

Newsletter – 13th October 2023



Dear Parents

Well done to our wonderful Year 2 children. We really enjoyed your Harvest festival assembly this week. I'll be humming those catchy songs all weekend.

I'd also like to say 'well done' to Mrs Gerhardt, our SENDco, as she has now been awarded the national award for special educational needs coordination. This is a qualification that all SENDCos have to achieve within three years of taking up post. It's a lot of additional study and coursework on top of what is already an intense role, so well done Mrs Gerhardt.

Next week is the last week before half term. This newsletter therefore has some Christmas dates for your diary, a few reminders and some news.

Safeguarding

We regularly revisit personal safety with the children to make sure they remember that parts of their body are private and only belong to them. We use the resources produced by the NSPCC to do this. The NSPCC call this the 'pants rule' and they have some really useful advice for how parents about how to talk about this with their children at the link below:

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/support-for-parents/pants-underwear-rule/>

Tuck shop and Non-uniform day – Friday 20th October

Bring £1 to school to wear non-uniform for the day. The FoTIS tuckshop will be open on the playground at the end of the school day when children are going home. All money raised from non-uniform day and the tuck shop will support our school.

Library books and reading books

We have recently had some library books and reading books returned to us in a state of damage or disrepair with ripped pages, damaged spines and water damage. Please can we remind you not to put water bottles into your child's book bag as they can leak and cause terrible damage to books. Please can we also ask you to make sure that children handle the books they borrow with care and respect. These resources are shared amongst our whole school community and they are so expensive to replace. We just don't have the money to constantly buy them.

Headlice

This one makes my head itch just writing it! Please could we ask everyone to check their children and treat them if necessary. Any pharmacy will give you advice on the best way to treat your child. It is important to check children's heads regularly, even after treatment, in order to try and eradicate the problem. This NHS advice contains a helpful photograph of what to look out for and what to do <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/head-lice-and-nits/>

Keyrings on book bags

Some children are bringing book bags to school that have multiple, large keyrings attached to them. These don't fit in the book bag trays, and are a trip hazard when the book bags hang out of the trays. Children may only have **one small keyring** on their book bag, so please help them to choose it carefully and swap it occasionally if they have a collection! Thank you.

Ramworth Way Community Book Swap

A community book swap has been set up by residents on Ramworth Way. They have asked us to let all our families know that it is available for everyone to use. It contains books for both adults and children and you don't need to put anything in to take a book to enjoy.

Parking

There have been continued complaints from local residents about parking in and around Turnfurlong Lane. These have included drivers parking across dropped kerbs that are necessary for disabled access. Thoughtless, inconsiderate parking is anti-social behaviour. Wherever and whenever drivers park illegally or thoughtlessly they can and should be reported to Thames Valley Police and Buckinghamshire Council.

<https://www.thamesvalley.police.uk/advice/advice-and-information/asb/asb/antisocial-behaviour/nuisance-parking/>

<https://www.buckinghamshire.gov.uk/parking-roads-and-transport/parking/tell-us-about-a-parking-problem/>

Half Term activities

From 23rd to 28th October at **Discover Bucks Museum** in Aylesbury there are some great activities for families to enjoy, from making Rangoli Sun Catchers, Autumn Collage and Clay Leaves at the beginning of the week to spooky Bats and Spider Webs later in the week, topped off with a Frightful Family Halloween day on Saturday 28 October. Join them for different activities each day from Monday to Saturday. They will also have a cryptic Halloween inspired trail for £1, available every day from reception for all to enjoy.

Also at Discover Bucks Museum, get ready to pull up your leg warmers and scramble your Rubik's Cubes, as their exciting new exhibition, **I Grew Up 80s** will open just in time for the October Half-Term. Don't forget to visit while you're there!

www.discoverbucksmuseum.org

Dates for the Diary	
October	
Friday 20 th	Break up for half term holiday (usual finish time)
Monday 30 th	Return to school Indian dance workshops (<i>Reception – Year 2</i>)
November	
Thursday 2 nd	Flu Vaccinations (<i>Reception – Year 2</i>)
Wednesday 8 th	Parent Involvement Morning 9.00-10.30 am (<i>Reception – Year 2</i>) <i>Further details to follow</i>
December	
Friday 1 st	'Winter Sparkle' day <i>Further details to follow</i> FoTIS Winter Bazaar 2.45-5.30 pm
Friday 8 th	Save the Children Christmas jumper day Pantomime for the children during the school day
Tuesday 12 th	Reception Christmas Play – 9.30 am
Wednesday 13 th	Year 1 Christmas Play – 9.30 am Year 2 Christmas Play – 2.15 pm
Monday 18 th	Christmas Party Day
Tuesday 19 th	Carols round the Christmas Tree – 2.15 pm (children and parents) End of Term

TERM DATES 2023-24		
	Open on morning of	Close at end of afternoon of
Autumn Term	Tuesday 5 September 2023	Friday 20 October 2023
	Monday 30 October 2023	Tuesday 19 December 2023
Spring Term	Monday 8 January 2024	Friday 9 February 2024
	Monday 19 February 2024	Thursday 28 March 2024
Summer Term	Monday 15 April 2024	Friday 24 May 2024
	Tuesday 4 June 2024	Tuesday 23 July 2024
Staff Training Days	Friday 1 September 2023 Monday 4 September 2023 Thursday 4 January 2024 Friday 5 January 2024 Monday 3 June 2024	
Bank Holiday	Monday 6 May 2024 (school closed)	