

Dear Parents and Carers

Welcome to another new (rather chilly) term . I hope you all had a good half term break and are back into the swing of things. That's the first week already done and very soon it will be Christmas.

This term is every school's busiest and ours is no different. Alongside all the teaching and learning that happens, the children will be preparing for their Christmas productions too. We will be going ahead with preparations and practice and will also keep a close eye on COVID to let you know how we present whatever we do.

We are really excited about our after school clubs starting next week. It's been a long time and the children can't wait to start. I am sure it's going to be lots of fun. On that note many parents have asked about Breakfast Club and we did make a small start with planning last year but had to put it on hold due to COVID. We want to get that off the ground next term. There will be a parent survey soon just to get an idea of numbers. Please look out for that shortly.

We started the week with a lovely Diwali Assembly on Monday. The children learnt about the significance of the festival, listened to some Indian music and saw how diya lamps are lit. Keisha from Hockney class was invited to talk about Diwali to the reception classes. She did a fantastic presentation and read a story that fascinated the children in reception who had lots of questions for her. What a brilliant confident presentation Keisha! Thank you – see the pictures on page 2!

And some fantastic news that we are really proud of: Yasmin from Hockney class was chosen to represent our school at the Children's Parliament online debate held on Friday 27 October ahead of COP26 . She joined many other children to talk about climate change and to air their views and vote on issues that they want to see the government change. All their ideas were then sent to the Prime Minister, Boris Johnson. I cannot say how proud we are of this achievement as this is a very current topic that affects everyone of us right now. As a school we will be educating the children more and trying to do our bit to save our planet. Well done Yasmin – you did us proud! See more pictures and details on page 2!

I hope you all have a lovely weekend ,
Mrs Powys



We had a wonderful Skipping workshop in school on Monday and we have had a few enquiries about purchasing skipping ropes. Unfortunately we will not be selling these in school. Please see below the link to the website so that you may purchase any skipping ropes directly from them.

<https://skip2bfit.com/shop>

Reception

Celebrations!

Look at what we have been doing in Reception!

We have been getting ready to celebrate Bonfire Night this week. The children have been developing their fine motor skills by creating the night sky. They have been working together to create a bonfire in the outdoor area and they have learnt the first lot of sounds in phonics.



Yasmin does us proud at COP26

On the Eve of COP 26, Yasmin was honoured to represent our school as a delegate at the first ever Children's Parliament.

Up to 650 children from schools across the United Kingdom took part. Each representing a member of parliament [MP]

The children were given the opportunity to ask questions to Mr David Davis MP and debate climate change, the government Co response. Finally they had the chance to vote on 3 questions;

- 1 - What is the most important things for COP 26 to decide on
- 2 - Are you proud of your government's climate change response
- 3 - If there was another lockdown [bearing in mind children are least affected and less likely to suffer effects], should schools be closed again?

Not every child got to speak but they all had a chance to type their own views and that of the school in the text box. Final results have been sent to the Right Honourable Boris Johnson for him to take to COP 26 in Glasgow.



Below you can see Yasmin showing her debating skills as she speaks with Mr David Davis MP. Congratulations to Yasmin and well done on being a true Climate Change Pioneer! With everyone else, we can see you are using your voice for real action!





Nursery Celebrations



In Nursery ,we have had so much fun learning about festivals and celebrations this week. We discussed Halloween, Diwali and Bonfire Night. The children enjoyed taking part in lots of creative tasks this week, including making firework pictures using glue and glitter, and discussing the colours they had chosen.



For your attention:

At our school we are all passionate about keeping everyone safe and ensuring that our children get the best possible education . Can you all take note of the following and please do your bit to help us in this:

1. Adults or children should not be riding on bikes or scooters on the school premises
2. Children should not be playing on the play equipment on the playground. Parents and carers ensure that your child is with you at all times while you are waiting.
3. The tables near the classrooms are for children's use only. No adult or toddlers should be sitting on it waiting for their children as this distracts the children's learning . Remember that some children finish at 3.15pm
4. We have also had lots of loud talking and laughing near the classrooms . This disrupts the children's learning.
5. If anyone else is dropping and picking up your child could you please make them aware of the above as well.

Thank you for supporting us in keeping our children safe!

The fabulous skipping Workshop!



We started the week with an exciting and energetic skipping workshop with John from Skip2bfit! John taught us all about how useful it can be to start our day with a bit of exercise as well as the importance of fruit (such as blueberries) in our diet.



All staff and children then took part in a 2 minute skipping challenge, with Miss Devaney setting the school record with a whopping **286** jumps! John was really impressed with everyone's enthusiasm for exercise and determination to beat their skipping scores. A great way to start the term and a great reminder to make sure we all make time in our day for a short burst of exercise! There is lots more sport coming up this term with Year 5 looking forward to their first netball fixture next week!

Keisha's amazing presentation!

This week we have been understanding more about Diwali and learning how and why it is celebrated across the world. Keisha from Hockney class presented her story of Sita and Rama to the whole class!



Miss Verley said *"I was blown away by how confident she was and how engaged the children were when she was speaking - she had their full attention for a very long time. She demonstrated lots of teacher mannerisms as well, especially when responding to the children's questions!"*

Well done to Keisha [and her supportive friend Lena], you did fabulously and confidently.



She told the children all about Rangoli patterns and lit some Diva lamps too!

Wishing all our Hindu families a happy Diwali and best wishes for a prosperous new year too.



FESTIVE MENU!

Thursday 16th December



Chartwells

So much more than fantastic food

MAINS

£2.33

Roast Turkey or Roast Quorn Fillet

Served with Roast Potatoes, Carrots, Peas, Stuffing, a Mini Sausage and Gravy

DESSERTS

Chocolate Dipped Shortbread
Choice of Fruit

Milk, Water or Fruit Squash

DON'T FORGET! SCHOOL MEALS ARE FREE FOR ALL PUPILS IN RECEPTION, YEAR 1 OR YEAR 2.

Alternatively, you can order now until the 5th December at www.mealselector.co.uk

CELEBRATION ASSEMBLY

HERE ARE OUR STARS OF THE WEEK

Well done everyone!!

KS1

Van Gogh - Isabelle
Cezanne - Ayah
Mackintosh - Harry
Matisse - Samuel

KS2

O'Keeffe - Evelina
Turner - Alfie
Monet - Angel
Miro - Freya and Scarlett
Picasso - Lois
Dali - Nico
Hockney - Keisha
Escher - Finlay

We all know how exciting fireworks can be but we want everyone to be safe and enjoy them.

Have a look at the firework code to remind you how to keep super safe during the celebrations!



Firework Code

1. Only adults should light and hold fireworks.
2. Stand well back when watching fireworks and bonfires.
3. Never approach a firework that has not gone off or is used.
4. Enjoy sparklers safely by wearing gloves and holding them at arms length.
5. When a sparkler goes out put it straight into a bucket of water.
6. Keep your pets safely indoors.
7. Have a great time!

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY 2021 / 22 (Subject to change)

Term 2 (7 weeks)

November 2021
Monday 1st November
Friday 26th November

Term 2 starts (Autumn Term) - Back to School
PD Day (School is closed)

Dec 2021
Friday 17th December

Break up from school at **1.30 pm** for Christmas
Holidays

20th Dec – 3rd January 2022 Christmas Holidays

Term 3 (7 weeks)

January 2022
Tuesday 4th January
Wednesday 5th January

Inset Day (School is closed)
Term 3 starts (Spring Term) - Back to School

Feb 2022
Thursday 17th February
Friday 18th February
21st Feb – 25th Feb

Break up from School - Feb Half Term (normal time)
INSET DAY
Half-term



Good news! Friday 12th November is **Children in Need** - that's this Friday coming!

Children can dress in Pudsey clothes, clothes with spots on or your own clothes for a donation of £1 and all money goes towards **Children in Need** of course!



Communication with Staff

If you would like to request a meeting or communication with a staff member, you can call the school office on 01293 525596 or alternatively fill in our [Contact Form](#) and a member of staff will get back to you ASAP. Thank you for your understanding during these changes.

Please find the contact form here: [DAPA Staff contact request](#)



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