

Headline:

We hope you all enjoyed a week with your children. Unbelievably, we are now in the second half of the school year.

This term, our Year 3 and 4 children will be putting on a production, Y5 will deliver an Easter assembly to the rest of the school and once again we have some class assemblies. Staff have been busy planning trips and events and the governors continue to challenge and support the work of school leaders.

A number of parents have caught me on the gate this week and asked about the multiplication tests that the government announced last week. Each parent passed comment that they were surprised by the announcement that we were going to have to start teaching times tables, feeling that this is something we should already have been doing.

We have always taught times tables, but I too felt the news coverage last week made it appear as though this was going to be something new for a primary school to teach. We knew that this announcement was coming and have already decided to track this year's national trials of the tests very carefully so that we can understand how best to support children in taking an online multiplication test in Year 4 from 2020.

Thank you very much to all the parents who attended a parent consultation meeting in the last week of term. The teachers found it very useful to meet with you and discuss learning and progress. Those of you who were unable to make your appointment will be contacted by your child's class teacher to rearrange.

Mrs Fentiman's appointments were unable to go ahead due to her continued absence through illness. A new date for these will be announced once she has returned which I am expecting to be later in this term.

Mr Carthy

News

Book Week Invitation

On Wednesday 28th February, you are invited to come in for some Book Week activities! At 2.20pm until 2.50pm, we will be holding a talk about how best to read with your child. This will also cover the questions that you should ask about what has been read to your child! Afterwards, from 2.50pm until 3.25pm, you are invited to come in and share a book with your children.

Reminders

Y6 Secondary Transfer

A reminder that the national offer day for secondary school places for children currently in Year 6 is 1st March. Medway Council's plan is to inform parents who applied online via email from 4pm on this date. Letters will be sent in the post that night to anyone who applied on a paper application form. Following receipt of your school offer, if you have any queries, please see Mr Atkins on the playground on Friday morning or make an appointment to see him via the main office.

Medication in School

If your child is prescribed medication to be administered three times a day, this should be done at home, perhaps before school, on arrival at home from school, and then later in the evening.

Should your child need medication four times during the day, then we are able to administer a dose during school time. Parents are requested to bring the medicine to the school office where they will be asked to complete a form. We are only able to administer medicine which has been prescribed by the doctor and has the dispensing label on the box or bottle. No medicine should come into school with your child.

Coming Soon

World Book Week
Monday 26th Feb – Friday 2nd March

Y6 SATs Parents Meetings
Monday 26th Feb, 3pm & 6pm

Y4 Residential Trip Parents Meeting
Tuesday 27th February, 3pm

Parent/Pupil Reading Event
Wednesday 28th February, 3pm

Y2 SATs Parents Meeting
Monday 12th March, 6pm

Sport Relief Tag Day (Sporty Theme)
Friday 16th March 2018

SLT Parent Clinic
Monday 19th March, 6pm

Byron's Got Talent
Thursday 22nd March, 6pm

Term Dates 2017/18

Term 4
Monday 19th February 2018
until
Thursday 29th March 2018

Term 5
Monday 16th April 2018
until
Friday 25th May 2018

Term 6
Tuesday 5th June 2018
until
Wednesday 25th July 2018

Term Dates 2018/2019

Term 1
Tuesday 4th September 2018
until
Friday 19th October 2018

Term 2
Tuesday 29th October 2018
Until
Tuesday 18th December 2018

Term 3
Thursday 3rd January 2019
Until
Friday 15th February 2019



A navy blue jumper, sweatshirt or cardigan.
Navy, black or grey trousers, tailored shorts, skirt or dress/navy and white checked dress. A white or blue polo shirt, shirt or blouse. Flat plain black shoes or trainers (no heels or open toes).
www.tesco.com/ues

Health & Wellbeing

Cold Weather Alert

The Met Office have issued a severe weather warning for this weekend. There is a strong probability of frequent snow showers from Sunday. If we wake up to snow on Monday morning, we will follow our extreme weather policy and use text message, twitter and our website to communicate any changes of routes into school with you. Please do not phone the school office early on Monday morning to see if we are open without having checked our website first.

Healthy Snacks

Remember – these are the healthy snacks we recommend for junior breaktime snacks. (Years R, 1 and 2 receive a free piece of fruit or vegetable every school day through the School Fruit and Vegetable Scheme).

- Fruit
- Snacking vegetables such as carrots
- Cracker based snacks such as
- Mini Cheddars or Dunkers
- Rice Cakes
- Fruit bars (no nuts)
- Cereal bars (no nuts)
- Yoghurts
- A small sandwich (separate to any packed lunch items)
- Any other packet snack with a saturated fat content no higher than 10%

Headlice

Please check your child's hair regularly. This is a problem in all schools and we need your help to reduce the re-occurrences.

Sickness and Diarrhoea

Tips on dealing with Norovirus

- Drink plenty of fluids to avoid dehydration, and even more than you usually do to replace fluids. Try something like **Dioralyte** to rehydrate.
- If you are finding it difficult to drink fluids because you feel so sick, try just taking small frequent sips of either water, squash or a fruit juice.
- Take paracetamol for fever and aching.
- Stay at home until 48 hours after the symptoms have passed as you will still be infectious.
- It's important not to prepare food or have direct contact with others for 48 hours, if possible.
- Wash your hands frequently, don't share towels and disinfect any surfaces you touch as the virus can lurk on these for several days.
- Seek medical advice if babies, small children or the elderly are affected as they may need help being rehydrated.
- Seek medical advice if you already have a serious illness, or if symptoms last more than three days.
- Take a probiotic supplement as this offers some protection against diarrhoea infections.

In The Community

KIDS

KIDS is a national charity supporting disabled children, young people up to the age of 25, and their families.

KIDS works with thousands of families across the country each year, providing a wide range of services, ranging from simply listening to young people and their families, to helping with budgeting and paperwork.

They aim to create a world in which all disabled children and young people realise their aspirations, and their right to an inclusive community, that supports them and their families.

For more information on the charity in general, or to donate to their cause, please feel free to visit their website at www.kids.org.uk

Blood Donor Session

The NHS are holding a blood donor session on Wednesday 28th February at 1.30pm to 4.30pm and 5.30pm to 8pm at Priestfield Stadium, Gillingham. Please call 0300 123 23 23 to make an appointment. For more information visit blood.co.uk

Pat on the Back

The classes with the best attendance for the week beginning the 5th February 2018 were 3/4T and 5/6A with an amazing 98.6%. Well done! 6R only had three late pupils during that week, and 99.1% of children arrived on time. Well done to everybody!

Inclusions this week

- Year 5 and 6 – Anglo Saxons and Vikings Topic Letter
- Year 6 Post SATS Activities
- Friday Club Options Terms 5 and 6
- Premier Football School Flier
- Book Week Flyer

This school is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children, achieving equal opportunities and combating discrimination

Head Teacher: Mr Carthy

Deputy Heads: Mrs Langthorne (4-7 year olds) and Mr Chantler (7-11 year olds)

Family Liaison Officer: Mrs Vella

Inclusion Manager: Mrs Hill

This school operates a very clear whistleblowing policy for staff