

Newsletter – 11th January 2024



Dear Parents

Welcome back to the beginning of the Spring Term. The children have come back rested and ready to re-start their learning. This is usually the term when children make the most progress so we are looking forward to the weeks ahead.

Wellies and waterproof coats needed!

Please make sure your child has a named pair of wellies and a waterproof coat that is suitable for outdoor play. We are playing outside as much as possible now, even in the rain! Also, if you have wellies that your child has grown out of we will accept them gratefully to add to our collection of 'spares'.

OPAL – Outdoor Play and Learning

If you drop your child off in the morning, you will have noticed a lot of boxes and play equipment in the playground. This is the start of our Outdoor Play and Learning Project at playtime and lunchtime and the children are absolutely loving it.

This week we have had an amazing few days, introducing all the children to the new toys, new play spaces and setting some rules, routines and foundations for outdoor play.

Mrs Glen and Ms Moxham would therefore like to invite you all along to a **parents 'stay and play' session on Thursday 18th January** to show you what it is all about. Timings for each year group are as follows:

Reception parents 9 - 10am

Year 1 parents 10 – 11am

Year 2 parents 11 – 12pm

The idea is that you come along to see how it is set up, how the children play with the resources, how we manage risk and how much fun creative play outside can be.

All we ask in return is that you bring one item to trade as a 'ticket' for play. This item will be added to our resource base and supply stocks so as things come to the end of their usable life, we are able to replace them. For example, you come along at your allocated time, bring an old toy car, doll or plastic jug and then play with your child and their peers for an hour.

We are still accepting donations and we are particularly looking for more

- Babies (dolls) and prams
- Large suitcases
- My little pony
- Small world play figures e.g. Imaginext

- Toy cars and large toy vehicles

If you or your partner is or knows a builder, carpenter, plumber, roofer, tree surgeon etc we are desperately in need of

- Planks of wood to balance along e.g. scaffold boards
- Bricks and roof tiles
- Long branches for den building
- Guttering and pipes, fittings and fixtures
- Wheelbarrows

And a community plea – we are in need of another SHED to store all this fabulous equipment in – if you know anyone we could contact who could donate one, please let us know!!

Bolly X – Bollywood inspired fitness, Thursdays 7.15pm at Turnfurlong Infant School

If your New Year's resolution was to get fit and have fun, this could be the class you've been looking for. The flier attached contains further details about this and a Saturday morning class that Christine is running for 8 to 11 year olds at the Family Hub.

Dates for the Diary	
January	
Monday 8 th	Term begins for all children
Friday 12 th	1970's day
Tuesday 16 th	SENDCo coffee morning for parents – 9.00am
Thursday 18 th	OPAL session for parents 9.00 -10.00 am – Reception 10.00 -11.00 am – Year 1 11 am-12 pm – Year 2
Monday 22 nd	Year 2 SATs meeting for parents and carers – 9.00-9.40am
February	
Monday 5 th	Steel band workshop (Reception, Year 1, Year 2)
Friday 9 th	Break up for half term holiday, finish at usual time
Monday 19 th	Start of second half of spring term
March	
Thursday 7 th	World Book Day - come to school dressed as a character from a story
Monday 11 th	Parents' Discussions - 5.30-7.30 pm
Tuesday 12 th	Parents' Discussions - 3.30-4.30 pm

Wednesday 13 th	Parents' Discussions - 3.30-4.30 pm
Wednesday 20 th	Parent involvement morning - 9.00-10.30 am
Thursday 28 th	End of Term (finish at usual time)

TERM DATES 2023-24		
	Open on morning of	Close at end of afternoon of
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	Thursday 4 January 2024 Friday 5 January 2024 Monday 3 June 2024	
Bank Holiday	Monday 6 May 2024 (school closed)	

TERM DATES 2024-25		
	Open on morning of	Close at end of afternoon of
Autumn Term	Thursday 5 September 2024	Friday 25 October 2024
	Tuesday 5 November 2024	Friday 20 December 2024
Spring Term	Tuesday 7 January 2025	Friday 14 February 2025
	Monday 24 February 2025	Friday 4 April 2025
Summer Term	Tuesday 22 April 2025	Friday 23 May 2025
	Tuesday 3 June 2025	Wednesday 23 July 2025
Staff Training Days	Tuesday 3 September 2024 Wednesday 4 September 2024 Monday 4 November 2024 Monday 6 January 2025 Monday 2 June 2025	
Bank Holiday	Monday 5 May 2024 (school closed)	