



Dear parents/carers,

I hope you had a super half term and managed to enjoy our beautiful county despite the inclement weather.

This term has started positively and the children have settled back in to school quickly and well. I have had the opportunity to teach Class 4 this week and the children have shown what super learners they are—it was a real treat for me! We look forward to a positive term ahead.

Y1 Multi-skills Sport Event

Our Year 1 children enjoyed a fantastically fun Multi-skills Sport Event at Archway Sports Centre near the end of last term. There were 14 activities in total and the children had 5 minutes on each with some rest breaks in between. Each station was led by an Archway student as part of their PE GCSE. The activities were designed for children to develop skills such as: hand and eye co-ordination, team work, accuracy & precision, throwing, catching and kicking.

Our children were active and loved taking part in every activity. Each child had a different favourite activity too which was great for the Archway students. They all said they had a fantastic time and that they improved their skills in lots of areas.

A big thank you to wonderful Miss Bingle for organising, our parent helpers and Atlas/the Archway pupils for putting on such a wonderful event.



Bold Beard the Viking

We were delighted to welcome Bold Beard the Viking to Eastington to perform a history show to our KS2 children. Bold Beard also led class based workshops too where he explored Viking times through drama, replica artefacts and story. The children learned about life on a long ship, where Vikings settled and why they settled in specific places.

The children took part with enthusiasm and enjoyed sessions full of fun. A great day of learning.

Thank you to our wonderful PA for funding the visit and for Mrs Burns for organising it.



Life Education Sessions

We aim to support all our children in developing positive attitudes towards health and well-being as well as learning to make informed choices. We have a strong PSHE curriculum which is underpinned by a philosophy of growth mindset. We are delighted that children in all classes recently had the opportunity to learn through additional special learning sessions in the 'Life Education Tent'. The focus of learning varied by age and included: healthy eating, the heart, lungs and digestive systems, the effects and risks associated with drugs such as alcohol and tobacco, exploring how to resolve problems in friendships, exploring feelings and celebrating differences between people. A special treat for our younger children was seeing Harold the giraffe - a character who often features in the learning sessions too! The teachers were really proud of their children—they took part actively, asked great questions and behaved well.

Thank you to our brilliant PA who helped to fund this great day of learning.

WORLD BOOK DAY

6 MARCH 2025

World Book Day—March 6th

This year, the focus of World Book Day is on 'Read Your Way'. The aim is to celebrate the reading that children choose to do in their free time without judgement. **Read Your Way** encourages everyone to let go of reading pressures and expectations, and lets children find fun in reading. If you want to know more about this or want family ideas for taking part in World Book Day then please click here for the World Book Day website: <https://www.worldbookday.com/families/> We are looking forward to celebrating World Book Day together at school. The children will enjoy book related activities and children/staff will be reading extracts

of books that are special to them over the day. We will also aim for Big Friends and Little Friends to read together—C1 with C5 and C2 with C4.

All children are invited to dress up as their favourite book character. (We know a few children really don't enjoy dressing up and this is fine too.) Please can all children bring in a favourite book from home/select a favourite book from school ready for World Book Day so they can share it with others.

Every child will receive a Book Day token—this can be used by children to purchase a book from the selection on offer this year for £1. The PA will be holding a book sale after school. If you have any childrens' books you would like to donate, please take them to the office or leave them in the orange crate. Many thanks.

Renewable Energy

We have been in discussion with the LA this academic year with regard to a renewable energy project they are undertaking. We are thrilled to have been selected for solar panels to be fitted to our school hall roof as part of this. Solar panels will be a great opportunity for us to reduce our carbon footprint as a school as well as offering energy cost savings. We are delighted!

Thanks to Mr Newman from the GCC Premises team for his support with this project.

School Meal Information

We know that many of our children enjoy a lunch meal prepared by Caterlink. We have been told by Caterlink that prices for school meals will be increasing from April 1st. A KS2 meal will be £2.85 (increased from £2.71). For Rec, Y1 and Y2 school lunches are free under universal provision. Children in KS2 pay for their lunch meals unless a family is in receipt of certain benefits—in this case they may be eligible for Free School Meals. If you think you may be

eligible for Free School Meals in KS2, please see the link below:

<https://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/education-and-learning/free-school-meals/apply-for-free-school-meals/>

DIARY DATES:

Spring Term 4

February 24th	Start of term for children
February 26th	Cricket coaching starts for Class 3
February 27th	Cricket coaching starts for Class 2
March 3rd	Wellbeing training for Y5
March 6th	World Book Day—please dress up as a favourite character
“ “	Caterlink providing World Book Day Menu—See poster sent previously
“ “	3.15 PA Book Sale
“ “	C5 Final swim session
March 7th	Year 4—Into the Net at Park Junior School
“ “	PA Cake and Book Sale
March 12th	Y6 Sports Hall Athletics—information to follow
March 13th	C4 First swim session
March 17th	Final week of clubs
March 20th	Students from Japan visit—details to follow
March 24th	Big Walk & Wheel Week—please try to walk and wheel to school this week-information to follow
March 27th	6.30 Stroud Country Dance Festival at Stratford Park Leisure Centre
March 31st	Parent evening—details to follow
April 2nd	Panathalon—information to follow
April 9th	KS2 Orienteering—information to follow
“ “	Parent evening—details to follow
April 10th	Caterlink providing Easter Menu—information to follow
“ “	Children's Easter Egg Hunt
April 11th	School Bunny Hop
April 11th	PA Cake Sale
Summer Term 5	
April 28th	Start of term for children
May 1st	C4 final swim
May 8th	C3 First swim session



Thank you for your ongoing support,
Zoe Avastu

Aiming high.....together