

Newsletter

Friday 13th May

Dear Parents and Carers,

Greek pots, rescuing an injured person lost in the depths of the Amazon jungle, SATs tests, hair braiding, playtime football and afternoon tea; this is just a snapshot of some of the things that I have seen taking place in school this week. It has most definitely been a busy time!



I am delighted that years one and two enjoyed their trip to Arundel Castle so much. They told me all about the lost shoe in the dungeons and overcoming fears whilst coming up and down the steep spiral stair cases. I am pleased that they took so much from the experience and I look forward to reading their recounts of the trip. School trips really are important and it is wonderful to be able to take the children out of school to enrich their learning after such a long period of restrictions. There are a number of other trips taking place later this term. I would hate to tempt fate but things really do feel back to normal within school these days.

Another sign of normality is that we have had children taking Statutory Assessment Tests throughout the school this week. Children within year six and year two have been sitting formal assessments. I have been so impressed with how the children have approached these and this is in no small part down to the teaching staff, who have worked tirelessly to ensure that the children are fully prepared. Year two would have barely noticed they were being assessed as



they asked to do "More of those new booklets." Year 6 were certainly aware of what they were doing and without doubt felt nervous but they handled themselves with admirable composure and applied themselves incredibly well to each test. It was wonderful to see the smiles on their faces as they celebrated the last test with cake yesterday morning. We all felt very proud of them – I know they felt proud of themselves and of each other.



It is clear that there is an intention for the testing and the formal assessment of children to continue and it is vital that we work hard as a school to prepare all of our children for this. The statutory assessments are not easy, they test knowledge and the application of this knowledge away from the point of learning. Expectations are high and as a school we have to work hard to ensure that we prepare children for these assessments.

This needs to take place across the school and throughout a child's

educational journey. Each and every year is an important part of this jigsaw and it is always most successful when we have active involvement and partnership with parents.

In the next few weeks year four will be taking the timetables assessment and year one will be assessed on their phonics knowledge with the phonics screening. I know that they will also be working hard to prepare for these.

It has been a busy week for the PTA with a successful afternoon tea held in the community room yesterday. It was lovely to welcome parents into school and it was especially good to see parents from our new September intake. We hope to hold these events more regularly so please do come along if you get a chance. We have a very friendly and welcoming set of parents. Many thanks to Gemma Lovegrove who came to assembly on Tuesday to talk to the children about the Balloon Bonanza – this sounds like lots of fun and we will be following the balloons closely within school.



Finally, yesterday a group of year 3 and 4 children had the opportunity to take part in a Tri Golf tournament at The Weald School. It sounded like lots of fun and once again our children received a medal by coming third. "This is my first ever medal!" one child reported with a huge smile on his face.

Mrs Tracey Newbold



School Uniform

Please can you make sure that your child is smartly dress for school. Children should not be wearing nail varnish. Socks should be black, grey or white, and tights purple or grey. Hair needs to be tied back for PE lessons. The school jumper or cardigan needs to be worn for PE, if your child doesn't have a PE sweater or hoodie. Staff have expressed that standards are slightly dropping.

PTA Virtual Balloon Bonanza

We hope the children were excited to tell you about the Balloon Bonanza assembly that took place this week. Information about our exciting new fundraising event, organised by the PTA is attached.

Lost property

This will be in the foyer every day before and after school next week. Any items not claimed by Friday will be given to charity or the PTA second-hand uniform stock.

Reminder - PGL payments

The balance of the payments for the residential trip are due in by the end of May. Please speak to the office in confidence if you are unable to pay the balance of the trip by this deadline. We are looking forward to seeing you at the Residential meeting after school on Wednesday 18th May. The children are welcome to accompany you. Whilst timings are approximate I am hopeful that it will last no longer than 45 minutes. Mrs Coxon has offered to be available to look after younger siblings in the library.

Diary dates - 2022

May

Monday 16th – Transition visit to The Weald for Yr 6 children who will be attending

KS1 Assessments begin

Messy Church in community room

Wednesday 18th – PGL information meeting for Yr 5+6 parents 3.30pm

Tuesday 24th May – PTA meeting

Friday 27th – School Jubilee Celebrations

Break up for half-term at 3.20pm

June

Thursday 2nd – PTA balloon race starts (in half-term)

Monday 6th - Children back in school

Messy Church in community room

Thursday 9th – History learning days KS2

Friday 10th – History learning days KS2

Sunday 12th – Yr 5 + 6 PGL residential trip

Wednesday 15th – Yr 5 + 6 back from PGL residential trip

Friday 17th – Mufti day – please bring in sweets for Summer Fete

Thursday 23rd – Sports Day time to be confirmed next week

Thursday 30th – Mufti day – please bring in bottles for Summer Fete

July

Friday 1st – INSET day

Monday 4th – Messy Church in community room

Wednesday 6th – EOY reports sent out/children new class transition am session/Parents + Carers informed of September class teachers for their child

Friday 8th – Mini Summer Fete 3.30pm

Tuesday 12th – Children new class transition pm session

Wednesday 13th – Dress rehearsal for Yr 6 End of Year performance/Evening performance - 6.30pm

Thursday 14th – Evening performance – Year 6 – 6.30pm

Monday 18th – Open afternoon/Meet your child's new teacher 3.30- 6.00pm

Tuesday 19th – Year 6 Leavers' assembly 9.30am (parents of leavers welcome)

Thursday 21st – End of term, break up at 1.30pm

September

Thursday 1st – INSET

Friday 2nd – Children back in school