



# Newsletter

*January 2023*

## *Key Dates*

We have included a list of key dates in this newsletter. Wherever possible, these dates are fixed but please be aware that in some circumstances we may need to make changes and will give as much notice as possible. We may also add further dates as we go through the year.

## *Fun with Food*

A small group of children will be working with Mrs Alvi this term to develop cooking skills, creating some delicious Indian/Pakistani foods such as pakoras and parathas with different fillings (breads). The first session is Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> January. Following the afternoon cooking session, there will also be a sale of some of the foods created at the end of the school day on the school yard. Mrs Alvi is an accomplished cook and staff can strongly recommend you try some of the groups' cooking creations! For a small cost, do come and try some of the delicious treats.

## *Strike Action in Schools*

You will be aware from the media that the National Education Union (NEU) has announced national and regional strike action for teachers in England on the following dates:

Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> February 2023

Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> February 2023

Wednesday 15<sup>th</sup> March 2023

Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> March 2023

We are currently assessing the impact strike action may have on staffing levels in school and will be in touch with further information as soon as we can.

## *Baby News!*

Huge congratulations to Mr and Mrs Hallatt on the safe arrival of their baby girl in November. Also huge congratulations to Mr Graham and his partner, who welcomed a baby boy in January.

## *Rainbow Raffle*

The Rainbow Raffle, organised by our School Council, raised £176. Thank you for everyone who contributed and bought tickets.

## School Dog

Thank you to everyone who completed our survey about having a school dog last term – we had a huge response! The responses were overwhelmingly in favour of a school dog, as seen below:

Q2

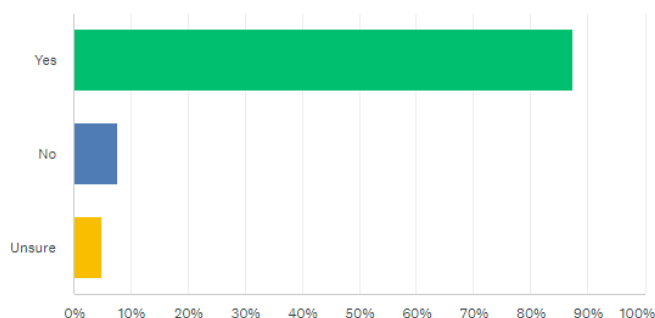


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Do you support the idea of a school dog, with a well considered risk assessment in place?

Answered: 103 Skipped: 0



ANSWER CHOICES	RESPONSES
Yes	87.38% 90
No	7.77% 8
Unsure	4.85% 5
TOTAL	103

We are grateful for your comments during the survey and are taking these into account as we work on our risk assessment and plans for moving forward. Once these are ready, they'll be shared with parents and we'll keep you informed of progress.

## Morning start times

Just a reminder that children should not be on school premises until 8.45am on a morning unless they are attending breakfast club. There is no supervision before this time. If you would like your child to come to breakfast club, please book via ParentPay.

## Mobile Phones

We have a large number of children who bring mobile phones to school and hand them in to the school office in line with school policy. However, we would request that parents review if it is necessary for phones to be brought to school as the number are increasing and it can delay start/finish times.

We would also appreciate if parents could remind children that phones must be turned off before entering the school premises (eg onto the yard) and should not be turned on until they have left the school premises. If children are found to be using their phones in the school grounds, they will be required to leave them at home.

## Dates for your diary – Spring/Summer Term 2023

Please note, dates may be changed in light of unforeseen circumstances, although we will do our best to limit this.

6 <sup>th</sup> – 12 <sup>th</sup> February	Children’s Mental Health Week – Focus in PSHE lessons
Tuesday 7 <sup>th</sup> February	Safer Internet Day – Children will take part in activities to promote internet safety
Monday 13 <sup>th</sup> February	Class Photo Day
Wednesday 15 <sup>th</sup> February	School Disco Reception/KS1 – 3.30pm-4.30pm KS2 – 4.45pm-6.00pm
Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> February	Break up for half term
Monday 27 <sup>th</sup> February	Return to school
Tuesday 28 <sup>th</sup> February	Rec/Y1 making pancakes in class
Thursday 2 <sup>nd</sup> March	Author visit for Reception and Year 1 – Chloe Atkinson Author visit for Y2-Y6 – Miles Salter
Friday 3 <sup>rd</sup> March	Witton World Book Day – Range of fun book themed activities YR-Y5 invited to wear pyjamas, Y6 to be decided
Monday 13 <sup>th</sup> March & Tuesday 14 <sup>th</sup> March	Parents’ Evenings – Children’s books also available in hall Appointments to be sent closer to the time
Thursday 16 <sup>th</sup> March 2pm	Reception open afternoon for Mothers’ Day
13 <sup>th</sup> – 19 <sup>th</sup> March	British Science Week – Science theme planned for the week with a range of visitors in school
Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> March	Red Nose Day – Non-uniform and wear something red
Tuesday 21 <sup>st</sup> March	World Down Syndrome Day – Teachers will share stories, resources with class to raise awareness
Friday 24 <sup>th</sup> March	Spring Fair and Raffle – Any parents/carers interested in helping to organise, please see Mrs Dubre
Tuesday 28 <sup>st</sup> March 1.45pm	Reception, Y1, Y2 Easter Egg decorating with families – Parents/carers invited to decorate egg with their child in the school hall.  KS2 will decorate eggs independently in classrooms
Friday 31 <sup>st</sup> March	World Autism Awareness Day Teachers will share stories, resources with classes to raise awareness on 31 <sup>st</sup> March
Friday 31 <sup>st</sup> March	Break up for Easter

Monday 17 <sup>th</sup> April	Return to school
Monday 24 <sup>th</sup> April	National Skipping Day – Sponsored skipping event in school
Thursday 4 <sup>th</sup> May	Anti-bullying Day – Activities for children in school
9 <sup>th</sup> – 12 <sup>th</sup> May	Year 6 SATs Week
Week beginning 15 <sup>th</sup> May	Health and Wellbeing Week Range of activities in school, focussed around a number of areas, including: Healthy eating/exercise/sleep Physical and mental health Road Safety Online Safety
Thursday 18 <sup>th</sup> May	Sports Day Option 1 (All children from Reception – Y6)
Friday 19 <sup>th</sup> May	Sports Day Option 2 (All children from Reception – Y6)
Friday 26 <sup>th</sup> May	Break up for half term
Mon 5 <sup>th</sup> – Fri 9 <sup>th</sup> June	Year 6 Residential visit to Ford Castle
Week beginning 12 <sup>th</sup> June	Year 1 Phonics Check
Tuesday 13 <sup>th</sup> June 2pm	Reception Open afternoon for Fathers' Day – Forest School
Thursday 13 <sup>th</sup> July 10.00am and 2.00pm Friday 14 <sup>th</sup> July 10.00am	KS2 Performance, led by Year 6
Thursday 20 <sup>th</sup> July 1.30pm	Year 6 Leavers' Assembly for Parents
Friday 21 <sup>st</sup> July	Break for summer holidays

## School holidays 2023

Holiday	Closing date	Date re-open for teaching purposes
Spring half term 2023	Friday 17 <sup>th</sup> February 2023	Monday 27 <sup>th</sup> February 2023
Easter 2023	Friday 31 <sup>st</sup> March 2023	Monday 17 <sup>th</sup> April 2023
May Day 2023	Friday 28 <sup>th</sup> April 2023	Tuesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> May 2023
Bank Holiday for Coronation	Friday 5 <sup>th</sup> May	Tuesday 9 <sup>th</sup> May
Summer Half Term 2023	Friday 26 <sup>th</sup> May 2023	Monday 5 <sup>th</sup> June 2023
Summer 2023	Friday 21 <sup>st</sup> July	TBC