



WEEKLY UPDATE

Dear Parents

Welcome back to school to you all and I trust you had a lovely Easter holiday. This term, we have been joined by Mr Peter Chamen who has joined Year 3, teaching on Thursday and Fridays until the end of the summer term. I know you will all join me in giving him the warmest welcome.

The summer term is now upon us - despite the weather behaving as if we were back in the winter. This does mean that we see children now wearing summer uniform, so a quick reminder that: shorts - must be "school smart" ones (not PE/sports shorts); sandals - need to be safe and securely attached to your child's feet! (No high heels, and straps need to be around the heel as well as across the top of the foot).

The summer term also means that more children will enjoy playing on the field at lunchtimes; to clarify, children only need to sign the football contract if they wish to play football. Playing any other games on the field does NOT require a contract. Over trousers are not needed in fine weather; however, in the event of wet weather, only children with over trousers will be able to play on the field.

We've already had our first sports' tournament of the term with our 5 and 6 tennis squad participating in the Abingdon Schools Orange Ball Tournament. The Year 6 team achieved 3rd place—well done to all involved and thank you to the parents and Miss Enticott for their support!

The second 'Talking Heads' parents forum was held on Monday- thank you to the parents who joined Mrs Smith and me as we shared information about our anti-bullying surveys, the updated school policy and a presentation about online bullying and ways to prevent or act upon it. Our policy has been updated to ensure it more accurately reflects the values of our school, where we want every child to feel safe and feel that we listen to and act upon their concerns. It now also meets the statutory guidance from the Department of Education - but my primary concern is the well-being of our children! The policy is on our website and there are also some links to organisations that are able to help with different activities and information if you would like to know more. I have set the parents a little 'homework' task - to look at our current 'Guideline for Parents' and to see if we can develop a brief document that in one page provides you with the immediate information you need to know if you are worried that your child is being harmed by another or requires support as they are harming another - either in or out of school and including using mobiles and social media.

School News

School News

As part of our Computing curriculum and during assemblies, children are being informed of the ways they need to keep themselves safe when using technology and also what to do if confronted by something that makes them feel uncomfortable or is unkind. The School Council is to carry out more work with the rest of the school to make sure all our school community do all we can to prevent bullying. Overleaf there is a summary of the questionnaires that parents and children were asked to complete - this information is being used to inform our future work.

I am aware that it isn't easy for many parents to join us during the school day, equally other parents find it difficult in the evenings so my plan is for future 'Talking Heads' forums to take place each term - with the quality of the cakes improving! One would be in an evening, and others on a Friday or Monday during the school day to enable as many of you as possible to join us. Obviously, if you wish to contribute, but you are unable to join us, please do contact me by email or speaking to me. These forums are in addition to all our other evening opportunities and activities including Open Evenings, Parents Evenings, FOLF events and Teacher led workshops.

FOLF has planned events for the summer term and these include a fun-filled Beetle Drive on the evening of 19th May and, of course, our fabulous Summer Fete on Saturday the 24th June. There will also be a 2nd hand uniform sale on the 3rd and 5th May. Please do put these dates in your diary as it will be great to see many of you at these events.

Finally, after seeing the wonderful fundraising of Alan, one of our parents and Governors, who raised money for Asthma UK by running in the London marathon, I have heard that some of our children are raising money for The Little Princess Trust by having their hair cut. Their hair is then being used to create wigs for children who need them. Well done to Kimberley and Belle for being so thoughtful.

My best wishes for a lovely long weekend!

Mrs Carol Dunne
Headteacher

CAN YOU HELP?

If anyone can make some cushion covers for the library, please could they let the school office or Miss Markey know. All materials will be provided. Many thanks.

CONGRATULATIONS TO...

Thomas and Daniel Egerton (Year 1) for both achieving their white Orienteering badges



COMMUNICATIONS THIS WEEK

Dorchester Abbey Visit	Year 3 & 4	Mon 24th April (ParentMail)
Sex & Relationships	Years 5 & 6	Tues 25th April (ParentMail & Hardcopy)
Local Walk	Year 1	Tues 25th April (ParentMail & Hardcopy)
Junior Citizen Reminder	Year 6	Tues 25th April (ParentMail & Hardcopy)
Research Project	Year 2–6	Weds 26th April (ParentMail & Hardcopy)
Swimming Reminder	Year 5	Thurs 27th April (ParentMail)

COMING UP

On **Tuesday 2nd May**, Year 2 parents and carers are invited to a SATs meeting at 3.30pm in the Year 2 classroom.

FOLF will be holding a second hand uniform sale next **Wednesday 3rd** and **Friday 5th May** in the school playground, from 3pm until 3.30pm. All items will be 50p each.

Good luck to our Year 4 tennis team taking part in a Mini Red Tennis Tournament at the White Horse Tennis and Leisure Centre on **Wednesday 3rd May**.

Year 5 will have another swimming lesson on **Friday 5th May**.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY— SUMMER 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.

Dates For Summer Term

Tues 2nd May	Year 2 SATs meeting for parents @3.30pm
Week of 8th May	Year 6 SATs week
Mon 8th May	Year 4 trip to Dorchester Abbey
Mon 15th May	Year 3 trip to Dorchester Abbey
Fri 19th May	Perform drama workshop for Nursery, Reception, Year 1 & 2 FOLF Beetle Drive @ 6pm
Mon 22nd May	Science & Engineering exploration day for Year 5 (TBC) Science Workshop at Chandlings for Year 4 (details to follow)
Tues 23rd May	Online Safety Session for parents @ 6pm (details to follow)
Week of 29th May	Half term
Mon 5th June	Inset (no pupils in school)
Fri 9th June	Year 2 class assembly
Fri 16th June	FOLF Non Uniform Day
Tues 20th June	Nursery Open Morning
Weds 21st June	Year 5 & 6 to production at St Helen & St Katharine (pm)
Fri 23rd June	Year 1 class assembly
Sat 24th June	FOLF Summer Fete (12—3pm)
Fri 30th June	Year 5 class assembly
Mon 3rd July	Year 3 & 4 Viking Day Year 6 treat day at Legoland (details to follow)
Thurs 6th July	Full Governors' meeting
Fri 7th July	FOLF Discos
Mon 10th July	Year 1 & 2 trip to Hill End (details to follow)
Tues 11th July	Class swap morning Open Evening for parents (3.30—5pm)
Weds 12th July	Year 3&4 Afternoon Production @ 2pm Year 3 & 4 Evening Production (time TBC)
Thurs 13th July	Sports morning at Tilsley Park
Fri 21st July	Term ends at 1.30pm

Say No to Bullying

As part of our work to make sure all our children feel safe and secure, are aware of what to do if they feel they are being bullied or see bullying behaviour(including online) and that their parents feel able to support them we have carried out two surveys, one of parents and one of children. As with many surveys, there are some caveats as we now know that some questions don't necessarily give us the information in the most helpful way and while an anonymous survey can give some information, it doesn't always give us the context. This information has been used in some developments already, such as our updated policy and training, and we will carry out a further survey. Over the next few newsletters, we will share with you some of the posters produced by the children, including those highly commended, that were entered into the Oxfordshire County Council competition.

There were many positive comments from parents, such as "I raised the concern with the class teacher and was satisfied and reassured by their response and action", and "I regularly hear of positive outcomes when issues arise. It gets sorted out straight away and not allowed to drag on". However, there were a small number of concerns reported where it was felt, in the past, that poor behaviour hadn't been dealt with.

82 parents responded to the questionnaire in the autumn term and some of our actions are already well underway.

What parents said...	Our actions...
88% of parents who responded feel we are fully committed to creating a safe and caring environment for all pupils, with only 1 parent saying this is not the case. 88% of parents also felt confident to report concerns of bullying to a member of staff.	Make sure our procedures are robust and continue to put safety and care at heart of our values. Work with pupils and parents to make sure our values are known. Maintain open and responsive relationships with parents in different ways.
48% of parents feel that staff help their child to feel safe, however only 2 parents responded to say they didn't feel staff helped children.	Make sure all staff are aware of procedures and remain vigilant, reporting concerns to class teacher, headteacher and parents as appropriate. Improve playtime and lunchtime experience for all-training for all staff and introducing new strategies.
51% of parents are not aware of our procedures for reporting and recording bullying and only 34% are aware of our anti-bullying policy.	Make sure procedures are followed robustly, these are shared in our policy and in parent guide to be developed. Work with our Parent Forum. The updated policy, including dealing with on-line bullying is on our website – make sure it is accessible.
28% of parents said their child had been bullied. 66% of parents felt their child was secure and free from emotional and physical bullying within school and on the way to and from school, with 7 parents saying this was not the case.	While this doesn't reflect the number of incidents reported and investigated, this number needs to be reduced – develop an anti-bullying programme within school following training for staff and pupil involvement (including participation in OCC's campaign). Maintain rigorous responses to concerns and incidents – evaluated by our governors.

School News

The pupils' questionnaire was also anonymous, with 148 children participating. Pupils from Year 2 to 6. This doesn't assume bullying is only in these year groups but that the questionnaire was not appropriate for the younger children. The PSHE curriculum for all pupils, but particularly the younger children emphasises the positive behaviours we wish to see from all our children.

Again, there were many positive comments; "...I'm glad that there isn't that much bullying in our school", "I think people being mean once or spreading rumours, is more of a problem", "This school is very good at stopping bullying". However, we still need to help children understand the difference between falling out and bullying, as well as continuing to teach and ensure excellent behaviour. The types of bullying behaviours are unacceptable and we will strive to reduce them.

Mrs Crowther and I attended an Anti-Bullying workshop and we continue to develop further ideas with the school council, for example several children felt that we need 'better rules' in school! So, watch out for more news.

What the children said...	Our actions...
46% of children said they had been bullied (a lot or a little) during the past year.	While this doesn't match with reported and investigated incidents we need to make sure: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Children know and understand what bullying is 2. How to report it and trust that we will action their concerns. 3. We consistently follow our robust procedures
48% of children felt they had seen some bullying of others take place	As above, but with clear understanding of how to inform an adult if you SEE bullying and not be a bystander.
There was significantly more bullying reported for 'more than a year ago' than in the recent term. For example, in Year 6 this had reduced from 12 children to 2.	Continue to use the measures to reduce bullying still further and to also understand reasons for bullying – restorative justice work.
The types of bullying behaviours seen were (number of responses): Verbal: 46 pupils Physical: 52 pupils Behind back(rumours): 29 Online: Although low, this seems to increase from Year 4 onwards. 6 pupils	Continue to work on behaviour expectations of all pupils and make sure children are aware of consequences of actions. Make sure children understand the difference between bullying and falling out/ 'rough play' (which is still unacceptable).
What is the bullying about: Appearance/ looks: 22 Race/religion:4 Disability: 3 Other reason: 43	Our values and PSHE curriculum must ensure a greater understanding and empathy.
Where does it happen? There were 12 responses of bullying in the classroom, 10 in the school corridors and 9 on computers with the greatest number appearing on the playground- 90.	Training and Playtime improvements. Sports Ambassadors and School council to develop activities and ideas (eg Quiet zone, buddies).
55% of children felt that the adults deal well with bullying.	As robust measures are in place, we must ensure that children feel concerns are listened to and action is taken while being able to deal with situations discreetly.
Most children felt able to tell an adult in school or at home with only 9 feeling unable to tell someone and only 3 children saying they would do nothing or walk away if they saw bullying.	Continue to reinforce the message of 'tell' and reinforce the strategies.