

# Newsletter

Number: 13

Date: May 2017



## Dear Parents and Carers

First of all, my apologies for not sending out a newsletter last week. The reason for this was that we were visited by a team of officers from the LA on Friday, who carried out a review of the school. We had expected that Ofsted would visit us at some point during the Autumn or Spring terms. When they didn't come, we had no idea whether we had continued to make improvements because we had had no official evaluation. The team (3 people, 2 of whom are serving Ofsted inspectors themselves) spent an entire day visiting lessons, speaking to staff and pupils, looking at work in books. Their eventual conclusion was unanimous : the school no longer deserves to be in special measures. We are delighted about that, as it confirms what we all believe. It doesn't change anything, of course : only Ofsted can change a school's 'label'. They made certain recommendations for further improvement, and we shall act on these over the months to come.

SATs have now been and gone and, as I write this, Y6 are tucking into breakfast prior to boarding the bus to go to Thorpe Park. It has become a tradition for Y6 to enjoy this day out immediately after SATs, and they deserve a fun day after all the stress of these tests (which went well, incidentally).

Only one more newsletter will be going out now before we break up for the half term holiday. I 'm sure it will contain many more photos than this one!

With very best wishes from the staff and myself

## Year 4



As part of their topic work this term, Year 4 experimented with creating Ancient Egyptian ink. They crushed charcoal and mixed it with egg and water to develop an ink that they thought would be effective for writing with. To evaluate their inks, they wrote their initials using hieroglyphs. Everyone enjoyed learning about being an Ancient Egyptian Scribe, especially the bashing of charcoal with rolling pins.



## May Half Term Holiday

Monday 29th May - Friday 2nd June -

Return to school and Nursery- Monday 5th June

### Term Dates 2017-2018

#### Term 1

**INSET DAY – Tuesday 5 September 2017 (no pupils to attend)**

**INSET DAY – Wednesday 6 September 2017 (no pupils to attend)**

**Pupils return: Thursday 7 September – Friday 20 October 2017**

Holiday: Monday 23 October to Friday 27 October 2017

#### Term 2

**Pupils return: Monday 30 October to Tuesday 19 December 2017**

Holiday: Wednesday 20 December 2017 to Tuesday 2 January 2018

#### Term 3

**INSET DAY – Wednesday 3 January 2018 (no pupils to attend)**

**Pupils return: Thursday 4 January 2018 to Friday 9 February 2018**

Holiday: Monday 12 February to Friday 16 February 2018

#### Term 4

**INSET DAY – Monday 19 February 2018 (no pupils to attend)**

**Pupils return: Tuesday 20 February to Friday 23 March 2018**

Holiday: Monday 26 March to Friday 6 April 2018

#### Term 5

**INSET DAY – Monday 9 April 2018 (no pupils to attend)**

**Pupils return: Tuesday 10 April to Friday 25 May 2018**

Bank Holiday: 7 May 2018

Holiday: Monday 28 May to Friday 1 June 2018

#### Term 6

**Pupils return: Monday 4 June to Tuesday 24 July 2018**

### Late arrivals to school in the mornings

Until recently, those pupils who were regularly late coming to school in the mornings were required to go to lunch club and make up time missed by working through their lunch break. We have now changed our lunchtime arrangements in an attempt to offer a wider range of activities for all pupils. This, we hope, will give them healthy, organised activities in the fresh air, which will benefit them and improve their learning in the afternoons. We have bought a lot of new play equipment, largely thanks to the money that was raised at the Easter Egg Raffle. We have increased the amount of staff involvement in some of the activities, by creating a new club and opening up the library every day.

For the time being, we have no organised lunch club for children to catch up. Where children don't finish the work that is set in class, either their class teacher will ask them to complete it at lunchtime under their supervision in the classroom, or the work will be sent home with the pupil to be completed under your supervision. The same will happen in the case of children regularly arriving at school late. We rely on you to make sure that your son/daughter completes their classwork at home if they don't arrive at school in time. Latecomers miss hours of valuable learning time, and the time they miss **must be made up**. **Please support the school in this.**



### Y4 Swimming

Remember to bring your swimming kit **every Monday**

|               |  |
|---------------|--|
| 16 May        | Year 4 assembly to parents   |
| w/b 29 May    | Half Term  |
| <b>TERM 6</b> |  |
| 5 June        | Pupils back to school  |
| 9 June        | School Disco   |
| W/B 12 June   | Phonics Check 2017   |
| 14-16 June    | Year 4 camping Rushell Farm  |
| 18 June       | Father's Day 2017  |
| 19 June 2017  | EYFS Sports Day@9am KS1 Sports Day @ 10 am KS2 Sports Day @1pm     |
| 26 June 2017  | Reserve Sports day   |
| 26-30 June    | Year 6 Residential PGL Swindon                                     |
| 11 July       | Y6 Production @ 2pm & 6pm  |
| 13 July       | Year 2 assembly to parents   |
| 14 July       | Nursery Fun Day & Picnic (AM & PM)                                 |
| 18 July       | Y6 Leavers BBQ – after school                                      |
| 19 July       | Class swop – 9am-10.30am   |
| 20 July       | Celebration Assembly @ 9.15am KS1, 2pm KS 2– Certificates & Medals |
| 21 July       | Y6 Leavers Assembly @ 9am  |
| 21 July       | End of Term  |



### Chickenpox in school

Please be aware that we have had several cases of chickenpox reported in school over the past couple of days. We have put up notices in school, but you may not have seen them. The first case was in Y1, there have been 2 cases reported today in Y2 and 1 in Y3. These may just be isolated cases, but if any mums are in the early stages of pregnancy, they need to make their GP or midwife aware .



The School Disco will be taking place on Friday 9th June, further information will follow shortly.