



Newsletter

Spring term

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Inspire, Enjoy, Achieve

10th February 2023



Dear Parents / Carers

We have come to the end of another really busy half term! I really enjoyed the postcard picnic with the children this week, it is such a pleasure to hear their news and plans for half term while sharing hot chocolate and cookies with them.

The children and staff have been working really hard and enjoying their topics. It is lovely that we are now able to plan visits out to enhance the children's learning experiences. After half term Reception classes of Willow and Oak are looking forward to their outing to Woburn to explore animals from around the world.

Yr 2, Woodpeckers and Skylarks are visiting Rockingham Castle to experience life in Tudor times and Yr4 are heading to Verulamium to learn about Roman history.

As you may be aware, there is another day planned for industrial action on Wednesday March 1st. We support teachers who choose to take strike action and would like to give you notice that, due to staffing issues, year 1 and 2 classes may not be able to open on that day except for vulnerable children and those with Education and Health Care Plans. Please be prepared to make alternative arrangements for your children on that day.

I hope you all have an enjoyable and restful half term and look forward to seeing you back at school on Monday 20th February.

Mrs Headland

Diary Dates

20th February—Return to School
23rd February—Yr1&2 Dance Club Begins
23rd-28th Feb—Scholastics Book Fair
24th Feb—2nd March—Sponsored Book Read
27th Feb—Cake Competition
1st March—Coffee Morning KS1 and Early Years
1st March—Reading with Grandparents 2.45-3.30pm
2nd March—Yr2 Trip to Rockingham Castle
2nd March—World Book Day (Dress Up)
3rd March—Bring and Buy Book Sale
8th March—Coffee Morning KS2
27th March—Yr4 Trip to Verulamium Museum
29th March—YrR to Woburn Safari Park
31st March—End of Term

Important Information

Attendance

A big well done to Willows class this week with 99.3% attendance and Willows again last week with 99.7%. The whole school attendance is 94.3% but we are aiming for 98%!



Premier Education

The after school club that Premier Education are hosting next is basketball. If you would like your child to attend, please visit the following link for booking and information:

<https://www.premier-education.com/parents/venue/courses/829/?school=Cotton%20End>



School Lunches

The menu on after half term has been tweaked slightly this week so if you have already pre-ordered your child's lunches, please could you double check that your choices are correct. For those who haven't yet pre ordered, the menu is now available up until the Easter holidays. Please could we kindly remind all parents and carers to pre-order your child's dinner in advance, ideally half termly.



Asthma

For those who's child has been diagnosed with Asthma and are required to keep an inhaler at school, please could you take this half term break as an opportunity to make an appointment with your GP / Asthma Nurse and complete a care plan as per the letter sent this week. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact the school office.



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After School Clubs

Next half term Miss Dear will be running a dance club for Years 1 and 2 starting Thursday 23rd February until Thursday 30th March. You can book this via ParentMail on a first come first served basis. We do still have some spaces available but it is getting booked up quickly so to avoid disappointment, please don't delay.



Safer Internet Day

On Tuesday 7th February it was Safer Internet Day. The whole school (including pre-school) took part in activities based on this year's theme - *Making space for conversations about life online.*



The children had a lot to share and it is wonderful to hear about the things the children really enjoy about using the internet. However, some conversations highlighted alarming details about children talking to strangers online via gaming apps. I would urge you all to double check what your child accesses online and to make sure restrictions are in place to prevent unwanted contact.

Please find attached a link to the parent's information for Safer Internet Day 2023, it gives some good tips for starting conversation about the internet. There are further links which also give useful advice about keeping your child safe online.



Safer Internet Day 2023:

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rI_gZTQ9F7w

CEOP Think You Know <https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/>

Internet Matters <https://www.internetmatters.org/>

Parent Coffee Morning.

Mrs Chesters-Lewis our Family Support Worker is having a coffee morning. This will be an opportunity to discuss any concerns you may have with your child or even just pop along for a chat!

KS1 & Early Years—1st
March 9am-10.30am

KS2-8th March
9am-10.30am

Hope to see you there.



Absence

If your child is absent from school for more than 3 days, you will be asked to provide some medical evidence either in the form of a photo (e.g. prescribed medicine) or confirmation of a medical appointment. This is purely for our records.



World Book Day

To celebrate World Book Day on Thursday 2nd March we will be having another whole week of activities starting on Monday 27th February.



Our theme this year will be Families and everyone is invited to come dressed up as a character from a family related story.

During the week will also be holding a cake decorating competition, a sponsored book read challenge and a bring and buy book sale.

All money raised during book week will go towards enhancing reading in school.

If you want to find out more about World Book Day please visit: www.worldbookday.com

I look forward to another amazing week of book fun.

We are also very excited to be hosting another Scholastic Book Fair in school from Thursday 23rd February until Tuesday 28th February where you will have the opportunity to purchase books for your children. More details to follow soon.



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