

17th February 2023

Music of the Week: Wedding March composed by Mendelssohn.

Dear Parents/Carers

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

	Talbot	St. Peter's
Monday 20 th February	HALF TERM	HALF TERM
Tuesday 21 st February	HALF TERM	HALF TERM
Wednesday 22 nd February	HALF TERM	HALF TERM
Thursday 23 rd February	HALF TERM	HALF TERM
Friday 24 th February	HALF TERM	HALF TERM

Key dates for your diary

	Talbot	St. Peter's
Monday 27 th February	Back to School	Back to School
Wednesday 1 st March	INDUSTRIAL STRIKE School OPEN	INDUSTRIAL STRIKE School OPEN
Thursday 2 nd March	WORLD BOOK DAY	WORLD BOOK DAY
Friday 3 rd March	TSA Event Books and Brownies 3.30pm	
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.
- It was lovely to see so many of you today in our Celebration Assembly. Thank you for putting the time aside to come along and share in such WONDERFUL achievements.

PRICE INCREASE

Unfortunately we have just been informed that the price of a school meal will increase to £2.83 after the half term break due to the rising cost of supplies.

The PUPIL PREMIUM GRANT is funding designed to improve educational outcomes for pupils. In addition to providing free school meals for anyone who is eligible, it also provides funding to cover other costs such as trips for your child.

Even if your child is in Reception, Year 1 or Year 2 and therefore qualifies for UNIVERSAL free school meals, please consider whether your child is eligible for PUPIL PREMIUM. If you think that your child may be eligible or would like more details, Mrs. Hill would be more than happy to chat it through with you.

- This week has been our SHINE WEEK. During the week, the children have been given tasks in reading, writing, phonics/spelling and maths. They all worked really hard to 'Show what we know!' This information will now feed into our pupil progress meetings and there will be an opportunity for you to discuss your child's progress at the forthcoming Parents' Evening.
- In the first week back after half term, you will receive a letter inviting you to make an appointment to see your child's teacher. Appointments will be a

maximum of 10 minutes. If you feel that you need longer than this to discuss your child, you will need to make a separate appointment via the School Office. This is to ensure that teachers are able to keep to the appointment times allocated and to avoid long waiting times.

- We had an exciting afternoon yesterday because it has been our first ever GREEN TREAT! The children had a wonderful time and really appreciated our acknowledgement of their outstanding behaviour. After the half term break, our system will be points driven. We will also be adding in a fourth traffic light! If you stay on GREEN all day you will get to keep your 5 points. If after a warning you slip onto YELLOW you will lose 2 points. If after a warning you move to ORANGE you will lose all 5 points. If you have to move to RED you will OWE 5 points! You will only be able to access the next GREEN TREAT if you have banked enough points to gain entrance! MAKE SURE YOU STAY ON GREEN EVERY DAY!
- Please help us to remain smart by using the half term holiday to check your child's school UNIFORM. Please make sure that all items of clothing (including shoes) are named and that your child comes to school wearing the agreed uniform including BLACK sensible shoes. 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.
- Miss Allen has set up a times tables and spelling link for her children to use at home. This is a great FREE resource which will really help the children with their learning if they choose to access it.

STAFFING UPDATE

Mrs. Timmis will be leaving the Wrap Around Care provision shortly after the half term break. I am sure that you will want to join me in thanking her most sincerely for all her time, energy and ideas that she has brought to this important aspect of school life.

I am delighted to tell you that Ms. Nicola Golding will be joining us again to lead the Wrap Around Care provision at Talbot. I know that everyone will be delighted to see her back on the team!

Mr. Kitching, Mrs. Holden and Miss Beynon remain absent from school. A huge THANK YOU to all the staff in WILLOW and ASH classrooms for doing an amazing job!

- 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 that are received after 4.30pm will not receive a response until the following day. In the same way, emails received on a Friday after 4.30pm will not receive a response until Monday morning. This helps staff to try and achieve a healthier work/life balance and ensures some essential down time for them. Any emails sent during the school holiday will be picked up on the first Monday back.
- Please ensure that drinking bottles only contain WATER after the half term break and that snacks are healthy and NUT FREE.
- In the spirit of Valentines' Day, Our Music of the Week is Mendelssohn's Wedding March! 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 one vacancy in our Wrap Around Care Club at Talbot. The vacancy is to support the Wrap Around Care Leader. This is an exciting opportunity to work alongside an experienced Play Leader 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 this vacancy, 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 - Ivy, Summer English - Harry, Xander STAR of the Week - Ben, Bethany Golden Certificate- Annabel HEAD TEACHER AWARD - Emily	Maths -Lauren, James English - Ori, Erin STAR of the Week - Samuel, Nancy Golden Certificate - Lucy, Henry Pen Licence - James
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
Swimming: Ben, Pippa, Jack and Leo Lola for her Brownie Badges Ella for her Rainbow Badges Annabel for player of the day in tennis James for his bike riding Ellie for her horse riding	Freddie - Duckling Swimming certificate Jenson - Doing well in his first swimming lesson George - Learn to Swim 1, Duckling 1 and 2 and 5 metres swimming Georgia - Level 3 swimming and for being an ALL STAR Gymnast Samuel - Rank 7 th Kyu Ho in karate and a certificate of achievement for Star of the Week in karate

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:

Talbot	St. Peter's
Class with best attendance: Miss Allen's class with 96%	Class with best attendance: Miss Vickers class with 96.5%
Whole School attendance this last week: 95.69% (previous week: 98.53%) This does not meet our school target or meet national expectations of 96+% but is almost there!	Whole School attendance this last week: 94.79% (previous week: 94.38%) This does not meet our school target or meet national expectations
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 HALF TERM break. Thank you for your continued support and interest in our schools - it is very much appreciated.

W.J. Farrington