

Headline:

As usual, the good weather seems to arrive once everyone is back in working mode, nevertheless I hope that you and your families were able to enjoy time together over the recent break.

In the last couple of weeks of term, Governors again had the opportunity to come into school for a day – everyone involved made this a really valuable time, and our thanks are due to the whole school for making us welcome. We had a session on the school's budget and were fortunate that the Chief Financial Officer for the Trust was able to join the group; whilst Governors do interrogate the budget in detail, his input from the perspective of the Trust was really valuable. In addition, Governors from across all the Trust's schools were able to attend a training session on Managing Academy Finances – this enabled us to focus on and reinforce the need for a rigorous and systematic approach to the monitoring and evaluation of the school's finances.

The day in school also included a session with the SENCO and an opportunity to hear about the processes involved in identification, and what procedures are involved in obtaining an Education Health Care Plan if this is thought to be appropriate and necessary. Awareness of what knowledge we need to be effective questioners and to challenge what is in front of us is an ongoing process.

In an earlier Newsletter it was mentioned that we needed a new Parent Governor to fill a vacancy, and I am pleased to say that Ben Guaghan will be joining us in May. In addition to being a parent, Ben has experience which I am sure will strengthen our skills base, and I would like to take the opportunity to welcome him to the Board.

Over the past few years I have been fortunate to attend end of term awards assemblies and have seen how valuable these events are – WOW! texts are always celebrated but I would like to say a special "well done" to the 18 pupils who

exceeded the WOW! goals last term and had a special meeting with Mr Carthy – keep those WOWs coming. In other Newsletters I have tried to come up with a quotation that might be new to Mr Carthy – I am not sure about this one, but as we are in Spring and have a "growing" environment at Byron, it might be appropriate:

"Don't judge each day by the harvest you reap, but by the seeds that you plant."

- Robert Louis Stevenson

News

Diversity

On Thursday 19th April children had an assembly from the Medway Health Team on 'Diversity'. In this assembly they explored how we are all different and these differences should be respected and celebrated. Children are bringing home templates to enter a poster competition which demonstrates diversity. As with the previous competitions, any medium may be used and there will be prizes for the best in each class. Entries need to be handed in to class Teachers by Thursday 3rd May.

Class Assemblies

Parents are invited to join their children for their Class Assemblies. Please allow plenty of time to sign in and take your seat – assemblies will begin promptly at 9am and access to the hall after this is disruptive for the children hosting the assembly.

These are the dates for the class assemblies this term:

1D – Wednesday 2nd May

1F – Wednesday 9th May

Reminders

Voicemails

Just a reminder that if the school phones a parent for any reason, they will leave a voicemail wherever possible. Please try to listen to the voicemail prior to phoning the school

Coming Soon

Year Three Trip to Lullingstone
Tuesday 1st May

Year Four Trip to Lullingstone
Wednesday 2nd May

Foundation Stage Trip to Shorne Country Park
Wednesday 2nd May

Bank Holiday
Monday 7th May

Year 6 SATS Week
Week Beginning 14th May

Year 2 SATS Week
Week Beginning 21st May

Tag Day (Film Theme)
Friday 25th May

Last Day of Term 5
Friday 25th May

First Day of Term 6
Tuesday 5th June

Term Dates 2017/18

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

Term 4
Tuesday 26th February
Until
Friday 5th April



Uniform

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

office, in order to get a better understanding as to why the phone call was made.

Health and Wellbeing

Sun Protection

In case you missed it, we managed to finally get some sunshine at long last! This does however mean that summer is almost upon us, and therefore we have to be careful to keep ourselves protected.

Children's skin is much more sensitive than adult skin, and repeated exposure to sunlight could lead to skin problems developing later on in life. Too much unprotected exposure to the sun's ultraviolet rays (UV) could lead to skin damage, eye damage, immune system suppression and skin cancer.

Sunburns are caused by the sun radiating light to the earth, and part of that light consists of invisible UV rays. When these rays reach the skin, they cause tanning, burning, and other skin damage.

Every child needs sun protection. The lighter someone's natural skin colour, the less melanin it has to absorb UV rays and protect itself.

The American Academy of Dermatology recommends that all children wear sunscreen with an SPF of 30 or higher. You should apply a generous amount and it should be reapplied often.

Children should also try to avoid the sun when it's at its strongest, usually between 11:00am and 3:00pm. Most sun damage happens from exposure during normal every day activities during this time, not necessarily going to the beach or sunbathing; playing in the garden in the sun is just as dangerous.

Finally, one of the best ways to stay protected is to cover up with suitable clothing, and therefore limiting the amount of contact the sun has with your skin.

For more information on how to keep yourself and your children safe in the sun, visit:

<https://www.nhs.uk/Livewell/skin/Pages/Sunsafer.aspx>

Drinking

Choosing healthier drinks is a key part of a balanced diet, and is often overlooked. Many soft drinks are high in sugar, and energy drinks are very high in sugar and caffeine. Checking the nutrition labels on soft drinks such as fruit juices and fizzy drinks can help you make healthier choices. The Eatwell Guide recommends drinking six to eight glasses of fluid a day.

Water is a healthy and cheap choice for quenching your thirst. It has no calories and no sugars that can damage your teeth. Plain tea, fruit tea and coffee (without added sugar) can also be healthy. If you don't like the taste of water, the NHS website suggests putting a slice of lemon or lime in it, or trying sparkling water.

Milk is another good choice, as it is a good source of calcium, which helps build and maintain healthy bones. It also contains protein, vitamins and other minerals, and doesn't cause tooth decay. Milk is especially important in young children, who should drink whole milk until they are two years old, because they may not get the calories that they need from lower-fat milks.

For more information on what to drink, please visit: <https://www.nhs.uk/Livewell/Goodfood/Pages/water-drinks.aspx>

In the Community

Sweeps Festival

Don't miss out on this year's Sweeps Festival in Rochester, on the weekend beginning the 5th May. Highlights include Morris dancing, free folk music, art stalls, food and drink and much more!

Pat on the Back

The class with the best attendance for the week beginning the 16th April 2018 was 6R, with a brilliant 99.3%. Well done! 2BK, 3/4T and 4L all had no late pupils, and 99.1% of pupils arrived on time! Well done to everybody!

Inclusions This Week

- Kung Fu Flier
- Year 6 Post-SATS Bowling Activity Letter

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