

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been a very busy Spring term, packed full of exciting learning, trips, activities and theme days. Looking back through the class blogs on the website, it is amazing to see how much the children and adults manage to fit in, and have so much fun in the process! Thank you very much for all your support because we couldn't do it without you. I'm sure everyone is looking forward to a well-deserved Easter break now.

Comic Relief Book Sale and Travelling Book Fair

Congratulations to Rosie, Annika, Lottie and Sophia in Vermillion class who ran a second hand book sale on Comic Relief Day. An amazing £310 was raised. Thank you to everyone who supported them by donating books and buying them on the day. Thank you also for your support at the Travelling Book Fair. We have received over £500 in commission that we can use to buy new books for our school.

Sports results

In football, our Girls A team has had a very successful season and finished 2nd in the league. Our Boys A team won their league, which has added another shield to the growing collection in our trophy cabinet! Year 5 boys & girls teams played in the Harvesters tournament and both finished joint third. Some children from Years 2 and 3 played against Bowmansgreen in two friendly matches. Both teams played really well, passed the ball brilliantly and scored 9 goals between them!

In netball, our Year 5 team played in the St Albans Year 5 tournament. The team played really well, winning 1, drawing 1 and losing 1 match. The Year 6 netball team won their penultimate netball match 11-2 against Mount Pleasant Lane, but lost 15-4 in their last match yesterday against Wheatfields.

Finally, in the last cross country meet, our children ran some great races. Oscar finished 8th and Emma finished 13th which is a fantastic achievement.

I had a quick count up and made it around 30 competitive sporting fixtures and 5 tournaments this term alone, which is an incredible achievement. Congratulations to all the children who have participated and thank you to Mr Clements, Mrs Wonnacott, Mr and Mrs Andersen (football coaches), Mrs Balmforth (netball coach) and to parents for their unwavering support in all weathers and help with transport. We are looking forward to even more children participating next term.

Attendance

We are ending the Spring term at 95.9% attendance. Hopefully next term we can push on towards 96% and beyond. We are currently ranked 41 out of the 339 Herts primary schools who submit attendance data which is great, but could be even better! We understand that sometimes children need to attend medical appointments during the school day. If you can bring your child to school either before and/or after the appointment this would be much appreciated. If this is not possible, sharing some proof of the appointment would be very helpful so that we can authorise the absence correctly. All absences should be reported via the school office. Thank you for your understanding and support with ensuring your child has good attendance.

Safety after school

We have noticed that some children are playing after school on the raised walls outside the pupil gates and in the staff car park area outside the office windows. A trip and fall from that height onto the concrete below could result in a nasty injury, so please supervise your children and do not allow them to play on the walls. Also, we only allow children from Year 4 upwards to use the monkey bars

in the playground during the school day, so younger children should not be playing on this piece of equipment after school.

Scooter park

Just a gentle reminder that only scooters may be left in the scooter park, not bicycles, to ensure there is enough space for everyone who would like to use it.

Diary dates for the summer term are below, so please check carefully and make a note in your calendars. In particular, please note that Sports Day is the day before half term. More dates will be added as events are arranged, so please keep checking each time you receive a newsletter. I'll aim to add new dates in a different colour to make this easier for everyone!

Have a lovely Easter break. Hopefully the weather will be kind to us and we can enjoy some spring sunshine at last. There is no INSET day at the start of next term, so school reopens to the children on Monday 15th April.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Stray

Summer term 2024 diary dates

15 th April	First day of summer term
17 th April	Year 5 boys football match
18 th April	Year 4 netball tournament
22 nd April	Reception health screening
25 th April	Year 3 visit to Verulamium
29 th April	Recycling assembly and Year 4 workshops
30 th April	Urban Strides Street Dance workshops Years 3-6
3 rd May	Occasional Day – school closed
6 th May	May bank holiday – school closed
8 th May	Class photos
8 th May	Year 5 trip to Royal Festival Hall
10 th May	Year 6 parent meeting (SATS, Secondary Transfer, Residential Trip) 9am
13 th May	Year 6 SATS week
15 th May	Year 3 ceramics workshop

16 th May	Year 3 ceramics workshop
20 th May	Year 5 trip to Cuffley
24 th May	Sports Day (YR & 1 9.30-10.30; Y2 &3 11.00-12.00; Y4-6 1.30-3.00)
27 th May	Half term week
3 rd June	Year 4 Multiplication Tables Check week
10 th June	Year 5 K'nex Challenge
10 th June	Phonics screening check week
12th – 14th June	Year 6 residential trip to Youlbury
24th June	New Reception children stay and play 3.45pm
30 th June	Choir performing at STAHS
1st July	New Reception children stay and play 3.45pm
5 th July	Year 6 performance 9.15am in main hall
5 th July	End of year reports sent out
9 th July	Year 5 trip to Victorian Schools Museum
11 th July	Transition Day
11 th July	Open Evening 5-7pm
12 th July	Year 6 Leavers Disco 7pm
17 th July	Year 6 trip to Wicked
19 th July	Leavers' assembly 9.15am in theatre
19 th July	End of term Reception - Year 5 1.15pm, Year 6 1.30pm