



Autumn term 2018

October 12th 2018

Dear Parents/ Carers,

Staff Update

I am sad to say that Mrs Baker will be leaving us at half term. She has been with us for three years and has been real asset to our team. She has taken on both a Teaching Assistant Role and also more recently, a role as a Higher Level Teaching Assistant, both of which she has done with a calm, committed approach. She will be greatly missed, we wish her all the very best for her upcoming wedding and all that she goes on to do.

I am delighted to let you know that Mr and Mrs Tingey are expecting their third baby in February. Mrs Tingey will be starting her maternity leave at Christmas. We wish them all the very best with the next stage of their adventure.

School trips

I have had some feedback regarding the lateness of information regarding trips and we are looking at ways to ensure that you get information in a more timely fashion. Thank you for your feedback.

We are very short of parent volunteers with DBS checks to accompany our trips. If you would be interested in getting your DBS so that you can volunteer for trips and help in school on a regular basis, please ask for details at the office.

NSPCC

The NSPCC have led workshops this week for children in Y5/6. The children have found these very useful. The NSPCC lead wanted us to know what a lovely school we have and how brilliant the children all were; they listened beautifully and contributed thoughtfully and sensibly. I was very proud of them all.

Architect Workshops

Y1/2 have had their architect led workshops today linking to their topic on Houses and Homes. They have had a very enjoyable and successful day.

Christmas Card Competition

We have been asked by our local MP, Matt Hancock, if we would enter his Christmas Card competition. The winner's card will be sent out by Matt to all the people on his Christmas Card List.

If your child would like to enter, they need to design a card and return their entry to school and we will send them off. Entries must be in school by Friday November 9th for us to meet the deadline.

Guidelines for the Christmas Card Competition:

- There are two categories: 4-8 year olds
 - 9 – 12 year olds
- Entries to be on white A4 paper – do not fold it
- Originals will NOT be returned
- Entries must have name, age and school on the back.

Attendance

Our attendance is currently 66% which is well below our target of 96%. I appreciate that some of the absences are due to illness but please do make sure that your child is coming to school every day they can. If children have already missed a few days of school this term this could mean that their attendance is below 80%. Children with poor attendance miss so much of their education and this is very difficult to catch up.

KS2 reading

As you may be aware, we have introduced our new reading scheme called Accelerated Reader. This system tracks the books that children are reading; the number of books they have completed and their accuracy in comprehension. We have already seen progress with the readers. There is a competition between the classes for the most words read and there are star readers for the number of books and quizzes completed.

Class	Star readers	Words read	Books and quizzes completed
Badger	Isla Beale		12
	Harry Watt	39,000	
Gecko	Molly Courtney-Wines		12
	Samuel Scott	142,000	
Owl	Felicity Harlow		11
	Macey Smith	51,000	
Firefly	Amelia Laffling		21
	Izzy Williams	700,000	
Jaguar	Callum Hunt		15
	Rhys Weetman	130,000	
Koala	Zoe Baxter		16
	Peter Martin	126,000	

MDSA

We still have a vacancy for an MDSA due to the departure of some staff this half term. If any of you are interested in doing a few hours work each day, or even 1 or 2 days, please contact the office for an application form.

I have attached the dates for the term in case you missed these last time.

Eats Menu

The Eats school dinner menu will be changing after half term to the Autumn/Winter menu 2018/19. Throughout this time, the KS2 children will no longer have the option to choose a pick and mix packed lunch.

Sally Esom

Headteacher

Dates for the Autumn term 2018

Date	Event	Who is involved
2/10	NSPCC assemblies	KS1 and KS2
3/10	Phonics workshop	EYFS parents
9/10	On-line safety session for parents and carers	Parents/ carers of whole school
9/10	On-line safety workshops for Y5/6	Y5/6
12/10	Architect workshop	Y1/2
18/10 from 1-2pm & 19/10 from 10-11am	Open day sessions for 2019 EYFS intake	New parents
12/10 -19/10	Contributions for Christmas Shoebox Appeal	Whole school
19/10 – 30/10 29/10 is a staff training day	Half term	Whole school
30/10	PTA Cake sale after school	Whole school
30/10	Parents' evening – late session	Whole school
1/11	Parents' evening – early session	Whole school
2/11	Coffee and a chat 9am	All parents and carers
2/11	PTA Halloween fancy dress disco	KS1 – 5:30-6:30pm KS2 – 6:30 – 8pm
11/11	WW1 commemorations at the Pavilion and Beacon lighting	School choir, whole school invited 6.00-7.00pm
13/11	Dental checks in school	EYFS – Y4
16/11	Children in Need Details TBC	Whole school
23/11	Bring a jar or tombola prize and wear your own clothes PTA	Whole school
23/11	Flu vaccines	EYFS – Y5
30/11	Coffee and a chat – 9am	All parents and carers
30/11 After school in the hall	PTA Christmas fair	Whole school
7/12	School Pantomime – paid for by PTA	EYFS/KS1 – am KS2 – pm
10/12 at 2pm 11/12 at 6pm	KS1 Christmas performances	KS1
12 – 13/12	Burwell House Residential	Y4
12/12 13/12	EYFS Christmas performances at 9:15am	EYFS
19/12	Christmas lunch/ Christmas jumper day/ End of term	Whole school
3/1/19 Thursday	Term begins	Whole school