

17th March 2023

Music of the Week: Spring by Vivaldi

Dear Parents/Carers

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

	Talbot	St. Peter's
Monday 20 th March	WRAP AROUND Care	WRAP AROUND Care Parents' Evening
Tuesday 21 st March	WRAP AROUND Care	WRAP AROUND Care
Wednesday 22 nd March	WRAP AROUND Care	WRAP AROUND Care Parents' Evening
Thursday 23 rd March	WRAP AROUND Care	WRAP AROUND Care
Friday 24 th March	WRAP AROUND Care (AM) Maple visit to Creswell Craggs	WRAP AROUND Care Birch visit to Creswell Craggs

Key dates for your diary

	Talbot	St. Peter's
Tuesday 28 th March		EASTER HAT PARADE AND EGG HUNT!
Thursday 30 th March	GREEN TREAT EASTER HAT PARADE around the village at 2.30pm	GREEN TREAT
Friday 31 st March	Easter Celebration at 9.15am in the school hall TSA Cake Sale	EASTER celebration Service at 2pm in the church
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.

STAFFING UPDATE

Mr. Kitching remains absent from school. I will continue to lead the school in his absence, supported by Miss Beynon. Mrs. Holden also remains absent from school.

A big thank you to ALL the staff at both sites for going the extra mile to ensure that our schools run smoothly without any interruption to learning.

- It was SO lovely to see so many mums and nans at our special Mothers' Day Assemblies today. It is always touching to hear children talk about why they love their mum and I think that there was more than one reaching for a tissue today! Thank you for coming along and supporting our children for this special tribute. I hope that you all have a very special weekend and get totally spoilt!
- Please note that ESSENTIAL WORK will be taking place in the Talbot school office next Friday, 24th March. Telephone calls will be answered as usual but there may well be a delay in responding to emails. If you need a quicker response, it may well be better to phone rather than email on that day.

EXCITING NEWS!

We are holding a **TIE YOUR SHOE LACES** competition on the last Thursday of this term! Anyone who can tie their shoe laces without any adult support will earn themselves 5 Dojos!

- You will see from the key dates that our next **GREEN TREAT** has been scheduled! I hope that everyone will have banked enough **Green Power Points** to access the treat!
- **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 the last 30 minutes 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.
- Just a reminder that our **Wrap Around Care** at TFS is still running on the reduced hours opening at 8am in the morning and closing at 5pm at night. Don't forget - there is no **Care Club** on a Friday evening.
- **PARKING** outside school can often be an issue and on the worst days can cause a serious health and safety issue, particularly outside the St. Peter's site.
PLEASE park responsibly to safeguard our children and grown-ups.
- **READING AT HOME** - Please try to read with your child every day. When you read with your child, please write in the reading diary or for the older children, support them in writing in the diary themselves. Please ensure that your child's reading book and diary is in school every day please.

SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT UPDATE

A **HUGE** amount of work is currently being done to bring about the necessary improvements to our **CURRICULUM**. Miss Vickers, our Curriculum Lead is working alongside Miss Beynon, Miss Allen and Miss Davies to ensure a progressive, challenging curriculum that is relevant and interesting to all of our children. A special **SHOUT OUT** to Miss Vickers for all the additional hours that she is giving to this key issue.

- It was lovely to see so many parents this week at Talbot's Parents' Evening. I hope that you found it worthwhile to come along and discuss your child's progress and next steps. You will see from the key dates that next Monday and Wednesday, we are holding Parents' Evening at the St. Peter's site. THANK YOU to everyone who has already made an appointment. 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. Mrs. Cox, our Chair of Governors will be available on Monday evening should you wish to catch up with her.
- We are currently introducing SHOUT OUT boards in our Staff Rooms so that we can acknowledge when staff deserve that special mention. If you ever feel that a member of staff who works with your child deserves a SHOUT OUT, drop me an email or let the School Office know and I will add your contribution to our boards!
- A reminder from Miss Davies that TAPESTRY is still running for the younger children in her class so don't forget to log on and find out what your little one is up to at school!
- Next Friday, 24th March, Maple and Birch Classes are going on a learning trip to Creswell Crags. Children will be picked up at **7.45am** at Talbot and **8am** at St. Peter's. **Please ensure that your child arrives in school in good time for their pick up as it will not be possible to delay the coach.** At the moment, the weather forecast is rain! Please send your child to school in the agreed school uniform from the waist upwards, joggers or similar, sensible shoes (not wellingtons) and a waterproof coat. **If you would like your child to have a packed lunch from school, this will need to be ordered no later than next Monday, 20th March.**
- 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.



DON'T FORGET to start getting creative with your **EASTER HAT!** I'm looking forward to seeing them all at the end of term. See Dojo message for more details!

- Miss Allen's **TIMESTABLES** club runs 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 ensure that drinking bottles only contain WATER and that snacks are healthy and NUT FREE.
- This week's music is *Spring* by Vivaldi. 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 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!

Achievement certificates were awarded in class today because of our special Mothers' Day Assembly. I have saved any out of school achievements for next week's Friday assembly so that the whole school can celebrate them together. My ROLL OF HONOUR for achieving a certificate this week is as follows:

Talbot	St. Peter's
Maths - William, Leo English - Elijah, Molly STAR of the Week - Ivy, Ellie Golden Certificate- Charlie, Xander	Maths - Georgia, Amelia English - Lucy, Will STAR of the Week - Fred, Bobby Golden Certificate - Sam, Floss
A huge THANK YOU to TSA at Talbot for sponsoring our fabulous new achievement certificates. It is much appreciated!	

WELL DONE to all these children!

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 both sites this last week was particularly disappointing 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. An OFSTED overall school judgement would be seriously affected by such low attendance. Don't forget, we can manage coughs, colds and headaches in school!

Talbot	St. Peter's
Class with best attendance: Miss Allen's class with 89.12% You get to look after Tiny Ted this next week! This does not meet our school target or meet national expectations.	Class with best attendance: Miss Vickers' class with 93.1% You get to look after Tiny Ted this next week! This does not meet our school target or meet national expectations.
Whole School attendance this last week: 88.6% This does not meet our school target or meet national expectations.	Whole School attendance this last week: 91.70% 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 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