



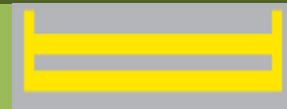
Head Teacher's Welcome



Welcome back and I hope that you have had a restful and enjoyable Easter holiday.

Richard Culham

Yellow Lines



As you may know, the council have very recently extended the double yellow lines in the area. When I spoke to the Highways Department over the holidays, I was told that this was following local residents and local councillor's requests. Apparently the new markings also comply with the Highway Code.

I am afraid that more people will need to park further away and walk the final part of their journey. This should mean that the roads are less congested and therefore safer for our children.

Erasmus



The next stage of our European project is very nearly upon us. On Sunday 15 April, Miss Lilley and myself will be taking 6 of our Y5 children to Sorrento for a week. We will be meeting up with children and staff from the other 9 European countries involved in the project.

The purpose of the trip is to visit schools and historical and cultural landmarks, as well as to form links with children and schools across Europe. The focus for the whole project is 'How Our History Unites Us' and this trip will certainly help us all explore this theme.

In my absence, please contact our Deputy Head Teacher, Mrs Parker, if you have any queries.

Residentials

This week, 37 of our Y3 children are setting off to Cornwall for their residential. They will be having an adventurous time at Delaware Residential Centre, school staff accompanying them are Mrs White, Mrs Parker, Miss Stocker, Mr Reed, Mr Pound and Miss Neill.

This is always an excellent trip as the children often experience opportunities that are new to them. I am sure that they will have a great time.

In June, a number of our Y5 children are off to London to explore the many historical and cultural experiences that our capital city has to offer. This is also an excellent opportunity to learn from, and try, new activities.

Attendance

Currently our attendance for the school is 93.8% which is 1.2% lower than previous figures and our target figure for the year.

Can we please all work together to improve pupil attendance figures.

If you have any questions or would like support then please contact Mrs White (Attendance Officer) or our Parent and Family Support Advisors, Mrs Barter (Mon – Wed) and Mrs Schroetter (Thur – Fri).

Staff News

In the last newsletter we wished Miss Mathieson and Miss Griffiths best wishes for their forthcoming weddings. They both had lovely days and we now welcome them back as *Mrs Macleod* and *Mrs Pavey*

We also welcome *Mr McClelland*, from the Pre-School, who will be working in RLM Mon – Wed and *Mrs Pimm* Thurs – Fri.

We also welcome *Mrs Winnall* as an LSA and *Miss Jacobs* and *Miss Woods* to our Pre-School staff.

Curriculum Themed Day

Over the last term we have had several opportunities for parents, family members and carers to get involved in our teaching and learning.

Y5 held an excellent Viking Boat building morning which combined History and Science and lots of water!

Y4 recently had a chocolate day – this delicious event was well attended – funny that!

Y3 had a lovely Indian themed day with Rangoli patterns and Indian dancing.

Y2 had a Superhero day with amongst other highlights, Superhero teddy clothing designs!

Y1 had a Pets afternoon with all sorts of lovely cute and cuddly visitors.

YR have had visits from people who help us including the Army, Ambulance and Fire Brigade, all bringing personnel and vehicles onto the site.

Pre-School children were also able to take advantage of some of these people who help us. Poor old **Y6** are deeply focussed on SATs preparation but there are many exciting plans for them after May!

Fundraising



Our Easter Egg raffle raised a wonderful £246. A big 'thank you' to Mrs Lumbarb for decorating them so beautifully and thank you to you all for your continuing support.

Roblox

Have you checked out the games your children are playing on Roblox? There are many age appropriate games they can choose but there are also others you would not want them to be playing. Children can be chatting with people they don't know who maybe using language or subject matter you would not want your child to be experiencing. Download this leaflet <http://bit.ly/robloxguide> for useful information.

- ◆ Setting up an account: using the under – 13s safety features of Roblox; adding a parent email
- ◆ Settings for chat and messages: using restrictions to limit how your child can interact with others on the site
- ◆ Blocking and reporting: ensuring you and your child know how to block and report other users
- ◆ Talking, sharing and enjoying: playing the game with your child and supporting them to build resilience

A Busy Day

Each morning I write a daily events reminder on the Staff Room board. This morning it really struck me just how much is going on, so to give you a flavour of a busy Birchfield day here is some of our Tuesday 10 April events!

Y2 this morning had a visit from Garwynn's Reptiles and Bugs (GRAB).

Pupil Progress meetings were held with SLT meeting teachers to discuss the children's learning and progress.

E360 – our E Safety work was examined by an external consultant this morning to see if we are ready to apply for the National E Safety award. The comments from the consultant this morning included “highly impressive” and “exemplary practice”!

E Safety Talks for Y4 and Y5 children this afternoon with parents invited along. Staff training will follow at the end of the day.

Gore Farm – 2 groups of children visited today – “wet”, “muddy” and “brilliant”!

Residential trips – last minute double checking meetings have been held for our Y3 trip (Wed – Fri) to Delaware and the Y5 trip to Italy (Sunday – Saturday).

Sports – each term we host the Yeovil School Games meeting (we are currently both Secretary and Treasurer!). This meeting, held on Tuesday, for about 20 local schools, plans the sports events and competitions across our district for each term. Miss Loader, Mrs Bleazard and myself attend this meeting.

Alongside all of this is the ‘normal’ high quality teaching and learning!

My huge thanks to all staff.

2018/2019 School Calendar

Attached to the back of this newsletter is next years term dates (2018/19) which also has the 5 INSET dates highlighted.

Date for your Diary

Wed 11 – Fri 13: Y3 residential trip

Thurs 12 April: Y5 swimming continues for 2 wks
FoBS meeting 3.30 pm

Sun 15 – Sat 21 April: Erasmus trip to Italy

Mon 16 – Tue 17 April: Y4 trip to Gore Farm

Fri 20 April: Non school uniform day – gifts for Bingo hampers (further information to follow)

Mon 23 – Tue 24 April: Y2 trip to Gore Farm

Thurs 26 April: Y6 swimming starts

Fri 27 April: FoBS Easter Bingo (further details to follow)

Tue 8 – Wed 9 May: Y1 trip to Gore Farm

Mon 14 – Fri 17 May: Y6 SAT's

Thurs 24 May: Birchfield Tournament (further information to follow)

Fri 25 May: INSET and Pre-School INSET

Mon 28 May – Fri 1 June: Half Term Holiday

Mon 4 June: School re-opens

Wed 6 – Fri 8 June: Y5 residential trip