

Tel: 01625 573260

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Headteacher: Mrs Anne-Marie Willis

## Dear parents,

This last two weeks have been non-stop in school, we have so much to celebrate and share with you. Children have started new topics across the curriculum and as always embraced new learning opportunities and challenges. Well done to all!





Class 1 and 2 will enjoy forest school for the rest of the spring term and what a start they have made! They all worked as a team last week collecting mud to make mud creatures alongside creating dens and natural creations with their friends.





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This week was all about world book day and what a day we had. When the children arrived in school the chairs were on strike! All children received letters to explain why and we got to work straight away. This gave the children a real purpose to their writing and the written pieces produced were incredible. We prayed it worked and it did! The chairs returned on Friday, what a relief.

We also had a very special visitor – Dr Shelley White, a doctor of English literature and author of a series of children's books. These books have the values of our school interwoven and share messages of friendship and determination, perfect for our children. The children enjoyed a 'live' story session and bespoke activities around the story of 'Bumble' bee. What a treat!



A special well done to our best costumes winners - Meadow, Clark and Beatrice.

A massive well done to our super star Henry for reading in unusual places, thank you for all the fantastic enteries for this!



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## Important message about attendance and lateness

| Lateness = Lost L               | earning            |
|---------------------------------|--------------------|
| (figures below are calculated o | ver a school year) |
| 5 Minutes late each day         | 3 days lost!       |
| 10 Minutes lost each day        | 6.5 days lost      |
| 15 Minutes lost each day        | 10 days lost!      |
| 20 Minutes lost each day        | 13 days lost!      |
| 30 Minutes lost each day        | 19 days lost!      |

Since the spring break a small number of families have struggled to arrive at school on time but today we had a great day with most children arriving to start their learning on time! Our school starts at 8.50am and it is vital all children are here for this time. We start our day with reading, phonics and regulation time and when children miss the start of the day it can affect the rest of their day. We ensure there is a member of staff on the playground from 8.40am and on most days there are lots of staff ready to greet you and your children. This is to ensure children start the day with a smile from us and enables us to talk to our families. Thank you to all families that come every day on time and share this welcome experience with us.

Our attendance policy (in line with DfE guidance) states that any children that arrive after 9.00am will receive a late mark, after 9.20am it is an unauthorised absence. I have attached this policy for your reference. This policy also explains the importance of school attendance, every moment counts.

A child's success in education is directly linked to regular attendance at school, please do enable us to ensure your child flourishes with us and reaches way beyond their potential.

Our current whole school attendance is 90% which is in the lowest 10% of schools in the authority. Please do work with us to ensure we improve on this.

95% attendance equates to half a day off every two weeks for a whole year

90% attendance equates to a day off every two weeks for a whole year. Less chance of success. Harder to make progress.

85% attendance equates to 30 days off in an academic year. Detrimental to success and progress.

80% attendance equates to one whole day off every week for a whole year.

I will be in touch with individual families to offer support with attendance and lateness. We want to do all we can to support children and families. As always please do reach out if there is anything we can do to help and support you. I have written to all parents to gather numbers for our fully funded breakfast club starting



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in the summer term. We are hoping this will also alleviate parking troubles every morning and support with getting to school on time.

Finally, our merit winners this week and last.

| Class 1  | Class 2 | Class 3 |
|----------|---------|---------|
| Felicity | Charlie | Eden    |
| Emma     | Clark   | Joshua  |

Have a wonderful weekend with your children and families and thank you as always for your continuous and valued support.

Kind regards Mrs Willis

## **Diary dates**

| Monday 10 <sup>th</sup> March    | Start of science week – activities planned all week |
|----------------------------------|---|
| Wednesday 12 <sup>th</sup> March | Own clothes day for chocolate eggs                  |
| Thursday 27 <sup>th</sup> March  | Y5 and Y6 Crucial Crew safety event                 |
| Friday 28th March                | Chocolate Bingo night                               |
| Wednesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> April  | Flix in the Stix                                    |
| Friday 4 <sup>th</sup> April     | End of term   |