

SCHOOL NEWS

Autism Awareness Week | HMI feedback | Club booking

After School Activities

We have sent home today a letter detailing how to book after school activities for the summer term. Please read the instructions carefully. We are using the same system used for Parents Evening booking but will require parents to come to the office to pay by the given deadline. If payment is not made, the place will be offered to another child. We are allowing 2 bookings per child to ensure that all children get a chance of partaking in these activities. We have tried to ensure there is a good range of clubs available to different age groups. Manchester City and Life Leisure will now provide some of the extra clubs we are offering.

PTA meeting

Reminder!! Anyone interested in helping with the organisation of the Family Fun Evening is welcome to join us in the planning of this event. Everyone is welcome in my office at 3.30pm on Monday 23rd March.

HMI feedback

I informed all parents last week that HMI would be visiting us this Tuesday. The focus of the day was Maths and the development of the Maths subject leaders. We looked at children's work throughout school, identifying evidence of good progress in calculations and problem solving, as well as how effective marking is. On this occasion, a published report will not be made though I received a brief email from HMI Mark Williams yesterday. He commented on the sharpness of the Maths leaders in identifying strengths and areas for development in maths. He also praised the Senior Leadership Team's ability to ask challenging questions about progress and practice in maths. He recognised that both teachers and pupils are using the top tips and reflective comments increasingly well to further pupils' knowledge, skills and understanding.

Under the guidance of the HMI, the Maths leaders were able to identify exactly what our next steps need to be in the improvement of Maths and where any inconsistencies lie. Work has begun immediately in addressing these areas. Mark Williams will return in the summer term to assess how well we are doing.



Red Nose Day!

I am delighted to inform you that the school raised a magnificent total of £504.89 for Comic Relief. As well as our cake sale extravaganza, a tremendous effort was made by some of pupils in sponsored silences and hopping! The government have also pledged to double the amount schools have raised which takes our total to a whopping:

£1009.78!!!

Thank you to everyone who donated, provided cakes, hopped and kept silent!

Head Lice

I have received an increasing number of reports of Head Lice being found on pupils throughout school. Parents are rightly concerned that where cases are not being treated, there is little hope of eradicating them. Some children can be very susceptible to head lice which is extremely unpleasant for them. Please be extra vigilant, check your children's hair regularly and treat with suitable products. We have attached a leaflet with additional information.

Key assessment times

Next term sees some extremely important periods of assessment for certain year groups. Here is a brief outline of the key dates, who it involves and what you can do at home to support:

Year Group	Assessment	Date	What you can do at home
6	KS2 SATs	W/b Mon 11th May - all week	Complete any additional revision homework set by teachers. You can also purchase your own revision books very cheaply from www.cgpbbooks.co.uk
2	KS1 SATs	In class during May	Please continue to read daily with your child, questioning them about their understanding of the text. Practise any maths facts set by the teachers. Encourage your children to write using correct punctuation and adventurous words.
1	Phonics screening	W/b 15th June	Attendance in school from now and up to this date is vitally important as your child will continue to receive daily phonics teaching. You can also practise reading real and 'nonsense' words on the websites recommended by the teachers.

As ever, your support with your children at home is much appreciated.

Kind regards,

Cathy Beddows and the Etchells staff

