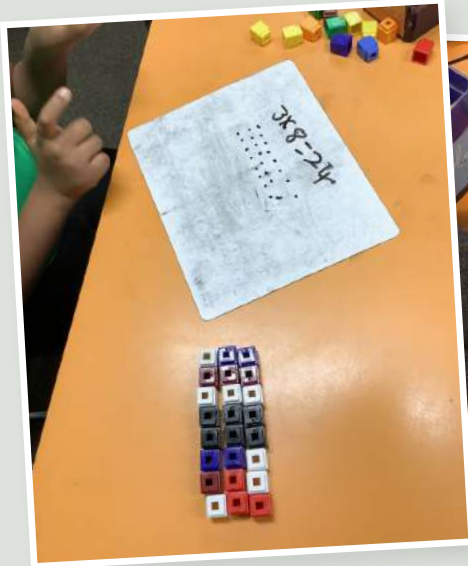
This term in Science, Year 4 have been diving into the fascinating topic of sound. In one of our recent lessons, pupils were challenged to communicate without speaking while predicting which areas of the school would be the quietest and the loudest.

To test their ideas, we set off on a sound walk around the school, carefully listening and recording the different sounds we heard. The results were surprising and sparked lots of discussion about how sound travels and what influences noise levels in different spaces.

It was a fun and eye-opening activity that helped us understand the science of sound in a hands-on way!



In Year 4 we have been working on finding factor pairs. We learnt the factors are numbers which multiply to make a product. We used equipment to investigate different arrays of the same number. This helped us understand what factors are.



On Thursday 22nd January, Year 4 had the pleasure of welcoming "Felix" into Samworth. The children thoroughly enjoyed taking part in Romans Day- featuring a workshop with Felix, making Roman mosaics, creating Chatterpix's about the Colosseum and finding out what it was like to be a child in Roman times. It was a fun-filled day and the children had a really valuable experience to help ignite their curiosity in our latest History Topic about the Romans. They can't wait to continue their learning!



In Year 5 we have been looking at materials and their properties. We conducted an experiment for irreversible changes using white vinegar and bicarbonate of soda. When we added the mixtures together, it created a gas and bubbles rose out of the beaker.



Year 5 were lucky to be invited to a synagogue and to understand the importance it has on Jewish people. We were able to explore the synagogue and understand the history of the religious building. The children took part in different activities to learn about Shabbat and what a Jewish family might do on the day.



Year 5 have enjoyed learning about Earth and Space during their Science topic this half term. Here is a snapshot of them exploring how the planets orbit the sun. They have particularly enjoyed making models of this in their Science books too. Keep up the hard work, Year 5!

In Year 5, we have been learning about the marvellous Mayans and the inventions that have impacted on our lives today. We discussed how they used cacao beans to make chocolate, however it is not the chocolate that we all know of. Using chilli powder, cinnamon and bitter chocolate powder, the children got a taste of what it would have been liked back in the Mayan rainforest.



Primary Hate Crime Workshop



This term, pupils in Years 3 to 6 took part in a Hate Crime Workshop delivered by Leicestershire Police. During the session, pupils explored the meaning of protected characteristics and discussed why it is important to treat everyone with respect and avoid discrimination in all its forms. They reflected on what makes each person unique and why everyone has the right to feel safe. The workshop provided valuable strategies for what to do if they ever experience hate crime. We all left feeling more informed and empowered to promote equality and kindness in our community.



Olympic Inspiration Visits Our School



We were delighted to welcome Joe Roebuck, Olympic swimmer for Great Britain, to our primary school for a truly inspirational day.

All pupils from Year 1 through to Year 6 took part in an energetic fitness session led by Joe. The children enthusiastically joined in with a range of exercises including star jumps, planks, shoulder taps and spotty dog, all while cheering each other on and showing fantastic teamwork and determination.

Following the fitness session, Joe delivered an engaging assembly where he spoke to the pupils about resilience, the importance of hard work, and how he overcame setbacks on his journey to success. He shared his personal experiences as an elite athlete, reminding everyone that challenges are a vital part of learning and achieving our goals.

The children were thrilled to see Joe's Olympic medals and watch footage of the race he competed in at the London 2012 Olympic Games. It was a memorable and motivating experience for all.

Everyone had a fantastic time, and we are now looking forward to seeing how much money was raised from the event. A huge thank you to Joe Roebuck for inspiring our pupils and making the day so special.



Mental Health Support Team



DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

13th March
World Sleep Day

View this video from the NHS: [Simple Tips for Better Sleep from Every Mind Matters](#)

16th – 20th March
Neurodiversity Celebration Week

[Click here for information](#) about this worldwide initiative that challenges stereotypes and misconceptions about neurological differences



Escape Room Trip



Students across Years 8-10 visited Escape Leicester, where they worked in teams to solve puzzles and complete a series of escape room challenges. Each group had to think carefully, share ideas, and stay calm under time pressure as they searched for clues and cracked codes. Impressively, all but two groups managed to escape before the timer ran out! The trip was a great opportunity for students to build teamwork and use problem solving skills while enjoying a fun learning experience outside the classroom.



Creative Competition Winner



Congratulations to Tatenda in Year 10, who was awarded with a prize this week by a representative from NWSLC for winning their Regional Schools Creative Competition. Tatenda has been invited to their Creative Arts Showcase where his winning design will be on display. What a fantastic achievement, well done Tatenda!



Year 7/8 Table Tennis



We had a great turn out this term for the Year 7/8 Inter-College Table Tennis tournament. We had 29 players and 5 Sports Leaders that were officiating games. After a few nail biting games, the 2 finalists were Damian and Michael. Damian won the final convincingly which helped Oxford win the overall competition. The results were as follows:

1 st	Oxford
2 nd	Cambridge
3 rd	Durham
4 th	Warwick

Well done to all the students involved.



Year 11 Girls Netball



Year 11 girls are Netball City Champions and were losing semi finalists in the County Cup (where I was really impressed with their resilience and determination to get back in the game). The team have played really well this year and we are immensely proud of their commitment to training as well the achievements on court.

Picture: 'The Mid Court Players' that kept everyone going in a tough match against Gartree.

Also – congratulations to Sofia (u-17) and Kirti (u-15) for making it through the first round of East Midlands Regional trials for Volleyball. Good luck to both for the final squad selection!



Year 10 Boys Basketball – Quarter Final Win!



The Year 10 boys won very convincingly with a 47-13 defeat over Cedars Academy in their Leicestershire quarter final basketball fixture. It was a difficult game due to the difference in ability level, but our boys did us proud!! Well done to Tatenda, Alfie, Mueez, Raajan, Lyam, Glenn, Izaac, Danny, Onyameba and David.

Thank you also to those who came to support – you were fantastic – and to Blessing and Hope for officiating the game, and Isobless, Tino and Leah for managing the door and signing students in and out. Here's to the Semi Final!





Hey, how are you feeling?...

There are lots of things you can do to keep yourself well and feeling good, like:

- Getting a good night's sleep
- Doing something you enjoy like playing games
- Spending time with friends and family
- Exercising and eating well to look after your body
- Learning a new skill or taking on a challenge
- Helping other people
- Spending time outside in nature

**... I feel great! I
am happy and
healthy**



**... I'm okay, but I
sometimes feel a
bit worried or sad**



It's normal to feel this way. We all experience lots of emotions and these can change over time.

Try some of the things in the box above and talk to someone about how you're feeling. This could be your friends, a parent or carer - or a teacher or adult at school.

If you're struggling, it's important to speak to someone. People want to help you. If you need it, you or your parents or carer can support you to get professional help. A good place to start is by talking to a mental health and wellbeing lead or trusted adult at school, or your GP.

You can also find free and safe support on these websites:

- Kooth: www.kooth.com
- Health for Teens: www.healthforteens.co.uk

**... I am
struggling and
need some help**

**... I am so upset or
overwhelmed that I
need help now**

If you need to speak to someone urgently, you or a parent or carer can call the Mental Health Central Access Point on **0808 800 3302** or **NHS 111**. The lines are open 24/7.

If there is an immediate or life-threatening emergency, call 999 or attend A&E. People are there and ready to help you now.



**For more advice about mental health support
for young people in Leicester, Leicestershire
and Rutland, scan the QR code.**

Early Help Services for Families

There are times when children, young people and families need extra help. Someone might offer this to you, but other times you might want to ask for it.

What is early help?

Early help is a way of getting extra support when your family needs it, but getting it as soon as difficulties start, rather than waiting until things get worse. It's for children and young people of any age.

Help can come from all kinds of services and organisations who work together to support your family. You might be using some of these services already, but we want to make sure they are providing the right support for you and your family's needs.

Why would I seek early help?

It could be that you're worried about your child's health, development or behaviour, or perhaps because you are caring for a disabled child. Maybe your child is affected by domestic abuse, drugs or alcohol. Perhaps your child is a carer for other people.

Who do I ask?

Have a chat with a teacher, health professional or support worker – they can help you look at what types of support are available and who might be able to help.

Your local children, young people and families centre also has lots of services and support for families with children, some especially for children with extra needs.

What sort of services or help do I get?

It depends on what you need and might include services you already get. We will agree it with you and make sure it all joins up. Here's just a few examples:

Education and Early Learning

Schools
Stay and play
Talking Toddlers
Peekaboo
Bookstart Corner
Let's get cooking

Family and young people support

Youth support
Parenting groups
Drop-in sessions
Domestic violence support
Groups for male carers/dads
Behaviour

Advice and welfare

Education welfare
Housing advice
Benefits advice
Adult learning

Health

Health visiting
Midwifery
School nurses
Drop in clinics
GPs

Get the right support for your family at the right time



What happens if I ask for an early help assessment?

You will be fully involved and we will listen to you. It may be that we just talk to you and point you to the support you want.

If it's a bit more complicated, we'll need to ask you for information that we write down or type. This is so we can get the right information and share it (if you agree) with people who need to know, so we can better understand your circumstances and match up services that would help you out the most. You'll get a plan showing what you want to achieve and the support you need.

Can I say no to an early help assessment?

Yes you can. But we would like to stay in contact with you in case your circumstances alter or you change your mind.

Does it mean social services will get involved?

No. If in the future your circumstances change and it becomes a possibility, we will keep you involved and work with you so that you understand what is happening and why.

What happens when I stop receiving early help services?

We want you to become confident and able to find your own solutions and take responsibility for your family.

You can continue to use all services that are open to families and children, and if your needs change then please ask us for further help if you need it.

**Getting the right information,
advice and support at the right time can help**
leicester.gov.uk/earlyhelp

To speak to someone about early help call: 0116 454 5899

For details of your local children, young people
and families centre visit:

families.leicester.gov.uk/childrenscentres