



WEEKLY UPDATE

Dear Parents/Families

A very Happy New Year to you all and a warm welcome to our new pupils and their families joining us in our nursery class. Firstly, on behalf of all the staff thank you so much for your generosity with gifts and cards at the end of term. They are very much appreciated - and there are still a few chocolates and biscuits around despite the recent news item from dentists about discouraging such goodies in the workplace!

I hope you all had a wonderful Christmas, the children have returned with enthusiasm and have obviously recharged their batteries!

Last term we had training around our midday and lunchtime routines which was very positive. This has led to a few changes that the children may have told you about. Accompanying this newsletter are some important documents for pupils in Key Stage 2 (Years 3, 4, 5 and 6). Copies are also in school and I have explained them to the children.


1. Dining Hall Assistant - Job description and application form: Our children are often keen to take on responsibilities and it is important that good citizenship— in this case, volunteering— is encouraged. Applying for a responsible position and then carrying it out is also an important part of our children's education in life-skills. Children should complete the forms themselves as much as possible - I am not judging their handwriting or spelling but obviously it needs to be legible and understood.
2. Football Contract- we are fortunate that we have staff happy to take children out onto the field at lunchtimes. Usually this ends during the winter months but staff are keen to give our children the opportunity to continue to play on the field and to play football. However, to go on to the field (for football or to play other games) children **MUST** have an old pair of trainers and a pair of overtrousers in school. This will keep their clothes and the school as clean as possible. You will also need to be sympathetic as coats may become dirty - although we are not encouraging this, children may slip. Children will need to change during their lunchtime; we know that they can do it very quickly when they want to! In addition, pupils who wish to play football need to read, understand, sign and then follow the Football Contract. Again, this is an important life lesson about responsibility.

School News

School News

We have also introduced Golden Raffle tickets at lunchtime. These will be given to children who are seen to follow our dining hall expectations, including good table manners, trying new foods, clearing their plates. I want our children to develop healthy eating habits and avoid eating disorders and concerns in later life so no child will be forced to eat food that they really do not like or more than they can eat. However, we are concerned that some children are wasting a significant amount of food and that on some occasions they are so keen to go out to play that they try and avoid eating their lunch! Each week a small number of raffle tickets will be drawn out of the golden box and the winners will be invited to join me for tea - the irony of a treat for eating well at lunchtime is deliberate!

In addition to all the above, skipping ropes and other games have been introduced. We will also be introducing something called 'craze of the week' which may well be games you are familiar with from your school days. So far, the changes made are having a very positive impact.

Our value this week is Politeness, something which comes naturally to the majority of our children and I am proud to hear the compliments we receive from visitors about their behaviour and attitude. We will let you know next week who received a Star of the Week for Politeness. Congratulations to Siwan Fan for receiving his Silver Headteacher's Award. 

I am sure you will agree that FOLF organised a fabulous Christmas Bazaar and we were delighted to hear that the grand sum of £1800 was raised! Thank you to everyone involved in the organising and taking part that made it such a great success.

Finally, we are blessed to have so many supportive parents and grandparents and some of you have let us know that you have particular skills that can help us. Our children enjoy hearing from visitors so if any of you have a job or interests that you would be willing to talk about please do let me know as I would like our children to be inspired by the positive role models that you are. You will soon receive curriculum letters for this term, so again if you think you have relevant skills, job or interests that would support the children's learning please let me or your child's class teacher know. If you don't feel comfortable talking in front of the whole class or school in assembly we can organise smaller groups,

Thank you for your continuing support and please don't hesitate to contact me if you'd like to discuss any of the above.

My very best wishes

Mrs Carol Dunne
Headteacher

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY—SPRING TERM

Please keep a note of the dates below for future reference but we would also ask you to **check the newsletter every week in case we need to make a change** .

Assemblies start at **2.30pm** unless otherwise stated. Thank you.

Tues 10th Jan	Full Governors' meeting
Thurs 12th Jan	Year 6 IMPS visit to Abingdon Hospital (am)
Week of 16th Jan	After school clubs begin
Mon 16th Jan	Science Oxford workshop on sound for Year 3 & 4
Fri 20th Jan	FOLF Disco (5.30—6.45pm infants, 7—8.30pm Juniors)
Tues 24th January	Growth Mindset and Writing Presentation to parents @6pm (details will be confirmed shortly)
Fri 3rd Feb	Year 1 class assembly @2.30pm
Weds 8th Feb	Year 5 to Fitzharrys for Hairspray Production (pm)
Fri 10th Feb	Year 6 class assembly @ 2.30pm
	Term ends at 3.15pm
Week of 13th Feb	Half Term
Mon 20th Feb	Start of Term 4
Weds 22nd Feb	Heights and Weights Measurements for Reception and Year 6
Tues 28th Feb	Full Governors' meeting
Weds 1st March	Year 3 & 4 visit to Chedworth Roman Villa (tbc)
Thurs 2nd March	World Book Day (activities tbc)
Fri 3rd March	Year 3 visit to Abingdon Library (am, details to follow)
Fri 10th March	Class Photos FOLF's Long Furlong's Got Talent @6.30pm
Week of 13th March	Book Fair in School
Fri 17th March	Sun Dome in school for Year 5 & 6
Tues 21st March	Parents' Evening (3.30—6.20pm)
Thurs 23rd March	Reception trip to Hill End (details to follow) Parents' Evening (3.30—6.20pm)
Fri 24th March	Red Nose Day Year 4 class assembly @ 2.30pm FOLF Pamper Evening (details to follow)
Mon 27th—Fri 31st	Year 6 Residential @Plas Pencelli
Fri 31st March	Year 3 class assembly @2.30pm
Fri 7th April	Term ends @ 1.30pm
Mon 24th April	School re-opens to pupils

COMMUNICATIONS THIS WEEK

School Dinners	Main School	Tues 3rd Jan (ParentMail)
Spare Clothes	Reception	Weds 4th Jan (ParentMail)
Swimming Lessons	Years 3—6	Thurs 5th Jan (ParentMail)
IMPS Visit	Year 6	Thurs 5th Jan (ParentMail)

COMING UP

Please can we remind parents and carers that the school gate will be locked promptly @9am every morning. Please try and vacate the playground by this time or you will have to walk through school to leave via the main entrance. Thank you.

Long Furlong is enrolled on the Injury Minimization Programme for Schools (IMPS), and Year 6 will visit Abingdon Community Hospital next **Thursday 12th January 2017**. During the visit the children will have the opportunity to tour the Accident and Emergency Department, to familiarise themselves with the hospital and equipment used. They will watch an interactive video, concentrating on accident prevention and demonstrating basic first aid Procedures and they will also be taught emergency life saving skills.



BEAVERS

TIME FOR FUN

Aged 6 - 8 years?
Looking for something fun to do with lots of opportunities to make new friends and enjoy loads of activities?
Why not give Beavers a try?.....

We're holding an OPEN EVENT

An activities based afternoon to give you a flavour of what's in store as a Beaver.... complete with campfire & marshmallows!

NOTE: ALL YOUNG ADULTS MUST BE ACCOMPANIED BY AN ADULT

DATE: Sunday 22 Jan 2017

TIME: 3.00 - 5.00pm

LOCATION: 7th Abingdon Scout Hut, Dalton Barracks, Faringdon Rd, Shippon.

Contact Lorraine Aspell on 07707993454 or email - aspells@connectfree.co.uk for more details



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Community News

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