



Dear parents,

It has been a great term of learning and planning future events. We have a health week booked for later this term to support children in understanding their wellbeing. In addition we have African drumming arranged next term to support the KS2 theme and World Book Day where we will be dressing up for outside storytelling (not character costumes this year—more details to follow).

Class 4

At the end of this half term we say a fond farewell to Mrs Wood who will be leaving our school. We all recognise the contribution Mrs Wood has made to the children and the school: her creative thinking when delivering lessons; leading of assessment across the school and her great sense of fun. She will be missed. Mrs Wood will take up a post at St Matthew's School and we know she will share her skills to support the journey of their school and children. We all wish her the very best with the next steps in her career.

We are holding interviews for the post of Class 4 teacher on February 4th and we will share the outcome of this with you as soon as the new teacher has been appointed.

Health Week

Though we are delighted to have achieved Gloucestershire's Healthy Living and Learning Schools Award, we are continuing to develop sports and wellbeing for children in our school this year. We are excited to be holding a health week at the end of this term. The children will be exploring how to look after their mental and physical wellbeing over the week. We have practical mindfulness workshops planned and fun sessions with our sports coaches. Children will be considering the importance of resilience using ideas from Gloucestershire Healthy Living and Learning too. There will be a mindfulness session for parents on Tuesday at 2.50pm. Do come and join in —everyone is welcome even if you've never tried a mindfulness session before.

Mathletics

Mathletics is a wonderful internet resource which can be used at home and at school for maths learning. It is designed to provide children with an enjoyable and safe learning experience. It has an adaptive curriculum which means it alters to suit the ability of the child. Children play games that are aligned to the maths curriculum and gain rewards. Some games mean your child can play with other children around the world. As a school we buy logins for every pupil so children can use it at home and school (supported by our fantastic PA). Your child has recently used Mathletics at school and they should know their login. Many of our children use Mathletics weekly at home but if your child is not using this at the moment then please do login with them and explore the site.

Popcorn Night

Key Stage One children enjoyed Sherlock Gnomes at the recent PA led Popcorn Night. The children loved dressing in their onesies and dressing gowns and snuggling down on furry throws. The popcorn was a real treat too. A huge thank you to Mrs Hayward and Mrs Wood for leading and organising the event so well and Mrs Birch for helping with tickets.

School Snow Closure

We are aware of snow weather warnings in our area. As such it seemed timely to remind you of the GCC school closure website:

<http://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/closures/>

This website will inform you of school closure or partial school closure. Local radio stations will also make announcements. In addition, each class has a nominated parent who can be contacted for information too:

Class 1	: Sam Spencer	: 01453 822172
Class 2	: Mandy Hyde	: 01453 822875
Class 3	: Dave Colley	: 07403 267414
Class 4	: Katy Smith	: 07788 724857
Class 5	: Charlotte Kemp	: 07841 346553
Mother Goose	:Beccy Pegler	: 07854 165418

Child safety at the end of the day

Thank you so much for responding to the concerns of the Parish Council regarding the use of the churchyard. When we explained the reasons to the children at school in assembly they were wonderful at understanding both the need for respect of others and the importance of keeping themselves safe. I know it is appreciated by those who have loved ones resting in the churchyard from what the children shared in assembly. Can I also thank parents for letting us know in advance when their child is being picked up by another person - staff have really appreciated this as it has saved time calling parents at the end of the day to confirm arrangements.

On another matter, we need to ensure we handover children to you safely at the end of the day. The bridge area does not have a pavement and is very busy with pedestrians and vehicles at the end of the school day. Please collect your child from the school site.

Many thanks for your help in working together to keep all our children safe.

Dates for your diary

I have listed below some of the key dates for your diary:

February 2019

- Fri 1st
 - Class 5 Assembly
 - Popcorn night –KS2: 5.45pm-7.30pm
- Wed 6th
 - Online Safety Parent Information Evening: 6pm: School Hall
- Mon 11th
 - Y6 visit to Wick Court Farm
- Mon 11th
 - Health Week starts
- Mon 11th
 - Assembly theme: Health
- Tues 12th
 - Mindfulness workshops for children (2.50pm parent mindfulness session-all welcome)
- Wed 13th
 - Girls Football tournament
- Thurs 14th
 - **Last day of term 3 for children**

- Mon 25th
 - **Start of Term 4 for children**
 - Assembly theme: Unity
 - 1pm Y5/6 Cross Country Qualifiers at Painswick RFC
- Wed 27th
 - Visit from Welsh Birds of Prey

March 2019

- Mon 11th
 - Assembly theme: Friendship
- Thurs 7th
 - World Book Day
- Fri 15th
 - Red Nose Day
- Tues 19th
 - African Drumming workshops
- Fri 22nd
 - Class 1 Assembly
- Mon 25th
 - Assembly theme: Care
 - Visit from Japanese students
- Thur 28th
 - Y5/6 Swimming sessions commence
- Fri 29th
 - Class 2 Assembly

April 2019

- Thurs 4th
 - Grand Easter Egg Draw
 - **Last day of Term 4 for children**
- Fri 5th
 - INSET for staff
- Sat 6th
 - Easter Egg Hunt

- Tues 23rd
 - **Start of Term 5 for children**

May 2019

- Mon 13th
 - Y6 SATS week

Thank you for your continued support,

Zoe Avastu
Headteacher