

31st March 2023

Dear Parents/Carers

We've made it through an extremely busy but happy term! The children have given us their very best and the staff have been working non-stop to address key issues left by the last OFSTED inspections and to make sure that your children are getting the very best from us!

Don't forget that school is CLOSED to children on Monday 17th April while Staff complete essential training.

Key dates for your diary

	Talbot	St. Peter's
Monday 3rd April - Friday 14th 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
Friday 5 th May	Coronation Celebration!	Coronation Celebration!
W/C 8 th /15 th May	Statutory Year 2 SATS	Statutory Year 2 SATS
Thursday 18 th May	Year 4 visit to Oldfields	Year 4 visit to Oldfields
W/C 22 nd May	Year 4 Whitemoor Lakes	Year 4 Whitemoor Lakes
W/C 5 th June - 16 th June	Statutory Year 4 Multiplication Tables Check	Statutory Year 4 Multiplication Tables Check
W/C 12 th June	Statutory Year 1 Phonics Check	Statutory Year 1 Phonics Check

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.

Our Chair of Governors Mrs Cox would like to say a huge thank you to the St Peter's children and staff for working with her on the children's thoughts about life in school and the qualities that they would like to have when they are adults. She would also like to say a huge thank you to her helpers from FOMS and hopes that we can start to get to work on some of the children's wishes over the next term. The children were very sensible and came up with some fantastic suggestions and she hopes that they enjoyed sharing their ideas!

- THANK YOU for all the WONDERFUL Easter hat creations that flooded into our schools this week! Such a lot of time had been spent at home and we really appreciated it. Thank you to Mrs. Cotterill and Miss Lawton for organising the Easter Hat Parade at St. Peter's. Unfortunately the weather let us down at Talbot yesterday and we all ended up feeling quite soggy but the laughs and smiles never stopped for the entire parade! THANK YOU to the TSA for organising the parade and for raising £74 - I think people must have felt sorry for us!
- We have enjoyed two wonderful Easter assemblies today and it was brilliant to see so many grown-ups who had come to join us. Thank you to Rev. Jules for extending a welcome to us as always and for leading our Easter service.
- If you require School to administer medicine to your child, please ensure that you have completed the necessary paperwork and that the medicine is handed **directly in to the School Office**. Don't forget - we can only administer prescription medicine.
- Please remember, if you need someone other than the usual named person(s) to pick up your child, we will need a PASSWORD (and a photograph if possible) before we will be able to hand over your child

- This week, our second GREEN TREAT took place and we were packed to the rafters! So many more children had managed to bank sufficient POWER POINTS to gain access to the special treat. WELL DONE EVERYONE!
- The Staff SHOUT-OUTS keep rolling in and these are making the staff feel really appreciated. Thank you to everyone who has already sent me their appreciation of our wonderful staff. I would like to give a massive SHOUT-OUT to ALL the staff in both schools for working incredibly hard during this term. It was a low starting point in January and SO much has been achieved to make our schools a better place for your children.
- THANK YOU to everyone who supported the TSA and FOMS CAKE SALES today. All the money that is raised by FOMS and the TSA goes directly to your children and all their time is given freely. We really appreciate your involvement in school life.
- Another big THANK YOU to Mrs. Powell for kindly donating the eggs for the Easter Hat Parade at St. Peter's.

STAFFING UPDATE

Mr. Kitching remains absent from school. I will continue to lead the school in his absence, supported by Miss Beynon, Miss Vickers and all the support staff. Mrs. Holden remains absent from school. I am delighted to be able to tell you that Miss Davies has agreed to stay with us until the end of the Summer term to ensure that we maintain the continuity and consistency that she has brought to the class. A huge THANK YOU to Miss Davies for her commitment to our school. Unfortunately due her availability, Miss Wright will be unable to continue to cover Miss Beynon's school improvement time on a Monday and Tuesday morning after the Easter break. Miss Burns who is already known to the children will be taking over from Miss Wright after the Easter break. Miss Burns is an extremely experienced teacher and I know that you will welcome her into our Federation.

I would like to thank our regular Agency Staff who support our schools on a weekly basis in order to provide cover in classes whilst essential school improvement work is being carried out by Teachers.

EXCITING NEWS!

ATTENDANCE at both schools this last week was FANTASTIC. Both schools more than met our school target of 96%. A huge THANK YOU to everyone for this achievement. I am sending out your child's latest attendance report today. The attendance figure quoted is your child's attendance from September up until

Wednesday of this week. It is amazing to see so many children achieving attendance of 96+%

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.

- **READING AT HOME** - Please try to continue reading with your child during the Easter holiday. 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.
- Please use the Easter holiday to make sure that your child's school uniform is meeting the expectations of our Federation. Check each item of clothing to ensure that it is named.
- **OFFICE HOURS** are 8am - 4pm. Staff are always happy for you to drop them an email or DOJO message 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 message 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. **PLEASE NOTE that during the Easter holiday, no messages will be picked up until the first Monday back.**
- Please ensure that drinking bottles only contain WATER. Please do not send expensive water bottles into school because inevitably they do occasionally get broken. Please ensure that snacks are healthy and NUT FREE.

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!

This week's EASTER DOUBLE ROLL OF HONOUR is as follows:

Talbot	St. Peter's
Maths - Noah, Ben, Violet, Xander English - Tegan, Pippa, Harry, Miya STAR of the Week - Kyryl, Elijah, Jack, George Golden Certificate - Zac, Harry, James, Emily	Maths -Niamh, Eliza English - Sam, Archie STAR of the Week - Ruby, Bobby Golden Certificate - Scarlett, Jack Head Teacher Award - Nancy, Orla
A huge THANK YOU to TSA at TFS for sponsoring our fabulous new achievement certificates. It is much appreciated!	

WELL DONE to all these children!

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
Kyryl for Grade 1 Skating award William for Level 1 Swimming Harry for Duckling 1 Swimming Zac for a Puffin Swimming Award Pippa for achieving her Explorer's Pass Ben for Duckling 3 Swimming Miya for Stage 6 Swimming Lola for achieving 4 Brownie badges Jasper for achieving a Cubs Medic badge	Leah, Florence, Harriet - All Star Gymnast: hard working during class Alfie - GKR Karate: Student of the week! Lucia - Rainbow Distance 5m, Learn to Swim Stage 2, Duckling 3 and 4 Freddie - Duckling 4, Learn to Swim Stage 2, Rainbow Distance 5m

FOMS and TSA work really hard to raise money in order to provide additional experiences for our children. For example, they funded the coach cost for our recent out of school experience to Creswell Craggs. 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 this last week is FANTASTIC! Thank you everyone for working together on this.

Talbot	St. Peter's
Class with best attendance: Miss Allen's Class with 98.6% WELL DONE! This meets our school target and meets national expectations! You get to look after Tiny Ted in the first week back!	Class with best attendance: Miss Beynon's Class with 100% WELL DONE! This meets our school target and meets national expectations! You get to look after Tiny Ted in the first week back!
Whole School attendance this last week: 97.94% WELL DONE! This meets our school target and meets national expectations!	Whole School attendance this last week: 99.57% WELL DONE! This meets our school target and meets 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 Easter break. It has been a busy term and so much has been achieved with your help. Thank you for your continued support and interest in our schools - it is very much appreciated.

W.J. Farrington