

27th January 2023

Music of the Week: *O Fortuna* taken from *Carmina Burana* by Carl Orff

Dear Parents/Carers

Here is a reminder of key dates for this next week:

	Talbot	St. Peter's
Monday 30 th Jan	WRAP AROUND Care	WRAP AROUND Care
Tuesday 31 st Jan	WRAP AROUND Care	WRAP AROUND Care
Wednesday 1 st Feb	WRAP AROUND Care Industrial Strike day SCHOOL OPEN	WRAP AROUND Care Industrial Strike day SCHOOL OPEN
Thursday 2 nd Feb	WRAP AROUND Care	WRAP AROUND Care
Friday 3 rd Feb	WRAP AROUND Care (AM) Number Day NSPCC Celebration Assembly at 9.15am	WRAP AROUND Care Number Day NSPCC Celebration Assembly at 2.45pm

Key dates for your diary

	Talbot	St. Peter's
Friday 10 th Feb	Safer Internet Day	Safer Internet Day
Thursday 16 th February	GREEN TREAT!	GREEN TREAT!
Monday 20 th Feb - Friday 25 th Feb	HALF TERM	HALF TERM
Thursday 2 nd March	WORLD BOOK DAY	WORLD BOOK DAY
Friday 24 th March	Maple visit to Creswell Crags	Birch visit to Creswell Crags
Friday 31 st March		EASTER celebration Service at 2pm
Monday 3 rd April - Friday 14 th April	EASTER HOLIDAY	EASTER HOLIDAY
Monday 17 th April	INSET DAY - School closed to children	INSET DAY - School closed to children
Thursday 27 th April	Bikeability Level 1 Yrs 3 and 4 only	

Tuesday 2 nd May		Bikeability Level 1 Yrs 3 and 4 only
Wednesday 18 th May	Year 4 visit to Oldfields	Year 4 visit to Oldfields

Special Notes:

- I will always try to see you at short notice if at all possible. If your issue is urgent and I am unavailable, I will ensure that Miss Beynon or another senior member of staff is made available to you. For non-urgent meetings, you are welcome to telephone the School Office. Mrs. Hill manages my diary and will be more than happy to make you an appointment at a mutually convenient time or you can always drop me an email (jfarrington@woodlandsfederation.staffs.sch.uk). Alternatively, you can catch me on the school gate where we can easily make an arrangement to meet.
- My weekly newsletter is accessible via Dojo and is uploaded to the school website. If you would prefer an email version, you can log on to the school website (following the NEWS AND EVENTS tab and then NEWS/LETTERS) and enter your email address to sign up. In the same way, if you would prefer a paper copy of the newsletter, please let the School Office know.

EXCITING NEWS!

This week in our staff meeting, we reviewed the weekly achievement certificates that we currently award. We decided that we need more certificates! Therefore from next week we will be awarding the following certificates:

- ✓ Maths
- ✓ English
- ✓ STAR of the week
- ✓ GOLD certificate (Talbot: Keeping to our golden rules; St Peter's: demonstrating Christian values)
- ✓ A prestigious HEAD TEACHER award

- We are doing SO WELL with our new TRAFFIC LIGHT system. The whole school community is talking about STAYING ON GREEN! With this in mind, we have set the date for our first GREEN TREAT and we are hoping to be packed out with GREEN learners!
- You will see from the key dates that INDUSTRIAL ACTION is planned for next Wednesday 1st February. Please note that we are able to keep both sites OPEN as normal on this occasion due to the circumstances surrounding the current staff. In line with regulations and guidance, I will always endeavour to keep the

schools open. However, staff are under no obligation to inform me of their intention to strike and therefore I will not be able to inform you about future strike action until much nearer the time.

- We seem to have a few sleepy heads in a morning! Please note that school gates will OPEN at 8.50am and will CLOSE at 9am. After this time, you will need to bring your child to the school office and this will result in a late mark if they have missed the register. LATES are recorded and appear in our school data.
- As NUT FREE Zones and schools which promote healthy eating, we've slipped into some rather unhealthy habits! Please can you ensure that water bottles only contain water (no flavoured water please) and that snacks are limited to either a piece of fruit or a cereal bar. Please ensure that the snack does not contain any nuts.
- Next week, I am reviewing policies and procedures in order to manage ALLERGIES, ASTHMA and DIABETES. In order to help me with this, please ensure that the school office is fully updated with medical conditions for your youngster and that your contact details are up to date.
- You will notice that the music of the week is O Fortuna, taken from Carmina Burana composed by Carl Orff. Some of you may remember this music being used in the Old Spice advert many years ago.. or am I the only old thing around here? Help your youngster to watch a YouTube video clip - try and find one which shows an orchestra and choir. Alternatively ask Alexa to play it for you. There's a Dojo waiting for anyone who can find out one fact about the music or the composer!
- We are proud of our UNIFORM and it gives us all a sense of belonging. Please make sure that your youngster arrives at school in the agreed uniform.
- Unfortunately, ATTENDANCE is a serious issue for both schools. A whole school target should be 96% in line with national statistics. At this point, for this academic year since September the picture is as follows:

TALBOT	St. PETER'S
62%	50%

Unless we can demonstrate a huge and rapid improvement, this will seriously affect an overall judgement during an OFSTED inspection. In addition to this, such poor attendance undoubtedly has an adverse effect on learning. As schools with key issues around progress, it is essential that we work together to achieve attendance that meets the 96% target. Regular and punctual attendance at school is both a legal requirement and essential for children to maximise their educational opportunities. Next week, I will be sending out letters to inform you of individual attendance. Also please note that leave of absence will not be granted for holidays during term time unless there are exceptional

circumstances. Amendments to the Education Regulations 2006 removed references to family holidays as well as the threshold of ten school days and the criteria is now extremely tight. Where unapproved holidays are taken during term time, it is likely that a PENALTY NOTICE will be issued.

- PLEASE NOTE that in the case of vomiting and diarrhoea, your youngster will need to remain off school for 48 hours from the LAST episode to ensure that they are completely clear.
- Lines of communication - please can I ask that in the first instance you:
 - Speak to the class teacher if it is a class-based issue or ask the school office to arrange for the class teacher to give you a call.
 - If the class teacher is not able to resolve the issue or you are not happy with the outcome, then speak to me or drop me an email and I will do everything I can to sort out the problem.
 - If you are not happy with the outcome having spoken to me, then your next step would be to formally raise the issue with our Governing Body who will then look into the matter for you. Please remember that no Governor can be involved in managing your issue or complaint if they have prior knowledge of your issue.
- Please remember that if earrings are worn, this should be a small, plain stud. Please remember to remove earrings on PE days. Don't forget that we are not allowed to remove earrings for safeguarding reasons. If you are considering having your youngster's ears pierced, please consider that this is done in the summer holiday as earrings cannot be removed from newly pierced ears for several weeks.

STAFFING UPDATE

Miss Beynon has remained unwell this week but is desperate to be back at school! I am sure that you will want to join us in sending her every good wish for a speedy recovery! Hopefully we will see her back very soon.

A huge THANK YOU to Miss Davies and Miss Wright who continue to pledge their time to us to ensure continuity of learning. It is very much appreciated.

Last week's STAR OF THE WEEK Certificate winners - WELL DONE to all these children!

Talbot	St. Peter's
Charlie (R), William (R), Elijah (1), James (2), Molly (3), Sam (4)	Cal (R), Olivia S (Y1), James B (Y2), Henry (Y3)

I am always pleased to hear about and celebrate out of school achievements. Don't forget to send in any achievements so that I can add them to our weekly newsletter and celebrate together!

FOMS and TSA work really hard to raise money in order to provide additional experiences for our children. They are always looking for volunteers to join the group or simply to help out at some events. If you are interested in finding out more, please speak to Mrs. Hill or Mrs. Timmis in the School Office who will be happy to pass on your details!

I hope that you all enjoyed a relaxing and peaceful weekend.

W.J. Farrington