



Dear Parents/carers

It is hard to believe we've been back in school for 6 weeks already and the children have settled well into the day-to-day routines. We will continue to update you via emails and texts. However, please email or call the school if you have any queries. Please keep the date sheet at the back of the newsletter and watch out for text messages to update you on events.

Parking outside the school is very busy, with some people parking on the zig-zag lines at the start and end of the day. Please refrain from this as it makes it extremely difficult to see families crossing the road to and from school, especially on the upcoming dark mornings! We really want our families to be safe. Please be aware that staff will ask you to park somewhere safe if we see vehicles parked dangerously. The PCSO will also be monitoring of the situation.

Please ensure your children have their jumpers and coats named as there have been a few misplaced items recently and it makes it extremely difficult to reunite the lost clothes with their owners if they are unnamed.

Nasal Flu Vaccinations

On Wednesday 15th and Thursday 16th November, pupils who have returned their NHS vaccination consent forms will be eligible for a nasal flu vaccination. The letters will be sent out this week. Please remember to return the form whether you want your child to have the vaccination or not.

Soak the Teacher Fundraiser

Thank you to all the staff and families who got involved with the 'Soak the Teacher' fundraiser. Thankfully the weather was kind and we managed to make £50 towards our panto funds.



Pantomime

For any children in Reception, Year 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6, please ensure that their space for the Pantomime trip on the 24th November is paid by the 17th November. The school has tried hard to find funding for the coach and subsidise the cost of the tickets to keep the price of the trip as low as we possibly can so please pay the full amount if you can. Thank you!



ATTENDANCE

Why is good attendance important?

Good school attendance is vital for children's success in the future. Being in school every day that it is open is important to your child's achievement, wellbeing, and their wider development. Time in school also keeps children safe and provides access to extra-curricular opportunities and pastoral care.

If children do not attend school regularly, they may:

- struggle to keep up with schoolwork
- have few opportunities to catch up on missed learning
- miss out on the social side of school life
- miss opportunities to make and keep friendships



What might the impact of poor attendance be on your child?

Research shows children who are not regularly attending school are:

- more likely to become involved in or be a victim of crime and antisocial behaviour
- more likely to fall behind due to the strong link between attendance and achieving good results
- less likely to achieve 5 good GCSE's (grades 9-5) compared with those with fewer than eight days' absence
- more likely to have increased levels of anxiety due to inconsistencies and uncertainty in their routine
- more likely to have reduced self-esteem due to finding learning increasingly hard having missed out on important information.

Once your child is registered at a school, you are responsible for making sure they attend regularly.

Pre-School

Songs introduce the children to new vocabulary and helps to teach them many new words that they may not hear in everyday conversation. Rhyme is also a great concept to teach through songs as we add actions to the nursery rhymes we learn.

This term, the children have been enjoying learning new rhymes and songs. One of the children's favourite rhymes is 'Five Little Ducks'. The children have explored this rhyme in a variety of learning experiences.

You can make singing and music part of your daily routine. Sing together throughout the day and make up your own silly songs to introduce new words and recite nursery rhymes in a sing-song voice.



Reception

We have been exploring the story 'We're Going on a Bear Hunt'. Whilst we had good weather, we decided to explore our outdoor environment through the lens of the story. We found long wavy grass, a dark forest, some treasures and a den that a bear could live in. Fortunately, the bear was out at the time.



Year 1

We recently enjoyed wearing something yellow to show our support for World Mental Health Day. We have been working hard every day to write super sentences inspired by our book *The Snail and the Whale*. In maths, we have been investigating 2D shapes and are now practising adding and subtracting numbers to 20. In History, we have been finding out about the past by exploring the royal family tree.



Year 2

In year 2, we have been working hard on our end of term harvest assembly. We have been practising our performance skills and we are so excited to perform to our parents / carers and some of the children in school. In science, we have been identifying different types of materials and their uses and we will soon be experimenting the different strengths of papers! In Art, we have been learning about Pablo Picasso and have started to create our own self-portraits. In PE, we have also been learning a bakery dance, linked to The Great Fire of London in our History lesson! We look forward to seeing the finished piece.



Year 3

Year 3 have been investigating light and shadows in science. If you get the chance, please can you take your child out on a sunny day and see what happens to their shadows when they make different shapes and stand in different places. Maybe a shadow puppet game or story with a lamp or torch at home could be fun too?



Year 4

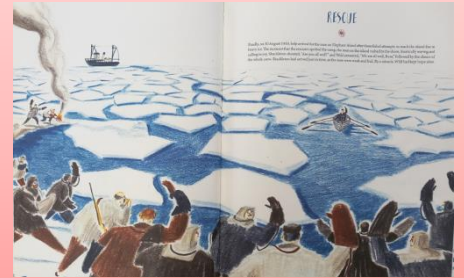
The enthusiasm for learning continues in Year 4. With story writing as our focus genre this term, the children have delved into using a thesaurus to up-level their vocabulary to write amazing character and setting descriptions. We have been very hands on in science when learning about the digestive system. It is amazing what a zip lock bag, crackers, orange juice and a stocking can simulate!

The trip to Warwick castle was the highlight of the term. The children were phenomenal in behaviour and attitude to learning. They conquered many fears and came back with smiles on their faces.



Year 5

In year 5, the children have been producing some outstanding written work based on our text, Shackleton's journey. They have produced excellent newspaper reports detailing how Shackleton managed to reach South Georgia and then return to Elephant Island to rescue his crew.



Year 6

Year 6 thoroughly enjoyed their trip to Redwood Forest where they put their fieldwork skills into action. The action-packed day consisted of the children working together in small teams to read 6-figure grid references, follow a map, create their own 3D map using natural resources, use a compass and orientate themselves around the woods to find markers. We were very impressed with their mature attitude throughout the day.



Parking

Can I politely remind everyone that parking directly in front of school is limited.

There are double yellow lines to protect our children and keep them safe. There are zigzags to do the same. Please do not park on them at any time. Please also respect our neighbour's drives and park legally and responsibly at all times.

This is particularly important as the evenings get darker and children become more of a challenge to see. This is still relevant for after school clubs especially as more people seem to drive to school for collection.

We want to keep all our children safe - allow more time, try to walk and stay calm when people are not making good choices with their parking. Let school know, so we can ask the traffic police to visit with a patrol. Thank you.

October edition 2023

Key dates and events

Date	School Event
Monday 16 th October	SEND parents meeting 2pm in the pod
Tuesday 17 th October	Year 6 Assembly (parents invited) at 2:30pm in bottom hall
Thursday 19 th October	Rec & Y2 parents invited to Harvest assembly 9am bottom hall
Friday 20 th October	Open afternoon 1:30 for siblings, 2pm for singular children
Tuesday 24 th & Wednesday 25 th October	Parents evening-top (KS2) & bottom hall (KS1 & Rec)
Friday 27 th October	Teachers INSET day – No children in school
Saturday 28 th October– 5 th November	Half Term
Monday 6 th November	Back to School SEND parents meeting 2pm in the pod
Wednesday 8 th November am and pm	School visits for prospective parents and children (children starting school in September 2024)
Monday 13 th November	Wear odd socks to mark the start of anti-bullying week World Kindness day
Monday 13 th - Friday 17 th November	Anti-Bullying week
Thursday 16 th November	Inter-school cross country at Holmleigh Park
Wednesday 22 nd November	Y6 height & weight checks
Friday 24 th November	Pantomime trip (2pm showing) return to school by 4:30/5pm
Thursday 30 th November	YR & Y1 trip to Redwell 'Breaking the Ice' show
Monday 4 th December	SEND parents meeting 2pm in the pod
Thursday 7 th December	Christmas Jumper Day
Wednesday 13 th December	Reception & KS1 Christmas show -9:15am
Thursday 14 th December	Reception Singing at Gloucester Services (a.m) Reception & KS1 Christmas show -2pm
Monday 18 th December	SEND parents meeting 2pm in the pod
Monday 18 th & Tuesday 19 th December	KS2 Christmas concert - 2pm & 9.15am
Wednesday 20 th December	Christmas dinner
Friday 22 nd December	BEST Assemblies Last day before Christmas holidays
Saturday 23 rd December –Sunday 7 th January	Christmas Holidays
Monday 8 th January 2024	Teachers INSET day – No children in school.

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Tuesday 9 th January 2024	Back to School
24 th January 2024	Young Voices –Resorts World Arena, Birmingham