

Dear Parents/Carers

Welcome to our weekly newsletter.

Curriculum news



There was great egg-citement this week when Year 1 discovered a large egg outside their classrooms. They have established that it belongs to a dragon and we are awaiting further developments.



Take a look at some of the self-portraits from our talented Year 6 artists.



Music workshops

On Thursday, we welcomed Ollie Heath to school, who ran music workshops for all the children in years 1 – 6. The theme was self-belief and the children had an amazing time in his sessions, learning about rhythm, beat boxing, and even creating some music of their own.

To see what they created as a whole school, please scan the QR code to see the video.



Volunteer in school

Volunteers are a vital and most appreciated part of school life, whether it be helping in the library, listening to children reading, general admin or tidying up the outdoor spaces - we need you!

If you can spare an hour or so on a regular basis, please keep an eye out for the upcoming communication for more details.



Safeguarding

The children have been reminded that they should not be using the play equipment or adventure trails before and after school due to safety and insurance purposes. Thank you also for ensuring that scooters and bikes are walked across the playground for the safety of everyone concerned.



Term-time holidays

A reminder that absence from school can only be authorised for exceptional circumstances e.g medical appointments, family bereavements, exams etc. There is no legal entitlement to holidays during term time and these will automatically be classed as unauthorised.

In line with the Code of Conduct for West Sussex, a child who accrues 10 or more unauthorised absences (equivalent to 5 days) in a 10 school week period is referred to the Local Authority, who will issue a Fixed Penalty Notice to parents. If you are unsure or require further clarification, please visit the school [website here](#) or contact the school office.

School Funding - Census Day

Census Day 5th October is important for school funding, as the number of pupils eating school lunch on this day contributes to our funding. If you would like your child to have a meal that day, then please note that you need to book before 21st September. Thank you

HOW CAN YOU HELP OUR SCHOOL'S FUNDING?

WHAT IS CENSUS DAY?

Census Day is an important day in the Primary School calendar, as the Government will use the numbers of those who eat school meals on this day to identify the level of funding each school receives.

Put simply, the more children eating a school meal on this day, the more funding your school can access.

WHEN IS IT?
5TH OCTOBER 2023

WHEN DO I NEED TO BOOK?
BEFORE THE 21ST SEPTEMBER

WE NEED YOUR SUPPORT TO GROW OUR GOVERNMENT FUNDING... HERE'S HOW!

Make sure you book a meal for the day! Use your ParentPay login and order a meal for the 5th October 2023, whichever meal your child would prefer. Please note the dessert for this day will be a chocolate brownie, to make it extra special! If your child has a special diet, please be assured that their usual menu will remain in place.

CHARTWELLS ORDER CUT OFF DATES	
CUT OFF DATE Thursday 23:59	FOR WEEK COMMENCING
21st September 2023	2nd October 2023
28th September 2023	9th October 2023
5th October 2023	16th October 2023
October Half Term	
19th October 2023	30th October 2023
26th October 2023	6th November 2023

Picture News

This week the topic for discussion is ‘Should lifejackets be compulsory for all on open water?’ – see below.

TAKEHOME

11 - 17 Sept

Should lifejackets be compulsory for all on open water?

In the news this week

In Canada, the government in the province of Ontario is set to pass a new law that will make it compulsory for children aged 12 and under to wear lifejackets on boats. Parents, guardians, or other adults supervising children could be subject to a fine of up to \$200 (£130) if they do not comply. In the UK, currently, there is no legal requirement for anyone using rivers and seas for leisure purposes to wear a lifejacket/personal flotation device (PFD).

Things to talk about at home ...

- Share your experience of lifejackets. Have you ever been required to wear one? Where were you? Did everyone wear them?
- Can you make a list of all the times you think lifejackets should be worn?
- Do you feel there should be laws in place to ensure people wear lifejackets on boats at sea? If so, do you believe they should apply to everyone?

Please note any interesting thoughts or comments

Share your thoughts and read the opinions of others

www.picture-news.co.uk/discuss

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Diary dates (new dates will appear in bold)

Autumn 2023	
Mon 18 th – Fri 22 nd September	Y6 Bowles residential trip
Monday 18 th September	Y3 trip to Butser Ancient Farm
Mon 18 th September	Year 2 information meeting for parents
Tuesday 19 th September	Year 3 information meeting for parents
Wednesday 20 th September	Year 1 information meeting for parents
Thursday 21 st September	Reception information meeting for parents
Tuesday 3 rd October	Harvest Festival
Mon 24th – Fri 28th October	HALF TERM break
Monday 30 th October	School closed for INSET day
Tuesday 7 th November	School photographs - individuals
Tues 7 th & Thurs 9 th November	Parent Consultations
Friday 10 th November	Remembrance service
Thursday 23 rd November	Flu Vaccinations
Saturday 2nd December	FOH Christmas Fayre
Wednesday 6 th December	KS2 Carol Concert at St. Mary’s church
Friday 15 th December	Last day of the Autumn term
Friday 8 th December	Christmas assemblies at St. Marks church
Date tbc	Christmas Lunch & dress up day?
Date tbc	EYFS & KS1 Nativity productions

Have a lovely weekend

Kind regards,

Ian Holmes