

SCHOOL NEWS

NSPCC | Holiday Dates | Clubs

Welcome Back!!

I hope everyone had an enjoyable holiday and would like to wish all our families a very happy new year. The teachers attended two INSET days last week; the first was spent learning how to make books with the children and the second was spent in year groups planning this term's exciting topics. The children have made an excellent start to the term and have been extremely busy.

Homework and Class Letter

Homework sheets and termly newsletters for your child's year group have been sent home today. If you would like to further supplement we recommend books published by CGP who produce cheap and year group focussed resources. Please follow the link below. We are not on commission and would just as readily recommend a walk in the woods, getting stuck into a good book or baking a cake.

<https://www.cgpbooks.co.uk/primary-books>

A 2 Minute Taster of our School

If you haven't seen it already, please take a couple of minutes to watch our newly produced video which gives a real insight to our school. We have had feedback from parents that so many people don't realise what our school is like behind the front door and that we should be proudly sharing our practice. This prompted us into making a video to depict the ethos, values and most importantly, our pupils.

The story is told and written by the children - everything they say has come from them. We are so proud of how they have represented our school. The link to the video is at the top of the home page of our website or you can click the link below. Please share far and wide!

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=iDNnm_nA8Co&feature=youtu.be

CALENDAR



Holiday Dates and Punctuality

We have attached to this newsletter a copy of the holiday dates for 2019 - 20. Please make close reference to these when booking holidays as family holidays are always unauthorised and are likely to result in a fine from the Local Authority. The dates are also available on the school website for your reference. Please note that five INSET days have yet to be added onto the calendar; we aim to have these finalised in the next couple of weeks.

A reminder that any child arriving late after 9am will be marked as unauthorised and repeated incidents will result in a fine.



NSPCC Number Day 2019

On the 1st February we will be taking part in the National NSPCC Number Day. The aim of the day is to raise money for this vital charity as well as having lots of fun with maths throughout the day. The charity are asking children to bring to school coins of a low denomination. We are therefore asking for 1p, 2p, 5p and 10p coins ONLY to be brought to school that day. On the day itself we will use the coins for all sorts of different maths activities both inside and out. At the end we will collect up the coins and send them to the charity. If you would like to donate, please start saving your small coins now, though it is of course fine for a child to bring in just one or two coins.



Spring Term Club Booking

We have had a tremendous uptake on our extra-curricular clubs this term. Most are now fully booked, but we do have spaces in ICT club which takes place on Tuesday mornings at 8.15am with our specialist teacher Mrs Copley. There are also spaces in Spanish on Wednesdays, after school until 4.15pm. Both clubs are open to Years 3 to 6.

Forest School and Outdoor Learning

Despite it being a chilly, wet and foggy January week, our pupils have been engaging with their learning outside, enjoying Forest School and outdoor sketching. "There's no such thing as bad weather - just the wrong clothes". Our children were well equipped to deal with the elements!



Eco Team

The Eco Team will be carrying out their annual birdwatch on behalf of the RSPB on Friday 25th

January. This is an important contribution towards the count of birds currently living in our local habitats.

New Library Update

Anyone who has been into school this term will have seen our new library taking shape. We are really pleased with the shelving, seating and new decoration in the area in front of the hall doors. We have plenty of non-fiction books in school but have needed to stock up the shelves with fiction books for our KS2 children. New books have now been purchased and we are looking for any volunteers who could help stamp all the texts with the school name. If you could assist - even if just for an hour, please let the school office know. We will inform the children about when the library will be opening as soon as possible.

Head Lice

We have had further reporting of head lice in school this week. Please check your child's head regularly and treat immediately. If we see live lice in any pupil's hair we will call parents and ask for the child to be collected immediately to be treated. Once treatment has been applied, children can return to school immediately - the same day if time allows. Please make regular checks to keep this condition from spreading.

Kind regards,

Cathy Beddows
and the Etchells staff

