This Week's News

10th May 2024



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Head Teacher Update

I hope that you enjoyed the long weekend despite the slightly dodgy weather. It is always an interesting one with four days in a week. I hope that you have all had a good week. We have had another very busy one with a whole range of things happening. The children have all had their class photos taken on Tuesday, including our lovely Year 4 leavers photo. Class photos are a nice keep sake, more so when you get as old as me! Although it does make me feel old when current parents of the school show me their class photos and I am their teacher!!

We have also had a number of visitors in again this week talking to the children about different careers and also Reverend Charles Booth from St Marks Church who led an assembly for the whole school today. Thank you to Chris Jones, our Chair of Governors, who came to talk to the Reception children about being a pilot which they really enjoyed. Our Reception children are also due to have a visit from Mrs Derrick to talk about the work of the RNLI which again is so relevant to where our children live and play.

I have also been in discussions with JCB, who are situated locally, to arrange some sessions for our older children about the engineering work they do. I am very keen for different visitors in school for a variety of purposes including the local care homes working across the generations. We have also had a visit from Mrs Barter who is the new Headteacher of Ferndown Middle School. She met with children and spent some time in Year 4 with the children who will be going to the middle school in September.

I also wanted to give you another staffing update. As you know, Mrs Lake and Mrs Ryan will be taking their maternity leave in the Autumn Term. I am delighted to let you know that we have appointed Miss Thebault as Acting Deputy Headteacher from September to replace Mrs Lake. Mrs Odell, one of our current HLTAs and also a qualified teacher with many years of experience will replace Mrs Ryan from September on a full time basis, until Mrs Leith returns from her maternity leave after Christmas, when they will share the role. We are also now advertising of the Specialist Lead Teacher position that Miss Thebault currently holds to lead The Pod with the support of Miss Thebault. Unfortunately, we ae also saying goodbye to Miss Morrison who is our HLTA in The Pod for personal reasons. Miss Morrison has been an integral part of the growth of The Pod and is going to be missed. We are currently in the process of recruiting for a new member of staff to replace her in September.

It is a time of change in the school but I am confident that we have the capacity to manage these changes really effectively as we move into a new academic year.

I hope the children enjoyed the discos this week. I was disappointed not to be able to be there but I did have to go to Birmingham for a very useful conference with a focus on Special Educational Needs which is always good to have the national training. Thank you again to POPS and the staff who stayed behind to support this event.

I hope that you all have a lovely weekend.

Mr Bagwell - Headteacher

Diary Dates

Wed 15th May Open Afternoon

3.15 - 4.00pm

Wed 22nd May Y3 BSO Trip

Fri 24th May Parley Pentathlon

12.00 - 3.00pm

Sat 22nd Jun Circus

Fri 28th Jun Transfer Day

Link to Key Dates

Deadlines

Breakfast & After School Club bookings must be made on ParentMail <u>7 days before the</u> date you wish to book.

Please ensure bookings are made in advance to avoid disappointment.

School Attendance

Whole School - 95.0%

YR - 94.1%

Y1 - 95.2%

Y2 - 95.6%

Y3 - 95.1%

Y4 - 95.3%

The school day begins at

8.45am.

Gates open at 8.30am

Online Safety - Important - PLEASE READ!

We are noting an increasing number of children sharing that they are playing the game Rainbow Friends. Most children are playing the game through Roblox (a 9+ App). We have had report of this game being played by children as young as Reception through to Key Stage 2. Rainbow Friends is listed through Roblox as being 'appropriate for all ages with mild occasional violence' but it would seem that is not accurate. The game is 'deceptively sweet named' and is a horror themed, hide and seek game that takes players through an eerie and frightening storyline. It is the Roblox version of Five Nights at Freddy's. There is also in increase again of children playing Huggy Wuggy which again sounds innocent but really isn't. Please click on the links below for further information.

Is Roblox Safe for Kids to Use? A Roblox App Review | Bark

Rainbow Friends: A Video Game Review For Parents | Bark

Huggy Wuggy and Poppy Playtime Online Safety Review - Update - Safer Schools NI

Gym Club

Spaces have become available at Gym Club, run by Mrs Mansbridge, after school on Tuesdays. The club has now been opened up to children in Reception. If your child would like to join, please contact Mrs Mansbridge on the details below. The club runs at the following times: 3.05 - 4.00pm Years 3 & 4 | 4.00 - 5.00pm Reception and Years 1 & 2

Contact: Jo Mansbridge | Tel: 01202 872015 | Email: jo.mansbridge@outlook.com

Census Day Meal Swap

We have another Census Day on Thursday 16th May. The Local Authority uses the date they collect from the census for the total number of children in attendance and eating hot school meals on this particular day to calculate the funding the school will receive for the academic year for hot meals. We have requested our lunch provider to swap Wednesday and Thursdays meals next week as Pizza is a firm favourite with the children each week. Please see below for the updated meal options:

Wednesday 15th May - Main: Roast Chicken Dinner | Veg: Quorn and Leek Crown or Jacket Potato with Baked Beans

Thursday 16th May - Main: Ham Carbonara with Penne Pasta | Veg: Margherita Pizza or Jacket Potato with Cheese

For any children not normally ordering hot meals, we ask if they would like to try on this day, then to please encourage them to order one at school in the morning. Many thanks for supporting our school.

Peardrops Bookings - Summer Term 2

The Peardrops booking window for Summer Term 2 is now open on ParentMail. You will now be able to book sessions at Breakfast and After School Club from Monday 3rd June to Friday 19th July inclusive. Please note that After School Club does not run on the last day of the academic year. Bookings are on a first come, first served basis. Please may we politely remind parents who pay by childcare voucher or BACS to ensure they make payment in a timely manner. Thank you very much.

Year 4 Leavers Hoodies

Royal Blue Year 4 leavers hoodies will be available to order on ParentMail from 3.00pm today. POPS are subsidising the hoodies to allow them to be purchased at a reduced rate of £12.00 and are therefore limiting orders to one hoodie per child at the reduced price. If you would like to purchase more, subsidised hoodies will be charged at £17.00 each. Please contact POPS on parleypops@gmail.com to purchase extras. If you wish to pash cash for your hoodie order, there will be a separate order form at the school office from next week.

Sizes available: Age 7-8 | Age 9-11 | Age 12-13 | Small Adult

Thanks from POPS.

Community News





