



DIARY DATES

February 2019

Fri 1st - Postponed
NSPCC Numbers Day,
FoSG Tea and Cakes
and Parent Forum

Tues 5th
FoSG Skip and
Bounce

E Safety Day

Thurs 7th
Mr Miller PE Coaching
EYFS

Fri 8th
11.30 Nursery NSPCC
Enterprise Day
14.00 Parent Forum

Fri 15th
YR, Y1 and Y2
14.00 NSPCC
Enterprise Day and
Tea and Cakes

Mon 18th – Fri 22nd
Half Term

March 2019
Fri 1st 14.00
Nursery Open day

18.00 FoSG Bedtime
Stories

Tues 12th
09.30 Nursery Open
Day

Fri 15th
15.05 FoSG Film
Night

Fri 22nd
FoSG Evening Event
for Parents

Parents Evening
Tues 26th All school
Wed 27th Owls only
Thurs 28th All school
except Owls

4th February 2019

Spring Term

We're already half way through the Spring term and the children are fully into the swing of things. We are all looking forward to the rest of the term ahead and have many exciting things planned.

We hope you had a lovely break over the festive period and managed to spend some precious time with friends, family and loved ones. We enjoyed hearing all the stories the children wanted to share with us about what they had got up to, the places they had visited and the new gifts they had received.

Staff INSET Day with Mr Miller - Cool Skillz

Before the children returned back to school, the Swing Gate staff attended a training day at school. This time, it was the staff's turn to be students for the day! Mr Miller delivered an action packed workshop in PE skills, teaching PE in schools and promoting healthy living in our daily lives, all in preparation for our 'Healthy Living week'.



Wellbeing in Action



This term we have launched 'Wellbeing in Action' at Swing Gate. We want to ensure that all children have the very best start in life, including the "knowledge of how to keep themselves healthy" and "make informed choices about healthy eating, [and] fitness." (Ofsted). This links strongly with our ethos of experiential learning, and enabling our children to be happy, active and inspired. At Swing Gate we have a holistic approach to each child's wellbeing, incorporating mental as well as physical wellbeing. Children need to acquire good habits early on in life which will then provide the foundations for a healthy future.

Look out for Wellbeing ideas, suggestions and website links on the school website. Talk to your children about what they have been doing and learning at school to support their wellbeing.

If you have any ideas or would like to know more, please record these in the Wellbeing Book outside the office.



PAUSE FOR THOUGHT

*'Take pride in how far you have come,
have faith in how far you can go.
But don't forget to enjoy the journey.'*

Michael Josephson

(Renowned champion of character education)

FoSG Disco Party

The FoSG transformed the school hall into a whirlwind of disco fever for the Y1 and Y2's Disco Party. The children had a fabulous time showing off their latest dance moves and flossing on the dance floor with their friends. FoSG had organised a host of crafts and games for the children to play on the night and a fun time was had by all.

FoSG Coin Weigh In

On Tues 27th the FoSG held the annual coin weigh in. We wanted to say a huge thank you to everyone who donated their spare coins. We had a brilliant response and raised £424! The winners were Rabbits for both the amount raised and weight, with Voles in second place for the amount and Badgers for the weight.



Attend and Achieve

The proud winners of the Attend and Achieve cup for December were Foxes class again with an attendance of 97.1%!

Hedgehogs	83.8%
Squirrels	91.1%
Rabbits	92.3%
Voles	92.6%
Badgers	95.3%
Owls	95.4%.

Healthy Living Week

Mon 21st – Fri 25th Jan



Earlier this term the children participated in our 'Healthy Living Week'. They enjoyed all types of workshops, games and activities based around eating and living well and the many different types of exercise we can take part in, covering...

Mon 21st Jan

'Discovering your Body' Drama Workshop

The drama company 'Perform' paid a visit to the school at the beginning of our Healthy Living Week. They got the children moving, wiggling and shaking their bodies. A scientist introduced the children to all sorts of new ideas and ways to get them up and about and enjoy being active.





Tues 22nd, Wed 23rd, Thurs 24th Jan Game on and Mr Miller PE Coaching

The children also enjoyed various PE coaching sessions, brought to them by Game On and Mr Miller.



Different equipment including hoops, balls and bean bags were used in new and interesting ways to promote physical activity.



Fri 25th Jan Speed Stacking Workshops

How high can you stack? How fast? How carefully? On Friday the challenge was set for the children when the specialist PE company Improve.it visited Swing Gate and ran their workshop, 'Speedstackstuck.'

The children loved the challenges they set and the sports focused team games, organising cups and objects.

Fundraiser Request

We are still looking for someone with fundraising experience, to help us with obtaining grants for our planned external works. Please contact the school office if you are able to help.

Snowy Weather

Please take care on your way to and from school if paths and roads are icy. We do salt the pathways and playground in every effort to keep them clear. The children are kept in at playtimes if it is not safe to play outside. In the event of heavy snow and the school has to close for the day, then you will receive notification via the Everbridge system. Please register using the link below:

<https://member.everbridge.net/index/892807736725489#/login>

How to apply for Nursery

Nursery admissions opens today.

If you are applying for a place at the Nursery 2019/2020 you will find a link on our website to the nursery application form to complete online. Please look under 'Admissions', 'Applying for a Place', 'Nursery Admissions'.

Job Vacancy

Victoria School is looking for a caring, enthusiastic person to join its team of lunchtime supervisors (MSAs), to work every day between 11.50 and 1.05pm. For more information, please email the school office admin@victoria.herts.sch.uk or phone 01442 865781.



Future Dates for your Diary:

Book Fair

Week beginning 25th Feb

Book Week

Week beginning 4th March with World Book Day on 7th March dress up as a book character day.

National Science Week

Week beginning 11th March with whole school Science assembly 14.30 14th March. Parents invited.

Parents Evenings

Tues 26th March (afternoon / early eve – all school)

Wed 27th March (eve – Owls only)

Thurs 28th March (eve – all school except Owls)

Please make a note of these dates in your diary. Exact times will be confirmed soon and you will be able to book via the online booking system on Parentmail.

Autism Week

Week beginning 1st April

Spring Fair

Sat 18th May

Please check the school calendar on the website for additional dates.

Thank you

I would like to thank you for your assistance in the icy and snowy conditions last week. Everyone was very patient with entering and exiting through the front door. I hope the snow day didn't cause any families too much inconvenience. The safety of children and staff is always our priority.

Thank you to the team of adults and children who answered our call yesterday and helped clear the snow and ice from the front of the school. Great team effort! Pasta points awarded to our three snow patrol pupil helpers, two of which are photographed below.



*Francesca Gallagher (Mrs)
Headteacher*