

Friday 31<sup>st</sup> March 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

It is lovely to be drawing the Spring Term to a close with some lovely sunshine and we are making the most of it with lots of opportunities for the children to be outdoors. We are very grateful that this spring has not brought another lockdown but Covid continues to cast a shadow over the school. Unfortunately, it has been the staff that have been particularly badly affected and I am so grateful to the team for the way they have adapted and stretched to ensure the least possible disruption to learning. We are looking forward to having everyone back after Easter.

There are some important **dates for your diary**:

- Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> March – Year 6 Day of the Dead - a chance for Year 6 to dress up and enjoy the traditional celebrations of the Mayan heritage as part of their history topic.
- Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> March – French Theatre – this is an opportunity for the children to practice the French they have been learning and to learn to draw out familiar words as a tool for understanding.
- Friday 1<sup>st</sup> April – Last day of term - finish at 2pm
- Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> April – Children return to school
- Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> April – Open Afternoon – you are warmly invited to come in straight after school to have a look at books and examples of your child's work. We have been looking for an opportunity to welcome you back into the school and we have decided to make that the priority for the first week of the Summer Term.
- Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> April – the re-arranged trip to Hampton Court for Year 5. This will be their opportunity to study the lives of the rich in Tudor times.
- Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> & Friday 29<sup>th</sup> April – Year 4 Bikeability
- 4<sup>th</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> May – Year 5 Residential to Goodwood – this is the chance for Year 5 to study the lives of the poor in Tudor times to contrast with their trip to Hampton Court.
- Friday 6<sup>th</sup> May – Year 3 to Butser Farm – this is an opportunity to experience life in Britain from the Iron Age to the Anglo-Saxons.
- Week beginning 9<sup>th</sup> May – SATs for Year 6
- Friday 20<sup>th</sup> May – Year 4 Sleepover – the first experience of a residential and a chance to explore the school and grounds in the evening as well as a fantastic demonstration of Birds of Prey.



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- Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> May – the Young Voices choir will be performing at the O2 Arena. Rehearsals start again this week.
- Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> June – Year 6 swimming starts.
- Monday 13<sup>th</sup> June – Class Photos
- Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> and Thursday 23<sup>rd</sup> June – Dogs Trust will be visiting and leading workshops on how to approach dogs safely.
- Friday 24<sup>th</sup> June – Sports Day – further details to follow, but this will be an afternoon even
- Tuesday 28<sup>th</sup> June – Transition and Roll Up day. Our new Year 3 children will be visiting and all of the children will meet their new teachers.
- 6<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> July – Year 6 Residential to Kingswood.
- 13<sup>th</sup> & 14<sup>th</sup> July – Year 6 Summer Production – further details to follow
- Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> July – School finishes at 3:05pm

Further details of these events will be shared in due course.

In **staffing news**, next Friday we will be saying farewell to Mrs Natalia Knowles. Mrs Knowles has worked in our front office for over 17 years and she has been a great source of help and support for staff, parents, children and governors over the years. We are going to miss her, but we are delighted that she will be able to spend time with her new granddaughter and enjoy the challenge of a new career.

I would also like to thank Mrs Egan, who is continuing to battle with banks to set up a new PTA account. The old account was frozen when it wasn't used over lock down and there have been many challenges to setting up a new one. Until we have a bank account, I'm afraid it is not possible to run **PTA events**. We are missing these enormously and hope that the Summer Term will bring some progress.

Finally, I would like to thank the 81 parents who filled in our Parent Survey. I will be sharing the results of the survey shortly.

Kind regards

*Sue Knight*

Head Teacher



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