



## A great start to the new term!

We have had a wonderful first week back; all the children have made a fantastic start to the new term and have settled back into lessons brilliantly. Already we have seen some fabulous learning going on which several children shared in Friday Fellowship last week.

Our whole school focus at the moment is Maths, as this is the area of the curriculum where lots of children continue to have gaps in their knowledge following the disruption to their learning during the pandemic.

This is why we have amended our timetable so that all classes are doing Maths for their first lesson every day. It is important that children arrive punctually for school in the mornings so that they don't miss the crucial start of the session; if children arrive late and miss the beginning of a lesson, it can be really difficult for them to follow the thread of the learning.

Any opportunity you can find at home to encourage and support maths is really helpful – things like buying things with cash and working out the change, securing quick recall of times tables, measuring ingredients for cooking, telling the time etc all really help to increase children's confidence in maths.

Do remember that children in Y2-6 have a Times Tables Rockstars account and children in Y6 have SAM Learning too. On the maths page of the school website you will find our maths policy. This shows all the different methods and strategies for teaching maths in each year group which you might find helpful if you are supporting your child's maths homework.

With the newsletter this week, the class teachers will be emailing you a copy of the term overview which outlines the learning they will be doing in class over the coming weeks. We do hope that you find this useful, and there will be copies on the school website if you need to find them later on.

# SPRING TERM CLUBS

Clubs start next week. Your child should have already brought home their allocation letter detailing which clubs they have a place in.

## Reception places 2023: deadline on Sunday

Parents wishing to apply for a Reception place commencing September 2023 are reminded that the **deadline for applications is Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> January 2023.**

## ARTS DAYS 2023

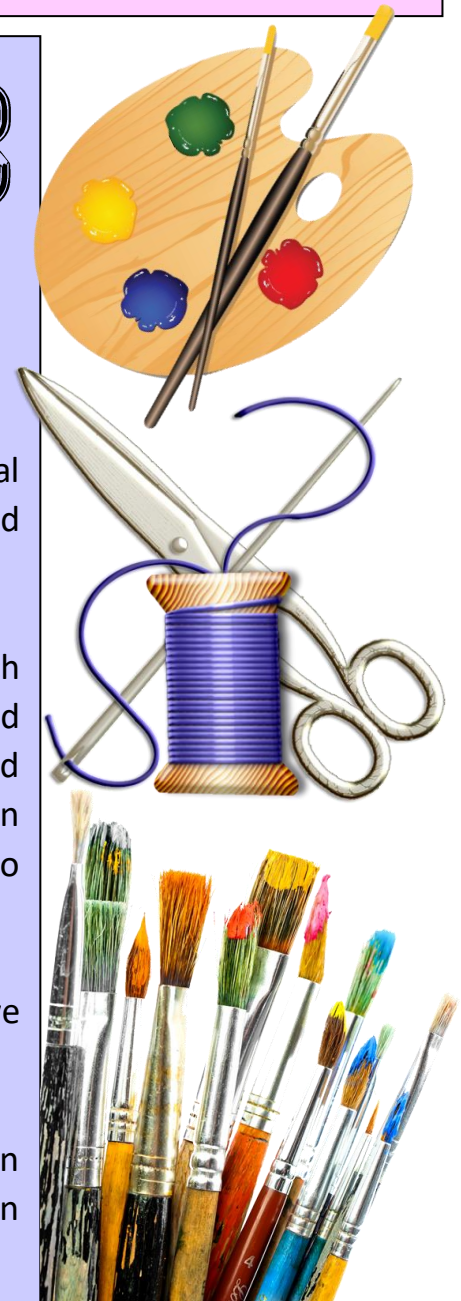
**This year's arts days take place next week on  
January 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup>.**

Sometimes, weekly art lessons can be tricky because practical sessions with paint, clay, textiles etc take a lot of preparation and clearing away time which shortens the lesson considerably.

This year for our Arts Days, we are trying a new approach, where each class will be doing their spring term unit of work for art condensed into two full days. This will allow the children to really get absorbed into their creative learning and see the process through from design to completion without losing the flow. We are looking forward to seeing how it works!

Each class will be working on a different unit of study – we have textiles, watercolours, printing and more.

After the Arts Days, the children's learning will be displayed in an exhibition in the main foyer which you will be able to visit on Open Session.



## Class 4 Assembly Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> February 9.15am

Class 4 parents are warmly invited to come and watch the Class 4 assembly on Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> February. The assembly will start at 9.15am in the hall.

If you have babies or pre-schoolers, they are very welcome to attend, all we ask is that you take them out if they are unsettled or making noise. **Please also note that we do not permit photographs or videos at class assemblies.**



## This half term's value is **Justice**

In our Collective Worship this morning we started to think about our focus Value for this half term which is 'JUSTICE'. We spent time thinking about what justice is, how it feels when something is unfair and how to stand up for others if we see them being treated unfairly too.

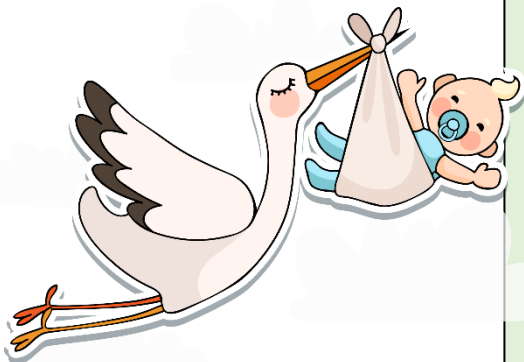
## Open Session ~ Monday 30<sup>th</sup> January 3.30-5.30pm

We do hope you can come along to the next Open Session and that you will enjoy seeing your child's classroom, their books and teacher. A reminder that these are informal 'drop ins' and you do not need a set appointment.

**Classes 3, 5, and 6: Use the Class 5/6 doors**

**Classes 1, 2 and 4: Use the main entrance**

*Please be aware that buggies and prams cannot be brought into the building.*



## Class 1 Update

At half term, Miss Ingle will be leaving us to start her maternity leave ahead of her new arrival. We are delighted to welcome Mrs Niven to the team to teach in Class 1 after the half term break. Mrs Niven is a very experienced teacher, and we are thrilled that she is joining our team. She will be in school to meet the children over the coming weeks.

## Term dates for 2023-2024 and Holidays

I am sure lots of families are trying to think ahead for holidays in the coming year. The term dates for next academic year are included again at the end of this newsletter and are on the school website. **Please check the dates before booking your holidays.**

Whilst we understand it has been a difficult couple of years for families, we urge you NOT to take your child out of school for holidays; these absences are always unauthorized and could result in a fixed penalty notice being issued for non-attendance.

Occasionally families book a holiday that overlaps with the start of a new term; again we strongly discourage this. Being present for the start of a new term is so important, especially September when children are in new classes. Hopefully by having the dates this early, you will be able to avoid doing this. Many thanks.



This week's article from our Pupil Journalists, Annie & Lily

# 2023

Happy New Year! A year has passed and we're stepping into the next. We hope this year we will find lots of fun and excitement in the path ahead. Did you stay up until midnight watching the fireworks?

New year, new value! This term's value is Justice. Justice is the quality of being equal to all, whether they are different to you or not.

We talked about the meaning through stories and acting. One of which was about two brothers who farmed. One brother had a large family and the other was single, but they still shared their grain equally. One night the single brother thought,

"My brother has a family of mouths to feed but I only need to feed myself."

So he brought one of his sacks of grain across the field to his brother's barn. Later that night the other brother thought to himself,

"When I'm older my children can look after me, but my brother doesn't have anyone to care for him."

So that night, he carried a sack of grain across the field to his brother's barn. In the morning both brothers were surprised to find that they had the same amount of grain as they had yesterday. This continued for several nights until one night they found each other carrying a sack of grain across the field. They just laughed because they had realised what had been happening. Instead of thinking about themselves they thought about each other. This is just.



# Bag2School collection

## Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> January



Collection bags went home last week, but do remember that you can also use bin bags if you have more to donate. We get paid by the weight, so the more we collect, the more we raise!

We accept the following 'good quality' items for RE-USE:

- Men's, Ladies' and Children's clothing
- Paired shoes (tied together or elastic band around)
- Handbags
- Hats
- Bags
- Scarves and ties
- Jewellery
- Lingerie
- Socks
- Belts
- Soft toys
- Household linen
- Household curtains
- Household towels
- Household bedding (bed sheets, pillow cases and duvet covers)

Items that are NOT accepted:

Duvets and blankets  
Pillows and cushions  
Carpets, rugs and mats (including bath, shower and toilet mats)  
Soiled, painted, ripped or wet clothing  
School uniforms with and without logo  
Corporate clothing and workwear  
Textile off cuts, yarns or threaded material

Leave your bags on the village green by 9am on the morning of Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> January

## Class 4 Cake Day

### Friday 27<sup>th</sup> January

Dear Class 4 parents,

The PTA are holding a cake sale on 27<sup>th</sup> January to raise funds for school. This time it is the turn of Class 4 to each supply small cakes or biscuits to sell on the day. Please make sure that any tins, plates or containers are clearly named.

We would be very grateful if you could **donate 15 cakes for cake day**, to ensure that we have enough to go around & the children are not left disappointed. These cakes /biscuits can be either homemade or bought. You may want to plan some kitchen time to make or decorate the cakes with your child! **PLEASE NOTE THAT ALL CAKES MUST BE NUT-FREE.**

The cakes will be sold during the morning break to the whole of the school, any remaining cakes will be sold outside school at home time. We hope that you will be able to support us with this event, and we thank you in anticipation. Thank you from The PTA

# Term dates 2023 – 2024

AUTUMN TERM 2023	
<b>1<sup>st</sup> September</b>	<b><i>INSET Day, no school for children</i></b>
<b>4<sup>th</sup> September</b>	Autumn term begins for children
<b>23<sup>rd</sup> – 27<sup>th</sup> October</b>	Half term week
<b>19<sup>th</sup> December</b>	END OF TERM 2pm
<b>20<sup>th</sup> December</b>	<b><i>INSET Day, no school for children</i></b>
SPRING TERM 2024	
<b>4<sup>th</sup> January</b>	Spring term begins for children
<b>19<sup>th</sup> – 23<sup>rd</sup> February</b>	Half term week
<b>28<sup>th</sup> March</b>	END OF TERM 2pm
SUMMER TERM 2024	
<b>15<sup>th</sup> April</b>	<b><i>INSET Day, no school for children</i></b>
<b>16<sup>th</sup> April</b>	Summer term begins for children
<b>27<sup>th</sup> - 31<sup>st</sup> May</b>	Half term week
<b>18<sup>th</sup> July</b>	END OF TERM 2pm
<b>19<sup>th</sup> July</b>	<b><i>INSET Day, no school for children</i></b>
<b>22<sup>nd</sup> July</b>	<b><i>INSET Day, no school for children</i></b>
<b>23<sup>rd</sup> July</b>	<b><i>Occasional Day. School closed to staff &amp; children</i></b>



**ALL CHILDREN ARE REQUIRED TO BE IN SCHOOL UNTIL 2pm on 18<sup>th</sup> July 2024. No absence for any reason will be authorised at the end of the summer term.**

Very occasionally, term dates and INSET days may need to be changed. We will notify parents well in advance should this be the case. **Holidays should not be taken during term time; such absences will not be authorised. This includes days 'tagged on' to the beginning and end of school terms; these absences will also not be authorised.**