

10th March 2023

Music of the Week: William Tell by Rossini

Dear Parents/Carers

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

	Talbot	St. Peter's
Monday 13 th March	WRAP AROUND Care	WRAP AROUND Care
Tuesday 14 th March	WRAP AROUND Care	WRAP AROUND Care
Wednesday 15 th March	WRAP AROUND Care PARENTS' EVENING	WRAP AROUND Care
Thursday 16 th March	WRAP AROUND Care PARENTS' EVENING	WRAP AROUND Care
Friday 17 th March	WRAP AROUND Care (AM) MOTHERS' DAY Assembly at 9.30am -10am	WRAP AROUND Care MOTHERS' DAY Assembly at 2.30pm

Key dates for your diary

	Talbot	St. Peter's
Monday 20 th March Wednesday 22 nd 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.

EXCITING NEWS

I am delighted to tell you that after the Easter Break, our children will be able to enjoy the OPEN THE BOOK assemblies again. It is always lovely to be able to invite visitors into school and these special assemblies really help the children to understand the Christian element of the RE strand in the National Curriculum. Thank you to the OPEN BOOK Team for pledging their time to us again.

- Winter was back with a vengeance this week but we managed to keep on going! THANK YOU to everyone for battling with the snow to make it into school. A big THANK YOU to our fabulous staff, particularly those who live in more remote areas, for working against the odds to get into school and to ensure that we could keep both sites open with no disruption to learning. It is very much appreciated.
- PLEASE NOTE - if your child becomes unwell at school and needs to go home, it will not be possible to take any siblings at the same time unless it is within half an hour of the end of the school day. This is to ensure that there is no interruption to their learning and ensures that they retain the attendance percentage that they deserve.
- You will see from our school dates that this next week, we are holding our Parents' Evening at Talbot and in the following week at St. Peter's. Thank you to

everyone who has already made an appointment to see their Class Teacher. If you haven't yet managed to secure a slot, there is still time to do so!

Appointments will be a maximum of 10 minutes. This is to ensure that teachers are able to keep to the appointment times allocated and to avoid long waiting times. 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. The discussions will be held in the school hall and I will be available on both evenings should you wish to drop in to say Hello!

- Next Friday, the children would like to invite you to their special MOTHERS' DAY ASSEMBLY. We really hope that you will be able to join us for this special event. Next week, achievement certificates will be awarded in the classrooms rather than our normal Friday Assembly but names of achievers will still feature on my weekly ROLL OF HONOUR.
- A SAFEGUARDING audit was carried out last week by the Local Authority. A suggestion was made to re-think how children are dropped off and picked up at the Talbot site. We are currently trialling an idea and I will review its success next week.
- This half term, we have introduced an additional traffic light into our BEHAVIOUR system and we have also now included points to earn! So, each day every child starts on GREEN and this banks them 5 points. If after a warning they drop to YELLOW, they lose 2 points and the maximum they can bank that day is 3 points. If they drop to AMBER, they lose all 5 points and if the unthinkable happens and they drop to RED, they OWE me 5 points. Access to our next GREEN TREAT will be rely on children having banked sufficient points. All the children are working REALLY hard to bank as many points as possible!
- Please help us to remain smart by keeping to our agreed uniform standards. If for some reason, your child is not able to come to school in the expected uniform, they will be challenged by Staff unless you have already made us aware of the reason. 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.

STAFFING UPDATE

We are delighted to welcome Miss Beynon back to school. She hit the ground running and got straight back into both her teaching and Senior Leader role! A MASSIVE THANK YOU to Miss Vickers who stepped into the role and kept the ship afloat during Miss Beynon's absence. Miss Vickers is now able to continue her work on curriculum development for both sites.

Mr. Kitching and Mrs. Holden remain absent from school. Thank you to Miss Davies for her commitment to our Federation during this half term.

- Last week Mrs Cox our Chair of Governors and Miss Duddy, the Chair of the TSA came into Talbot to speak to the children about how they can make their time at school even better and what qualities they would like to have when they leave Talbot. The children came up with some great ideas and suggestions which were then discussed at a school council session and hopefully we can work with the TSA to make some of them a reality. Mrs Cox was very happy with some of the fantastic suggestions of qualities that they would like to have as they grow up and is looking forward to using the children's input to help the governors review the school vision. We are hoping to repeat this at St Peter's in the near future. A big THANK YOU to the children who took part for sharing their brilliant ideas and also to both Mrs. Cox and Miss Duddy for taking the time out of their busy schedules to come and listen to our PUPIL VOICE.
- Miss Allen is now running a TIMESTABLES club on a Monday lunchtime between 12.30 and 1pm for anyone in Maple Class who is interested in coming along. This is completely FREE OF CHARGE!
- 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 a school holiday will be picked up on the first Monday back.
- **Please note that OFFICE HOURS are 8am - 4pm.**
- Please can you aim to clear any outstanding balances on PARENT PAY as soon as possible please. Letters detailing any outstanding money will be issued next week. If you have any queries, please contact Mrs. Timmis or Davina Harper

- Please ensure that drinking bottles only contain WATER and that snacks are healthy and NUT FREE.
- This weeks music is the lively William Tell by Rossini! 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 for a minimum level 2 qualified person 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 or know someone who may be interested, please speak to Mrs. Hill in the School Office who will be happy to give you more details!

Due to my absence from school last Friday, some children missed their moment of glory on my ROLL OF HONOUR for achieving a certificate. Therefore I am including them on this week's newsletter! WELL DONE to all these children!

Talbot	St. Peter's
Maths - Harry, Bethany, Kyryl, Molly English - Lottie, Summer, Ella, Kyle STAR of the Week - Indie, Evie, Ivy, Summer Golden Certificate- Poppy, Tommy, Zac, Lola	Maths -Lucia, Aimee, Jenson, James English - Leah, Oliver, Teddy, Seth STAR of the Week - Scarlett, Erin, Oliver, Bella Golden Certificate - Olivia, Archie, Niamh, Elsie
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
James and Ella for both achieving a cycling medal	Freddie - Player of the match Scarlett - Rainbows Book Lover and Fruit and Veg interest badge, Stage 1 make a Change Lauren - Stage 1 Make a Change Elsie - Horse riding jumping event Bella - Doveridge Player of the Week Tommy - Doveridge Player of the Week

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:

- Attendance at St. Peter's is particularly low for this last week and falls extremely short of our school target or national expectations. Please ensure that your child attends school every day unless they are clearly too unwell to attend. Don't forget, we can manage coughs, colds and headaches in school.

Talbot	St. Peter's
Class with best attendance: Miss Davies' class with 100% - WELL DONE! You get to look after Tiny Ted this next week!	Class with best attendance: Miss Vickers' Class with 94.6% You get to look after Tiny Ted this next week!
Whole School attendance this last week: 97.35% This exceeds our school target and meets national expectations of 96+% BRILLIANT- WELL DONE!	Whole School attendance this last week: 93.33% This does not meet our school target or meet national expectations.

<p>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.</p>	

I hope that you all enjoy a relaxing and peaceful weekend. Thank you for your continued support and interest in our schools - it is very much appreciated.

W.J. Farrington