



DIARY DATES

March 2019

Fri 1st

14:00 Nursery Open day

18:00 FoSG Bedtime Stories £3

Mon 4th – Fri 8th

Book Week

Weds 6th

Class photographs

Thurs 7th

Dress up day

Mon 11th – Fri 15th

National Science Week

Thurs 14th YR, Y1, Y2

14:00 Parent Assembly

Tues 12th

09:30 Nursery Open Day

14:00 SATS Workshop for Y2 Parents

Wed 13th

08:35 Parents Mathematics Drop In

Thurs 14th

14:30 Whole School Science Assembly

Fri 15th

Red Nose Day
15:05 FoSG Film Night £5

Thurs 21st

14:00 YR, Y1, Y2 Handwriting Workshop

Fri 22nd

19:45 FoSG Race Night

Parents Evenings

Tues 26th All school

Wed 27th Owls only

Thurs 28th All school (except Owls)

Fri 29th

15:05 FoSG Tea and Cakes

1st March 2019

Hello Spring!

We welcome you all back after the half term and hope you had an enjoyable week. We were lucky with the weather and there is definitely a hint of Spring in the air. It is lovely to see the daffodils starting to poke their bright and happy heads through the ground.



Book Fair and Book Week

This first week back has seen the book fair in school. With a great range of choices for the children to buy and enjoy.

We try to encourage as much reading as possible both at school and home and introduce the children to a variety of interesting texts. Our library is well stocked and don't forget, there is always Berkhamsted Library where it is free to borrow books.

Next week, beginning 4th March is Book Week. The children are invited to dress up as their favourite book characters on **Thurs 7th March**. They are already discussing costume ideas and outfits – we have heard Harry Potter may be a very popular choice again this year! Please don't feel that you have to buy a costume, there are plenty of no cost ideas online.



We many exciting things planned for Book Week. Thomas Coram pupils will be reading to the children and activities will include story writing, sharing favourite books, designing book covers. Parents are invited to share their favourite books with their child's class, so if you are available please let the class teacher know.

Feeling Good Week

The week before half term was Feeling Good Week. We focused on 5 ways to wellbeing: 'Connect', 'Be Active', 'Take Notice', 'Keep Learning' and 'Give'.



We encouraged the children to talk about their feelings, connect with their friends, take notice of others, always be willing to learn and 'give' support openly.

It has been proven that these five simple ideas help children to feel mentally well and have a positive life attitude in school and at home.



PAUSE FOR THOUGHT

'You're braver than you believe, and stronger than you seem, and smarter than you think'.

A A Milne
(Quote from Winnie the Pooh)

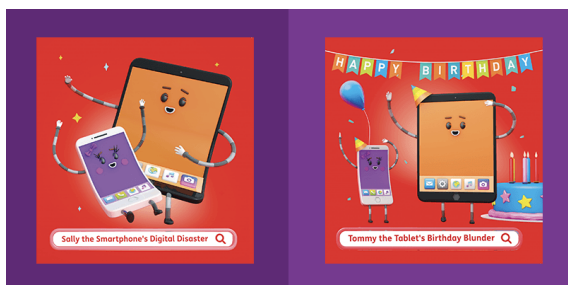
Sponsored Skip and Bounce

The FoSG sponsored Skip and Bounce event last half term was great fun. Lots of energy and 'boinging' about on the spot as fast as possible was recorded. Your sponsorship money raised £480.51. A fabulous effort all round!

e-Safety

On the 5th February it was e-safety Day. e-Safety is becoming ever more vital and apparent in our daily lives. It is so important that together, we must all make a conscious effort to protect our children online. On e-Safety day, the children had lessons and an assembly focusing on different ways to keep safe online, and on devises.

Please see our website under the Parents section, Internet Safety. There are lots of useful links here and interactive stories such as 'Sally the Smartphone's Digital Disaster' and 'Tommy the Tablet's Birthday Blunder', to make learning and awareness fun for children.



Karate Workshop

Mr Keegan delivered another of his famous Karate Workshop days last half term which the children enjoyed as usual.

NSPCC Enterprise Day, Tea and Cakes

After the snowy weather forced us to close for the day and postpone the Enterprise Day and Tea and Cakes, the rescheduled event was a great success with crowds gathered to purchase the many goodies on sale. The colourful painted stones were a sell out and make great paper weights! The total raised was £133.10. What a great entrepreneurial effort!



Parent Forum

Thank you to all who attended and contributed to the Parent Forum on the 8th Feb. We appreciate your comments and views and work closely with the Reps to improve our school.

Minutes from the meetings can be found on our website.

The next parent forum is on the 22nd March at 8.45 so do pop along if you can.

Head lice

We wanted to make you aware that last half term there were a few reported cases of head lice amongst the children. If a child is found with head lice they will be sent home. Notices are put up on class windows for your information. Please check your child's hair if you suspect any naughty nits and treat accordingly.



Wellbeing in Action



We continue with our ongoing focus towards 'Wellbeing in Action' at school. We are constantly thinking of new and exciting ways to achieve this. The children are especially enjoying songs with movement as brain breaks and meditation stories at the beginning of the day.

Simple Wellbeing Recipe

Tuna and Sweetcorn Pasta

Recipe makes 4 portions of approx 165g, costs between 70p – 99p per portion.



Ingredients

- 120g Dried Pasta
- 4 Tablespoons sweetcorn (canned)
- 1 can (160g) tuna (drained)
- 2 Tablespoons medium fat soft cheese

Method

1. Boil pasta following packet instructions
2. Drain the pasta when cooked and immediately toss it with all the other ingredients, mix well.

Attend and Achieve

The proud winners of January's Attend and Achieve cup were Hedgehogs class with an attendance of 98.3%

Owls	97.8%
Rabbits	97.7%
Badgers	95.7%
Foxes	95.5%
Voles	94.9%
Squirrels	93.5%

Talking about Mathematics

On the 13th March we are inviting parents to a mathematics drop in session at 08.35am. It is proven that parental input has a direct impact on our children's ability to learn. We encourage parents to get involved and 'talk' as much as possible to their children about all subjects, including mathematics.

'Talking about Maths' by Judith Stevens; *'Quite simply, most of children's understanding about number, shapes and measures comes from talking about number, shapes and measures, and exploring them through everyday play indoors and outdoors.'*

<https://www.teachearlyyears.com/learning-and-development/view/talking-about-maths>

Request for Equipment Donations

In EYFS we need offcuts of wood for the children to use tools and explore woodwork activities, we also need wellies that children have grown out of and any old pots, pans and kitchen equipment / cutlery for outdoor play.



If anyone has an old chair in the style of the one pictured that they no longer need we would love to upcycle it to be used in the mud kitchen. We also need a Pallet bus. All offers welcome!

Predicting how much events will cost

Where events in school incur a cost, we are starting to add these costs to the calendar on the school website for your information



Further Dates for your Diary:

National Science Week

Week beginning 11th March with whole school science day on 14th March, culminating in an assembly at 14:30. The theme this year is flight. We would like to invite parents to attend the assembly.

Red Nose Day

Friday 15th March

On Friday the 15th March we are joining schools across the UK with Red Nose Day and asking everyone to make a small donation - £1 suggested - to go non-uniform for the day. To really get in the Red Nose Day spirit, dig out your reddest t-shirt, hat or silly wig and accessorise with deely boppers. The kitchen will be supporting us by making themed desserts!

Parents Evenings

15:40 – 18:00 Tues 26th March

(all school)

17:30 – 19:50 Wed 27th March

(Owls only)

17:30 – 19:50 Thurs 28th March

(all school except Owls).

Please make a note of these dates in your diary. You will be able to book on-line shortly through Parentmail.

Autism Week

Week beginning 1st April

Spring Fair

Sat 18th May

Please check the school calendar on the website for additional dates. It is in the Key Information Pencil, Calendar. There is a link on the home page too.

Class Photographs

On Wednesday 6th March the photographer will be coming in to take the class photos. Please can you ensure that your child comes into school with a school sweatshirt or cardigan.

Autumn 2019

Going forward, I would like to confirm that there will be four Key Stage 1 classes in Autumn 2019. I shared this information with the Parent Reps at Parent Forum. I will keep you abreast of further developments.

Francesca Gallagher (Mrs)
Headteacher