

10th February 2023

Music of the Week: Waltz No 2 composed by Shostkovich

Dear Parents/Carers

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

	Talbot	St. Peter's
SHINE ASSESSMENT WEEK		
Monday 13 th February	WRAP AROUND Care	WRAP AROUND Care
Tuesday 14 th February	WRAP AROUND Care	WRAP AROUND Care
Wednesday 15 th February	WRAP AROUND Care	WRAP AROUND Care
Thursday 16 th February	WRAP AROUND Care GREEN TREAT!	WRAP AROUND Care GREEN TREAT!
Friday 17 th February	WRAP AROUND Care (AM)	WRAP AROUND Care

Key dates for your diary

	Talbot	St. Peter's
Monday 20 th Feb - Friday 25 th Feb	HALF TERM	HALF TERM
Thursday 2 nd March	WORLD BOOK DAY	WORLD BOOK DAY
Wednesday 15 th March Thursday 16 th March	Parents' Evening	
Wednesday 22 nd March Thursday 23 rd March		Parents' Evening
Friday 24 th March	Maple visit to Creswell Craggs	Birch visit to Creswell Craggs
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
Thursday 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 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.
- No-one wants to think about the unthinkable but it is important that schools have measures in place to deal with unwanted visitors either on the school grounds or within the school buildings. This week, we have reviewed our PREVENT procedures and have a clear system in place should the worst happen.

You will notice from the key dates that the next PARENTS' EVENING is coming up soon after the half term break. You will be able to make an appointment to see your child's class teacher to discuss progress. I will also be available if you need to see me. This springtime meeting is a really important one because if there are gaps in learning, there is still time to put actions into place to close the gaps and to ensure that your child makes good progress before the end of the academic year. More details will follow shortly about how to make an appointment.

- We are doing REALLY well in making sure that we arrive at school in good time. THANK YOU everyone for helping to address this issue. Don't forget:
 - School gates open at 8.50am and close at 9am.
 - All children need to be in class by 9am.
 - Registers will then close at 9.10am.
 - If you arrive after 9am, you will need to bring your child to the school office to avoid any disruption to learning that will have already started.
 - If you arrive after 9am but before 9.10am, your child will be marked as LATE on the register.

- If you arrive after 9.10am, your child will be marked as an unauthorised absence.
 - LATES and unauthorised absence are picked up during register health checks carried out by Education Welfare.
- Just a reminder about PARKING please. For the safety of all the children, please do not:
 - Park on the zig zag lines outside the school entrance
 - Do not park on the pavement
 - Do not drive cars into the school grounds
- You will notice that next week is our SHINE WEEK. During the week, the children will be given tasks to 'show what we know!' in the areas of Maths, Reading, Writing and Phonics (if applicable). These assessments will give a clear picture of your child's current attainment and will enable teachers to plan the next steps of learning. SHINE weeks will take place half termly so that we can keep a tight focus on progress being made. This is one of the key issues that arose in the last OFSTED inspection.
- Despite several requests and reminders, we still have children arriving at school with water bottles that contain juice. I totally understand that given the choice, many children would prefer to drink juice rather than water but we are a school which promotes healthy eating. To meet the success criteria for any healthy schools award, we need to be able to demonstrate that we have water in our drinking bottles. Also, please remember that snacks are limited to either a piece of fruit or a cereal bar. **Please ensure that the snack does not contain any nuts.**
- I have noticed that we are establishing much clearer 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.

- Staff are always happy for you to drop them an email if you have a query or concern. When leading such busy lives, it is a quick and easy way to make contact with the class teacher. Staff will, wherever possible, always try and respond to your email on the day that they receive it. Please note that emails/DOJO messages that are received after 4.30pm will not receive a response until the following day. In the same way, emails/DOJO messages received on a Friday after 4.30pm will not receive a response until Monday morning. This helps staff to try and achieve a more healthy work/life balance and ensures some essential down time for them.
- The School office is open 8am - 4pm or can be contacted via email on office@woodlandsfederation.staffs.sch.uk
- Just a reminder that our UNIFORM Policy requires BLACK shoes. These should be sturdy and suitable to withstand school activities. I appreciate that the winter sunshine can be quite dazzling at this time of year but please do not send your child to school with sunglasses as these can cause injuries at playtimes. 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. In the same way, in line with our uniform policy, hair must be tied back and no jewellery is permitted.
- You will notice that the music of the week is Waltz No 2 by Shostakovich. There are great videos available on YouTube where you will be able to see orchestras playing this piece. 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!

SCHOOL STAFFING VACANCIES

We currently have vacancies in our Wrap Around Care Clubs at Talbot. This is an exciting opportunity to be part of our school team and to help us to provide quality provision for this important aspect of school life.

The children of Wrap Around Care Staff are admitted FREE OF CHARGE to the morning and evening sessions!

If you are interested in one of these vacancies, please speak to Mrs. Hill in the School Office who will be happy to give you more details!

Last week's Certificate winners - WELL DONE to all these children!

Talbot	St. Peter's
Maths - Elijah, Jack English - Indie, Emily STAR of the Week - Tegan, Liam Golden Certificate- William, Evie	Maths - Lucia, Elsie English - George, Jack STAR of the Week - Teddy, Olivia Golden Certificate - Ivy, Polly
A huge THANK YOU to TSA and FOMS for sponsoring our fabulous new achievement certificates. It is much appreciated!	

I am always pleased to hear about and celebrate out of school achievements so keep sending them in so that we can celebrate together! This week we have celebrated with:

Talbot	St. Peter's
	Teddy for football Florence for gymnastics Georgia for gymnastics Lauren B for a Rainbows badge Scarlett for a Rainbows badge Bobby for gymnastics

FOMS and TSA work really hard to raise money in order to provide additional experiences for our children. They have got some REALLY exciting events planned for our children this year. 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! Please try and help out if you can - sometimes it's just some extra energy that's needed for a particular event!

ATTENDANCE THIS LAST WEEK:

EXCITING NEWS!

Our whole school attendance figures are going up and have improved since last week! A massive WELL DONE to everyone and especially to St. Peter's for such great improvement.. Keep it up!

Talbot	St. Peter's
Class with best attendance: Miss Davies' Class	Class with best attendance: Miss Vickers' Class
Whole School attendance this last week: 98.53% (previous week: 97.35%) This meets our school target of 96%	Whole School attendance this last week: 94.38% (previous week: 90.42%) This does not meet our school target or meet national expectations but is well on the way!
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.	

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

W.J. Farrington