

Newsletter – 3rd November 2023



Dear Parents

Welcome back to the second half of the Autumn term. The days may be getting shorter and darker but there are so many exciting things to look forward to in November and December.

On Monday, the children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 all thoroughly enjoyed the Diwali 'Bollywood' dance experience we held at school. The energy and enthusiasm was wonderful to see. Also this week, the children in 2M and 2C have visited the National Paralympic Heritage Trust Centre to learn about the importance and historical significance of this Aylesbury landmark. Unfortunately, we had to re-schedule 2S's visit due to the awful weather that was forecast. Finally, Year 1 and Year 2 took part in a sports 'multiskills' competition with James, our sports coach. Year 1 played against Bedgrove Infant and were very good sports. Year 2 however will have to wait for another occasion to challenge Bedgrove as the weather prevented them from joining us. Well done and 'thank you' to everyone involved in all of these special activities, experiences and events.

Parent Involvement morning: 'Staying Safe' – Wednesday 8th November

This term's Parent Involvement morning has a focus on Relationships and Health Education (RHE) and Safeguarding. We teach children how to keep themselves safe in a variety of contexts and situations across the year, including how to safe online. Come and join us in the hall from 9.00am to learn more about how we teach these essential life skills at Turnfurlong Infant School and then spend time in the classrooms learning alongside your child.

Here are some safety and safeguarding websites that have further information about this subject.

Internet Safety

<https://saferinternet.org.uk/guide-and-resource/young-people/resources-for-3-11s>

First Aid

<https://firstaidchampions.redcross.org.uk/en/primary/safety/>

Road Safety

<https://www.brake.org.uk/how-we-help/raising-awareness/schools-and-families>

https://www.think.gov.uk/key_stage/ks1/

OPAL – Outdoor play and learning project

Thank you to everyone who has brought items for OPAL to school this week. Since we started our resource 'wish list' my car has frequently been packed with resources that I've scavenged for free from Facebook marketplace. It's surprising how many bread crates can fit in a Volkswagen Polo. I also had a back seat filled with old pans when I visited my parents at half term. However, we are still on the hunt for lots of things on our list so we've re-attached it to this newsletter.

Please bring your items to school either at drop off or collection time so that they can be taken to the hall foyer or roundhouse. Thank you.

We will start to introduce the changes to playtime and lunchtime from January 2024. We'll be inviting parents to sessions to explain more about the project in the Spring term so look out for further information in the coming weeks.

Get into Teaching – Saturday 18th November

Buckinghamshire Council are holding an event for people interested in learning more about pathways into teaching. If you or someone you know is considering teaching as a career, please share the details on the flier attached to this newsletter.

1970's day – Friday 12th January 2024

In January, Turnfurlong Infant School will be celebrating our 50th birthday. We will hold a special event in the Summer term but, to mark the actual opening of the school in January, the children will be experiencing a school day with a 1970's feel. Children should come to school in their usual clothes but they will be having 1970's style lessons, including a 1970's infant school assembly.

Dates for the Diary	
November	
Wednesday 8 th	Parent Involvement Morning 9.00-10.30 am (<i>Reception – Year 2</i>)
Wednesday 15 th	Nursery Rhyme day for Reception and Nursery
Monday 27 th	Years 1 & 2 Phonics Workshop for parents 2.15 pm-3.00 pm (<i>information to follow</i>)
December	
Friday 1 st	'Winter Sparkle' day - wear something sparkly to school 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)	