



SCHOOL NEWS

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Ramadan

With Ramadan fast approaching us, from 28th February to the 30th March, we are going to be sending out a letter on Monday for those children who are wishing to fast in Year 5 and 6. We are only allowing children in those two year groups to take part in fasting. Please return the letter to your child's class teacher as soon as possible so that the appropriate arrangements can be made for them during this period. We will also be offering a space for these children during the Ramadan period to pray.



PTA Positions

Unfortunately our amazing Chair of the PTA and Vice Chair have made the decision to step down from their positions due to changes in circumstances. This leaves us in a position where we currently will not be able to continue with the PTA if we do not have volunteers stepping into these roles. The role of the Chair is to organise events, liaise with school over which fundraising events we are going to take part in as a school and provide an annual financial report to the Headteacher. The Vice Chair's role is to support the Chair in their position. The work completed is vital to help school complete projects that impact all children in school. If you wish to discuss the position or express your interest please come speak to me or drop me an email.



School Grid

You should have received a letter this week which details the change that the school will be implementing after half term. We are moving to a system where you as parents can order your child's school meals at home and it will give the flexibility to choose the days your child receives a school dinner, if that is what you prefer. We have taken this decision after the feedback from the children and parents about the school meals that we currently provide in school. We will be sending further information in the following weeks to help with the transition.



Nut Free School

Please can I remind all parents that we are a nut free school, this includes products that contains nuts as well. We have a number of children with severe allergies that are often air borne so please do not send any nut based products in.



Lunar New Year

Wednesday marked the first day of the Lunar New Year, which many of our families celebrate. Francis, from the Ethnic Diversity Service, came to deliver an assembly for our children. Amongst many things, she talked about the culture of China, played some traditional Chinese singing and some of the children had the opportunity to dress up in traditional clothing. As a

sign of gratitude, Francis gave those who participated a red envelope showing the children symbolising good wishes and luck for the New Year ahead.



Chill Factore

We were fortunate this week to take a group of Year 5 and 6 children to the Chill Factore for a taster day. The children took part in skiing, sledging, climbing walls and a high rope course. They also built an igloo as part of a team challenge and had the opportunity to experience the ice slide and rubber ring donuts. They all challenged themselves and Etchells finished third overall in the Winter Olympics competition. A massive thank you to Miss Pennill and Mrs Lund for accompanying the children on the trip and the children for their exceptional behaviour.



Attendance

Here are the top three classes this week for attendance. Well done to 3/4TL for having the highest attendance this week.

Class	Attendance
3/4TL	99.4%
EYR	98.7%
1P	97.9%

Please look at the School Hall window to see a full list of classes attendance this week.

Whatsapp Information

Many of the issues that we face in school around online difficulties come from WhatsApp and messages that are sent outside of school. Please find the following [guidance](#) from the NSPCC around how you can best support children. A reminder that the age rating for the app is 16+, so please consider your child's online use.

Kind regards,

Pete Cope

and the Etchells staff

