



HEADTEACHER'S NOTE

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome back, I hope you have had a good break and enjoyed the Christmas holidays. I would like to welcome you and the children back but also a welcome to Miss Withey and Mr Mackenzie who are working with Squirrel class until half term. Yesterday we had a visitor arrive who will be staying with us for all of January – the Duke of Newmarket. He is a nutcracker statue who was named by Hedgehog class and has been in Newmarket throughout December. He will be in the hall for the next month and will offer some creative writing opportunities for the children.

We have started quickly into our topics this term and the class topic webs should be on the website by Monday. They feature Earth and Space across the school and to kick start the topics our first big event is next Monday – a Stargazing evening.

The evening kicks off at 5pm with a talk by Dr Matthew Bothwell from the Institute of Astronomy in the hall. Once this finishes there is an opportunity to go into Badger and Hedgehog classrooms to complete some fun practical activities around space, go outside and use the iPads to find out more about the night sky or even bring your own telescope and look at the stars. Anyone who wants to set up beforehand please feel free to arrive a bit earlier but let us know in advance.

All the children in the school are invited to attend but must be accompanied by a parent or adult who will have responsibility for them. The PTFA are selling sausage rolls, hot chocolate and other refreshments on the night. Thank you to the volunteers for setting this up, it will be welcome on a cold night! They will be based in the group room which will be accessed via the playground.

Also coming up are two new clubs. Starting on Monday after school, code club starts for Badger class. A volunteer from the code club initiative joins us to develop children's knowledge and understanding of coding. There are a few spaces left for this free club, please see yesterday's parentmail. Later this term, Mr Few is hoping to offer some children the chance to use the new ukuleles that have arrived to create a school ukulele orchestra.

This term we are focusing on developing writing and also promoting science. Anything you can do with your child(ren) is welcome. Talking about the science topics we are covering, reading books about the subjects, telling each other stories or even visiting some of the museums in Cambridge help develop the children enormously in addition to practicing key skills of reading, spelling and mental maths.

Whilst discussing enriching children's education we have some exciting trips and opportunities coming up including Aylmerton Residential (Autumn 2018 for current Y4/5 children) and Harry Potter Studios (Summer 2018 for Hedgehog class) for which arrangements are being made.

On behalf of the school and all the staff I would like to wish you a Happy New Year and we look forward to an exciting term ahead.

Richard Brown





Dates 2018

Spring Term 2018

Wednesday 3rd January—School opens

Wednesday 3rd January—2 trainee teachers supporting Mr Few in Squirrel Class until 9th February

Monday 8th January—Stargazing Evening 5pm—7pm

Tuesday 9th January—Epiphany Service at Great Wilbraham Church—2.15pm

15th January - National closing date for primary places

Wednesday 17th January—Parent Forum 9.00 am

Thursday 18th January—Census Day—all KS1 children to be offered a meal

Tuesday 23rd January - Parent Drop-in 2.00 - 3.15pm

Tuesday 30th January—PTFA Meeting 9.00 am in school

Friday 2nd February—Squirrel Class Sharing Assembly and 'Book Look'

Thursday 1st February—Governors Meeting 6.30 pm

Friday 9th February—Fieldmice Class Assembly and 'Book Look'

12th —16th February—Half Term

Thursday 22nd February—Team of Yr 5/6 players to Tag Rugby tournament

Tuesday 27th February - Parent Drop-in 2.00 - 3.15pm

Monday 26th & Tuesday 27th February—Parent Evenings

Thursday 1st March—World Book Day

Thursday 1st March—2 teams of Yr 5/6 players to Quick-sticks hockey tournament

Monday 5th March—KS2 Choir Festival at Burwell VC—more details nearer the time

Friday 9th March—Hedgehog Class Sharing Assembly and 'Book Look'

Friday 9th March – Mother's Day Lunch

Monday 12th March – Class & Group vista photos

Friday 16th March—Badger Class Sharing Assembly and 'Book Look'

Wednesday 21st March—trainee teacher supporting Mrs Neish in Badger Class until 8th June

Thursday 22nd March—Governors Meeting 6.30 pm

Tuesday 27th March - Easter Service 2.15pm—Little Wilbraham Church

Thursday 29th March - Spring Concert 9.15am

Thursday 29th March – Easter Lunch

Thursday 29th March – School closes

Summer Term 2018

Monday 16th April—School opens

Tuesday 24th April—4 Year 5 pupils to Maths Challenge at Bottisham Primary

Thursday 26th April—National Child Measuring Programme—Yr R & Yr 6

Monday 30th April—Hedgehog Class trip to Warner Brothers Harry Potter Studios

Monday 7th May – May Day holiday

Wednesday 9th May—Governors Meeting 8am

Thursday 10th May—Group of Yr 4 to mini tennis

Monday 14th –Thursday 17th – KS2 SATS

Thursday 17th May—Census Day

Monday 21st—Friday 25th May—'Creative Week'

Tuesday 22nd May—Sports Morning

Friday 25th May—Open Morning & Picnic Lunch

28th May—1st June—Half Term

Monday 4th June – Staff Training day

Tuesday 5th June—Pentecost Service—2.15pm

Thursday 7th June—group of Yr 5/6 pupils to Quadkids athletics

Week beginning 11th June - Phonics Screening Check Week

Friday 15th June – Father's Day lunch

Friday 22nd June—Squirrel Class Sharing Assembly and 'Book Look'

Thursday 21st June—Yr 3/4 to Youth Games

Wednesday 4th and Thursday 5th July—KS2 Play—more details nearer the time

Friday 6th July—Reports sent home to parents

Friday 13th July—Fieldmice Class Sharing Assembly and 'Book Look'

Thursday 19th July—Leavers Service 9.15 am

Tuesday 24th July—School closes

Dates 2018 - 2019

Autumn Term 2018

Monday 5th to Wednesday 7th November—Badger Class to Aylmerton Field Studies Centre