

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to school, and an especially warm welcome to all the families who are joining us this term. I hope you all had a lovely summer break. The children have been an absolute credit to you, and have really impressed me with how quickly they have settled into school. You will be receiving another letter next week which is specific to your child's class and gives you more information about their routines and arrangements and what they will be learning this term. Information about extra-curricular clubs will also be sent out next week.

### **Attendance**

Just a reminder at the start of a new school year about the importance of good attendance and punctuality. Our whole school attendance target is 96%, and last year we met this. This year we would like to exceed it, so please help us by ensuring your child attends school every day that they are well enough to be here. Term time holidays will not be authorised (except religious holidays), and you may receive a breach warning letter if your child misses school for an unauthorised holiday. Mrs Carter is our attendance lead and will contact you if your child's attendance becomes a concern, however, please do not hesitate to speak to her should you need any support with school attendance because we are here to help.

### **RAAC**

You may well have seen in the news that some schools have been affected by the presence of RAAC in their buildings. RAAC, or Reinforced Autoclaved Aerated Concrete, is a lightweight form of concrete which was used in schools and other building construction from the 1950's until the mid-1990s. After some time and in some circumstances this concrete can collapse. However, I wanted to reassure you that we consulted a qualified building surveyor last academic year when we first became aware of the issue, and he confirmed that there is no RAAC in this school and therefore no risk to pupils or staff.

### **Computing curriculum**

This year our computing curriculum is designed around the use of technology in careers. Mr Bushell, our Computing lead, would love to hear from anyone who would be willing to talk to the children about their work in the following fields: cyber security, social media, AI, coding, graphics, green screen, animation, AR, photography, digital art, digital music or web design. If you think you can help, please let us know.

### **Coding Workshops**

On Tuesday 12th September, Mr Bushell has arranged for the Code Show to visit school. Every class will have the opportunity to visit the show with their teacher during the day and explore the technology. The show will remain open after school in the hall, and parents are invited to visit with their children to have a go at some of the activities. Please enter through the door off the playground that leads directly to the hall.

I hope you have a lovely weekend and enjoy the late summer weather.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs Stray

### **Diary dates Autumn term 2023**

1st September	Inset day
4th September	Start of Autumn term
12th September	The Code Show (Coding Workshops)
18th September	Clubs start
21st September	Phonics meeting for parents 2.30pm
22nd September	PTA Coffee Morning for Macmillan
26th September	European Day of Languages
26th September	PTA meeting
2nd October	Year 6 Bikeability training
4th October	Individual photographs
9th October	Harvest Festival assembly
10th October	Harvest Festival collection for Food Bank
19th October	Halloween disco for Phase 3
20th October	PTA Crazy Hair day
23rd October	Half term week
3rd November	Magenta sharing assembly in the theatre at 9:00am
10th November	Amethyst sharing assembly in the theatre at 9:00am
14th November	Parents Evening 3:40-7:00pm
15th November	Flu vaccinations
16th November	Parents Evening 3:40-7:00pm
17th November	Sage sharing assembly in the theatre at 9:00am
24th November	Forest sharing assembly in the theatre at 9:00am
1st December	Saffron sharing assembly in the theatre at 9:00am
6th December	Y1 Performance in the theatre at 9:15am
8th December	Gold sharing assembly in the theatre at 9:00am
12th December	Reception Performance in the theatre at 9:15am
13th December	Christmas Lunch

14th December	Pantomime at the Alban Arena 10:30am
18th December	Year 3 Christmas Concert in the theatre at 9:00am
19th December	Year 2 Christmas Concert in the theatre at 9:00am
20th December	End of term 1.30pm