

Head Teacher:
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22 March 2024

Dear Parent/Carer

Another busy week in school. The children have been working on poetry for the past week or so, focusing on the RSPCA and animals in general and there have been some lovely poems written as a result. Some of these will be entered into the Somerset Literacy Network poetry competition. We will try to find a way to share some of these with you too. Next week is our Shakespeare week. On Tuesday we have a drama company in for the day to work with the children on producing 'Romeo and Juliet'. Each class will have a session and then we will all come together to see the whole play at the end of the day. Many thanks to PTFA for donating the funds for this. The children will be spending much of the rest of the week on Shakespeare related activities too.

Tuesday and Wednesday are our Parents' Evenings, please do attend your slot, this is really important for you and the teacher to meet and talk about your child's learning. The Governors will be serving tea and coffee and asking you to complete our annual questionnaire which is also attached if you would prefer to complete it in advance. I would love for everyone to complete this as it really helps us to improve the school. It also helps me if you put your name on it so that I can come back to you to discuss and help solve any issues that arise. The aim is to help us make the school better for everyone. PTFA will also have a uniform stall.

At Parents' Evening you will be given your child's attendance certificate for this year. Attendance below 95% will have an impact on your child's learning and below 90% it is deemed as persistent absence. Whilst we understand that children do get ill and family circumstances differ, school attendance is really important and missing school does impact children in many ways.

The DfE suggests good attendance is 95%, this allows for these life events. In a school year of 190 days this is around 10 days absence. Attendance that falls below 95% becomes a concern, because it can easily slip to 90%, just another 9 days absence. This is the equivalent to 1 day in every 2 weeks.

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Easter Fair

Thursday at 2.15pm is the Easter Fair. Please come to the front door and then go to your child's class to collect them. If you arrive much after 2.15pm your child will be in Cygnet class unless they are running a stall.

The children are asked to come in non-uniform and to bring:

Reception, Years 1 & 2 – Cakes/biscuits (Homemade where possible)

Year 3,4,5 & 6 - Chocolate for the tombola

Any donations for the fair can be brought to the office during the week.

PTFA Updates

Easter Photo Scavenger Hunt

The PTFA Easter Photo Scavenger Hunt is back for 2024! This activity really is something for the whole community, so please tell your family, friends and neighbours. Available to buy online from our website from Friday 29th March 2024. Please take a look at the poster attached to this email and head to Facebook for regular updates.

Family Easter Bingo

Thank you to everyone who supported the Family Easter Bingo last weekend, it was a huge success. Over 100 people joined us for some bingo fun and helped us to raise an egg-cellent £756.63!

Bottles

Thank you also to everyone who donated bottles last week, they will be put to good use at the Easter Fair. And it's not too late to donate, please drop any bottle donations to the school office this week.

PTFA DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Tuesday 26th March - Second-Hand Uniform Sale

Wednesday 27th March - Second-Hand Uniform Sale

Friday 29th March - Friday 12th April - Easter Photo Scavenger Hunt 2024

Parent Information Sessions

Child Exploitation by County Lines with Escapeline :Monday 20th May at 6pm

Attendance – Unauthorised Term-Time Leave

Please be aware that when a parent or carer chooses to take their child out of school for a period of leave, which has not been authorised by the Head Teacher it may result in a Penalty Notice being issued. Term-time leave of absence is not an automatic right and will only be granted in exceptional circumstances. You can find the school's attendance policy and letter of intention to take term-time leave request form on the school website.

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Is my child too ill for school?

It is usually appropriate for parents and carers to send their children to school with mild respiratory illnesses. This would include general cold symptoms: a minor cough, runny nose or sore throat. However, children should not be sent to school if they have a temperature of 38°C or above. Further guidance can be found here - [NHS 'Is my child too ill for school?' guidance](#)

Nut free school (inc. Toy Box)

We have multiple children in school at present with a nut allergy. Please do not give your child food/snacks to bring into school containing any type of nut or nut product, e.g. Nutella and Peanut Butter. Thank you for your support.

Dates for the diary

Parents Evening	Tuesday 26 th March
Parents Evening	Wednesday 27 th March
Easter Service at Holy Trinity Church	Wednesday 27 th March at 2.30pm
Easter Fair and Mufti Day	Thursday 28 th March
Good Friday	Friday 29 th March
Start of Summer Term	Monday 15 th April
Summer Fair (New Date)	Saturday 13 th July

Safeguarding (Protecting children from harm/keeping them safe)

In school we have a duty to ensure that all children are safe and protect from harm or abuse. If we have concerns about a child's wellbeing it is our duty to look into this, talk to the family, and if need be, report it to Somerset Direct.

If you have any concerns about your child, or another, please come and speak to me. Safeguarding is everyone's business and cannot be ignored. Somerset Direct (0300 123 2224) or the NSPCC are useful points of contact, should you wish to share or discuss any Safeguarding concerns you have.

Here are some useful websites recommended by our DSL (Designated Safeguarding Lead – Lizzie Reynolds).

[NSPCC](#) [SOMERSETDIRECT](#)

Best wishes
Mrs Lizzie Reynolds

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