



Headteacher's Message

We are so delighted to be supported by Tesco's Bag for Life blue tokens. If you are shopping at Tesco in Aldershot, please don't forget to pop your Bag for Life tokens in our slot as the money we raise will go towards our new Wildlife Garden. If you are in any other Tesco stores and you are given a token, please send it to school and we will send it on. Thank you for your support! We will let you know how we get on.

In book bags today, you should find our Curriculum Map for the Spring Term. This will give you an overview of what your child will be learning this term. There is a lot more information on the website under the Learning tab.

I would like to remind our Year Two parents that the children's standard tasks and test (SATS) will be taking place throughout May, so please can I respectfully ask that you do not book any days off during this period.

Have a lovely weekend

Mrs Cawson, Headteacher

World Book Day – 5th March 2020

To celebrate World Book Day, children are welcome to come to school dressed in their pyjamas on [Thursday 5th March](#).

Usborne Books will also be coming into school and children will be able to buy books with any money they have saved in the book saving scheme.

If your child would like to save some money in the book saving scheme, please put it in an envelope with their name, class, and the amount on and ask them to hand it in to the school office or pop it in the school post box in reception.

Parents will be able to come into school and look at the range of books available from 2.45pm on this day.

Parents are invited to come in and share a book with their child's class at 2.30pm on this day and we will be running a Book Review Competition. Further information will follow shortly.

School Lunches

Week commencing 27th January we will be on [Week 2](#) of the dinner menu.



Little Stars!

This fortnight we are celebrating the achievements of the following children who have received a Headteacher's Award for exceptional work and wonderful behaviour or attitude to learning.

- Kingsley
- Annalise
- Trinity C
- Katelyn B
- Felicity W-K
- Oscar G
- Olivia M
- Charlie B
- Thea
- Millie
- Jessica C
- Vinnie
- Fiorella
- Olivia v J
- Demitri
- Mia W
- Ahmad T
- Lexi A

A very well done to these children!

We also wanted to share some pictures with you from our Little Stars in our Year Two Sewing Club.



School Fund Voluntary Donations

A number of parents have asked us how they can make a donation to our voluntary school funds. This can be done via cash, cheque or by a donation online at www.scopay.com. Scopay is our school payment system which you would use to pay for school trips or to book a Parent Interview slot. Most of our parents are now set up on Scopay, however, if you have not yet done so please speak to the school office and we will provide you with an access code. This term we are saving money for some exciting workshops that we have planned over the coming months and we are always very grateful for every penny we receive.

Enriching Your Child's Vocabulary

At our recent English Open Morning, some parents gave good suggestions on how they help their child at home in enriching their vocabulary at home. Here are some of the parents ideas:

- Reading lots of different stories and non-fiction books, writing stories at home, talking about lots of different subjects
- Encouraging them to use a greater variety of words, I would love to have a list of technical terms (noun phrases, subordination) if possible as I feel it would enable me to support my child more efficiently.
- Get child to pick something they can see in surroundings and get them to describe it
- Talking with children is the key – learning to discuss
- Word of the day competition to see who can use the word the most during the day
- Playing 20 questions and I spy
- Lots of reading, talking, playing games like Guess Who, which is good for adjectives
- Modelling good vocabulary in family conversations
- Playing memory board game with things that start with the same letter
- Write the new vocabulary from a story book on a board and then try and use it in a family discussion
- Just talk about anything and everything! Discussing books, finding words in the environment
- Story cards and story dice. Spelling sentences

Chinese New Year Menu Change

Just to remind parents that on Tuesday 28th January we will be having a menu change to introduce the children to Chinese cuisine to coincide with Chinese New Year.

If you have not submitted a menu choice form, your child will automatically be given the menu choice they would normally have for Tuesday Week 2, i.e. red, green or jacket potato.

If you opted to send your child in with a packed lunch, please remember to do so on this day.

Save the Dates!

We have added a few important dates to our calendar this week for events that many of our parents like to attend.

These are:

- ◆ St Peter's Day Family Picnic with Walsh Junior School will be on 29th June
- ◆ Sports Day on 10th July (timings will be advised in due course)
- ◆ Year Two Leaver's Assembly will be on 20th July

More information will follow nearer the time.

Exiting the school before 9am

Just to remind all parents and carers that, if you do need to bring your child into the school building in the morning, please can you leave via the playground before 9am.

To comply with our safeguarding policy, it is not possible for parents to leave via the reception area before 9am. Thank you for your cooperation.

Spare Uniform

We are in desperate need of some spare uniform to keep in school if children have little accidents. If you have any socks, pants, tights or uniform that your child no longer needs we would be very grateful for the donation.

Year One Spring Celebration Day

On Thursday 2nd April children in Year One will be celebrating Spring Days. Therefore, we would ask parents to send their child into school dressed in spring colours on this day. These could be any colour that you believe represents spring.

No dressing up costumes please and please ensure that all clothing is suitable for a normal school day.

This is a non-school uniform day for children who would like to dress in spring colours.

AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS

Chelsea Football Club (External provider)

Fee paying club—all year groups. Block 1 runs every Monday, up to and including 10th February from 3.00pm-4.00pm.

Choir Club

Choir Club for Year One and Year Two is held every Tuesday from 3pm-3.45pm. Choir Club will run all the way up to and including Tuesday 7th July.

Unfortunately there are no further spaces available at present. This club will be opened up to Year R after the Easter break.

Sewing Club (Year Two only)

Group One will run up to and including 13/02/20. Group Two will start on 27/02/20 and run through until 21/05/20.

St Peter's Church Events

On Tuesday 25th February from 4-6pm, they will be holding a Pancake Party at St Peter's Centre. Everyone is welcome—just pop in!

Parental Questionnaire and Parent Forum

We were delighted to receive 116 Parental Ofsted responses and feel this gives us a good evidence base to say that generally parents are pleased with our school.

Over the next couple of terms, I will be explaining some of the reasons behind what we do in an effort to ensure that every parent is happy. This week I hope to persuade the two parents who did not feel that expectations were high enough for their child and inform the eight that did not know if expectations were high enough for their child that expectations are high for all pupils. As the questionnaire was anonymous I would also like to invite those two parents to make an appointment to speak to their class and share their concerns.

A good school must have high expectations for all pupils and urge children to achieve the most they can whatever their starting point. We hope that by having high expectations pupils will work as hard as they can and will enjoy the learning. We are very aware of the balancing act between high expectations and encouragement and too much pushing that leaves pupils anxious and demoralised. We aim that every day we help our pupils achieve and those that are struggling to catch up. We believe we encourage and reassure our children and give them the self-belief that they can achieve. We are aware that not all children enjoy every subject but we hope that your child enjoys most of what we do. We have noticed that children work hard when there is a purpose to the learning and if they are rewarded. This is where you can help by praising your child's efforts. We know that children who have succeeded in one lesson will be more positive about future lessons and can also cope better with short periods of difficulty. For children who are not achieving we give them hope that, with support, they will achieve and we then praise their efforts.

We are very mindful of the national expectations for an infant child and work hard to ensure that we reach and exceed these. Over time we continue to succeed higher than nationally in our assessments and believe we give our children a good start to their early education. We are confident in our subject knowledge and know how young children learn best. We join you in wanting the very best for every child. If you still feel that your expectations for your child and ours are different please let your class teacher know at the parent interviews that are coming up shortly.

On 26th February at 2.15pm we are holding a Parents Forum. This is an opportunity for parents to come along and share their views on a variety of topics.

On this occasion, we will be focusing on the following areas; some of which came out of our recent Parent Ofsted Questionnaire:

- There is a good range of subjects available to my child at this school (2 parents concerned, 4 did not know)
- The school has high expectations for my child (4 parents concerned, 7 did not know)
- When I have raised concerns they have been dealt with properly (4 parents concerned)
- The school supports my child's wider development (1 parent concerned, 11 did not know)

We will also be starting to discuss a new policy on Relationships and Sex Education which will be introduced in September 2020.

We would welcome as many parents to join us as possible. If you are able to attend, please let a member of the school office staff know.

Parental Questionnaire

Dates for your Diary

Date	Event	Time
	Spring Term 2020	
28th January	Chinese New Year Menu Change	
30th January	Year Two Church Visit (timings TBA)	
12th February	Maths Mastery Open Morning	9-10am
14th February	Last day of term before the start of the half term holiday	3.00pm finish
24th February	INSET Day—school closed to children	All day
26th February	Parent's Forum	2.15pm-3.00pm
5th March	Wear your Pyjamas to school for World Book Day	All day
17th March	Parents Evening (<u>Gold Class only</u> , more information to follow)	3.30pm-6.20pm
18th March	Parents Evening (all classes except Gold—more information to follow)	3.30pm-6.20pm
19th March	Wear Odd Socks to School Day (more information to follow)	All day
20th March	Mother's Day Assembly (one female family member only due to space restraints)	9.10am-9.50am
23rd March	Parents Evening - all classes (more information to follow)	3.30pm-6.20pm
26th March	Ball Skills Inter-school Competition (more information to follow)	1.30pm
30th March—3rd April	Money Week (more information to follow)	
30th March	PTA Stationery Sale (more information to follow)	TBA
1st April	Year 2 Trip to Legoland	4pm return
2nd April	Year One Spring Celebration Day (more information to follow)	
3rd April	Easter Bunny Visit (please keep this quiet!) and early finish	1.10pm finish
6th—17th April	Easter Holiday	
	Summer Term 2020	
20th April	Back to school and start of the summer term	8.45am
22nd May	INSET Day—school closed to children	All day
25th—29th May	Half Term Holiday	
1st June	INSET Day—school closed to children	All day
29th June	St Peter's Day Family Picnic (more information to follow)	12.00-1.00pm
10th July	Sports Day	Timings TBA
20th July	Leaver's Assembly	1.45pm

Remaining Inset Days 2019/20: 24th February 2020, 22nd May 2020 and 1st June 2020. **Please note that the early May Bank Holiday has changed to Friday 8th May in 2020.**