

Dear Parents/Carers

Welcome to our weekly newsletter.

This week it was wonderful to start trips and visits again with a visit to Wakehurst Place and our residential trip to Bowles, as well as welcome parents into school for information meetings.

Y2 Wakehurst Place



On Wednesday, the children in Year 2 visited Wakehurst Place to become scientists and learn all about plants and seeds. We had a wonderful day in the sun walking around the gardens, using microscopes and finding out about the story of a sunflower. The staff at Wakehurst were full of compliments about the children knowledge and behaviour; they were a real credit to the school.

Y6 Bowles trip

Year 6 have had a wonderful week at Bowles and immersed themselves in a variety of adventurous activities on offer at this residential centre. The weather has been fantastic and the children have enjoyed climbing, abseiling, archery, low ropes, zip wires, kayaking, bush craft, and many other activities.



Parent Information Meetings

Thank you to all those who were able to attend our Year 1, 2 and 3 Parent Information Meetings this week. We were delighted to see you in school for the first time in 18 months and hope that you found the meetings informative. The information has also been made available on Seesaw for anyone who was unable to attend. Meetings for Years 4 and 5 parents take place next week.

Census Day - Thursday 7th October

A school census takes place twice a year (Autumn and Spring) and we request that all children in Reception, Years 1 and 2 take up a free hot school meal on these days. The reason for this request is that for each child recorded as having a hot school meal on this day, the school will receive vital funding that is required to support your child's development. It is a great opportunity to try a hot meal or new food if your child does not already eat one and we will do our best to encourage your child to eat their hot meal. If your child will only eat a packed lunch, then they may bring in a packed lunch as usual. We would like to thank all parents for supporting the school and encouraging their child to have a hot school meal on Thursday 7th October. The menu for Census Day is attached.

Free School Meals – is my child eligible?

Families who receive certain benefits may be eligible for free school meals. Your child is eligible for free school meals if you're in receipt of one of the following benefits:

- Universal Credit with an annual net earned income of no more than £7,400.
- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance

- Support under Part 6 of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- The guarantee element of Pension Credit
- Working Tax Credit run-on (paid for the four weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit)
- Child Tax Credit (with no Working Tax Credit) with an annual income of no more than £16,190

Registering for free meals could also raise an extra, £1,320 for your child’s primary school, to fund valuable support like extra tuition, additional teaching staff or after school activities.

This additional money is available from central government for every child whose parent is receiving one of the benefits listed above.

To check if your child is eligible, please collect a form from the school office. If you require more information, please speak to Mrs Moloney.

Gentle reminder

At drop-off, please only access the KS2 playground after 3.05pm and ensure that any siblings or young children are supervised to avoid them disturbing the KS2 classrooms.

Safeguarding

It can be very tempting to use the entrances at the Key Stage 1 gates and school car park to turn around if you drive your child to school, especially as the turning circle at the end of Holbrook School Lane is often busy. However, this is dangerous for those walking to school and other pedestrians, so please avoid using these areas and reduce the risk of a nasty accident.

Diary dates

Currently, our intention is to plan as many events as we can safely accommodate. Obviously, we may have to alter, postpone or cancel these events depending on national and local guidance.

| Autumn 2021 | |
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| Monday 27 th September - 8.45am | Year 4 meeting for parents |
| Tuesday 28 th September - 8.45am | Year 5 meeting for parents |
| Wednesday 13 th October -2.30pm | EYFS- 6 weeks in meeting |
| Monday 25 th – Friday 29 th October | HALF TERM break |
| Monday 1 st November | School closed for INSET day |
| Tuesday 9 th November | School photographs |
| Thursday 11 th & Tuesday 16 th November | Parent Consultations |
| Monday 29 th November | Flu vaccinations |
| Wednesday 1 st December | KS2 Carol Concert at St. Mary’s church |
| Friday 10 th December | Christmas assemblies at St. Marks church |
| Friday 17 th December | Last day of the Autumn term |
| Date tbc | Harvest Festival |
| Date tbc | EYFS & KS1 Nativity productions |

Have a lovely weekend

Kind regards,



Ian Holmes