This Week's News 2nd February 2024



Head Teacher Update

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After a very exciting and busy week last week, it has been a little quieter this week. The children have certainly been enjoying the new wall art that has been installed. It has been great to hear their conversations as they walk through the corridor. Hopefully their historical knowledge will also be reinforced as they walk past the timeline everyday too. As you know, our aim is that children remember key knowledge that Is planned out in a sequential way across the school. We monitor the progress on a weekly basis and adapt planning accordingly.

I am also very aware that we need to continually update our skills and knowledge as teachers and invest in training for all of our staff. As a school, we really need to constantly adapt to the ever changing world around us. One of the services that has been cut recently is hearing checks for our Reception children. I am really concerned about this as hearing is one of the key senses to aid learning. If you can't hear very well then it is going to be much trickier to hear the key knowledge. If you are concerned about your child's hearing then of course make an appointment to see the doctor. If we pick up concerns in school then we can also refer to the audiology department directly.

We are seeing a significant increase in the number of requests from our pastoral teams. In order to be able to prioritise the needs of our children and families, we have a number of systems in place. I would like to direct you to our 'Chinwags' sessions that are held each month in the cabin on a Friday afternoon. This is an opportunity to speak to our pastoral team about any concerns you may have. We are supported in these meetings by our partners from the NHS and other specialists. You don't have to make an appointment, just turn up and have a cup of tea of coffee and chat in confidence.

School Standards Board Update

Each Term the School Standards Board meet to discuss the school and provide challenge and support to the Senior Leadership Team. The board is a voluntary body made up of people from a variety of backgrounds including parents and community governors. At the last meeting we felt it was important that we share the work that goes on behind the scenes to continue to improve the school.

During the last governors meeting, Mrs Ryan gave a curriculum update and addressed the ongoing efforts to follow-up actions from the Ofsted visit. Curriculum plans for each year group are accessible on the <u>school website</u>. Writing and spelling plans are a current focus, emphasizing best practices and idea sharing. Subject leaders have tasks and action plans, and the children will be encouraged to articulate what the lesson was about and what they learnt. Collaboration in school was also a key topic. There has been extensive networking with other head teachers to learn from diverse experiences. Additionally, the school is partnering with various professionals and trades to conduct talks on a variety of careers for the benefit of the children.

I think that is more than enough from me this week. Next week we have an INSET day planned on Friday 9th February where we will be working with our colleagues in the Middle School and this is the way forward for us with increased partnership working. We are also very close to finalizing our term dates for 2045/25 which again will all align with the Middle School to help you as families with childcare arrangements hopefully.

Now my attention turns to the Rugby and the excitement of the Six Nations starting again!

Mr Bagwell - Headteacher

Diary Dates

Fri 2nd Feb (TODAY)	POPS Pre-Loved Uniform Sale
Tues 6th Feb	Safer Internet Day
Thurs 8th Feb	Open Afternoon 3.15 - 4.00pm
Fri 9th Feb	INSET Day School Closed
Thurs 29t Feb	POPS Bingo Night
Fri 1st Mar	ChinWags 8.30am

Link to Key Dates

Deadlines

Breakfast & After School Club bookings must be made on ParentMail <u>7 days before the</u> <u>date you wish to book</u>.

Please ensure bookings are made in advance to avoid disappointment.

Whole School - 95.1% YR - 93.8% Y1 - 95.0% Y2 - 95.8% Y3 - 95.0% Y4 - 95.6% The school day begins at **8.45am.** Gates open at 8.30am

School Attendance

POPS Uniform Sale

POPS will be holding a pre-loved uniform sale after school <u>today</u> outside the Jubilee Room for anyone looking to purchase additional items for their child.

Safer Internet Day

On **Tuesday 6th February** it is National Safer Internet Day. As a school we are very proud of the knowledge our children have about how to keep themselves safe online, but that only happens if we are continuously teaching children how to do this. A day is a good reminder but it needs to be an ongoing process. We have attached a link for you as parents to support you with the process at home too.

https://saferinternet.org.uk/safer-internet-day/safer-internet-day-2024/top-tips-for-parents-and-carers

INSET Day

Don't forget, Friday 9th February is an INSET Day and therefore the school will be closed to children. Thank you.

POPS Bingo Night

You are invited to join us for our POPS Bingo Evening on **Thursday 29th February**! There will be at least two bingo games with cash prizes and we will be holding a raffle on the night. Chips will also be available to purchase in advance, provided by our neighbours, Wok and Fry.

Tickets are now available to purchase in the Shop section of the ParentMail app. Go to 'Payments' then 'Shop' then scroll down to 'Events'. There will be 3 options available to purchase (each sold separately):

- Bingo tickets (priced at £8.50 each)
- Chips (priced at £2.90 per portion)
- Cheesy Chips (priced at £4.00 per portion)

All food must be pre-ordered as orders cannot be taken on the night.

Bring your own drinks and cups and don't forget your pen and some cash for our raffle! We look forward to seeing you there for a great night of fun!



Community News

