

28th April 2023

Music of the Week: Pomp and Circumstance by Elgar

Dear Parents/Carers

We are approaching a VERY busy time of year with statutory testing taking place this term alongside all the usual summer term events. Our diary is now planned to the end of the summer term and so you will see that I have added several key dates for your diaries!

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

	Talbot	St. Peter's
Monday 1 st May	MAY DAY HOLIDAY	MAY DAY HOLIDAY
Tuesday 2 nd May	WRAP AROUND Care	WRAP AROUND Care Bikeability 9.30am - 1.30pm
Wednesday 3 rd May	WRAP AROUND Care	WRAP AROUND Care
Thursday 4 th May	WRAP AROUND Care	WRAP AROUND Care
Friday 5 th May	WRAP AROUND Care (AM) Coronation Garden party 2pm	WRAP AROUND Care Coronation Teddy Bears Picnic 2pm

Key dates for your diary

	Talbot	St. Peter's
Monday 8 th May	BANK HOLIDAY	BANK HOLIDAY
W/C 9 th - 19 th May	Statutory Year 2 SATS	Statutory Year 2 SATS
Thursday 18 th May	Year 4 visit to Oldfields	Year 4 visit to Oldfields
22 nd /23 rd May	Year 4 residential to Whitemoor Lakes	Year 4 residential to Whitemoor Lakes
Monday 5 th June		Faith Trail R- Y4

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 SHINE ASSESSMENT WEEK	Statutory Year 1 Phonics Check SHINE ASSESSMENT WEEK
Friday 16 th June		FOMS - Doughnuts for Dads
Friday 30 th June		FOMS - Make the Rules day!
Friday 14 th July	End of Year Celebration Assembly 9.15am REPORTS out to Parents	End of Year Celebration Assembly REPORTS out to Parents
Tuesday 24 th July	End of Term	End of Term

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.
- 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.
- THANK YOU to everyone who has already sent me SHOUT-OUTS in appreciation of our wonderful staff. The staff are delighted and feel really appreciated!

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 staff.

I am delighted to inform you that Mrs. Holden started back yesterday and will be on a phased return until after half term. Miss Davies and her team will continue to teach our younger class whilst Mrs. Holden works out of the classroom on school improvement linked to our OFSTED key issues. Please do not email Mrs. Holden with any school issues at this point.

EXCITING NEWS!

THANK YOU to everyone who managed to complete our recent PE questionnaire. We have looked at your responses and thought hard about how we can make improvements and raise the status of PHYSICAL EDUCATION within our schools. Amongst the responses was a wish to do more sport! With this in mind, we have teamed up with an additional sports provider - ASM. We are currently working with them to plan additional after school clubs, sports days and exciting enrichment days! Watch this space for further details!

- 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.
- 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.

FOR THE ATTENTION OF PARENTS of NURSERY-AGED CHILDREN

As you will be aware, there is always a short-fall in Nursery funding during the Spring and Summer terms of each year. This short-fall equates to one week during each of the two terms which is not funded. Parents/Carers are given the option of paying for one week for each term or choosing to keep their little one out of Nursery for one week.

The shortfall week for the summer term will be the last FULL week before the end of the school year ie. W/C 17th July 2023
Please let the School Office know how you intend to manage the shortfall.

- 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.
- 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. 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.
- We are busy preparing for the Coronation and with this in mind, this week's music is *Pomp and Circumstance* composed by Elgar. There are great videos available on YouTube where you will be able to see orchestras playing this piece so find your flag and get ready to wave! There's a Dojo waiting for anyone who can find out one fact about the music or the composer!

SCHOOL STAFFING VACANCIES

In January last year, the Federation made the decision to recruit for an Administration Assistant to support our Office Manager across both sites. Initially, this role was appointed on a fixed term contract. The Federation has now made the decision to make

this role a permanent position within our staffing structure and therefore the job will be re-advertised as such. You will find this advert on WMJobs and the school website.

There is a DOUBLE ROLL OF HONOUR this week as my newsletter never made it out to print last week! This week's certificate winners are as follows:

Talbot	St. Peter's
Maths - Ellie, Emily English - Jack, Liam STAR of the Week - Kyle, Jasper Golden Certificate - Sam, Max	Maths - Cal, Vivienne, Lucy, Bella English - Ava, Tommy, Ruby, Ronnie, Laila STAR of the Week - Toby, Florence, Lauren, Oliver Golden Certificate - Clara, Olivia, Florence, Bobby Head Teacher Award -
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
	Alfie - Junior Student of the Week in GKR Karate Teddy - First Class! Certificate in GKR Karate Scarlett - Healthy Mind interest badge Laila - Gymnast of the week, Poetry Award Florence - Swimming level 4 and 20m Elsie - Swimming level 7 bronze award and 200m James - Swimming 25m, Player of the Match Sam - Swimming 25m

FOMS and TSA work really hard to raise money in order to provide additional experiences for our children and are currently planning an exciting day to celebrate the Coronation of King Charles! 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 at St. Peter's was great - thank you everyone for pulling together to achieve this.

Talbot	St. Peter's
Class with best attendance: Both classes achieved 95.2% This does not meet our school target or meet national expectations	Class with best attendance: Miss Vickers' Class with 98.1% WELL DONE! This meets our school target and meets national expectations! You get to look after Tiny Ted this next week!
Whole School attendance this last week: 94.12% This does not meet our school target or meet national expectations	Whole School attendance this last week: 98.14% 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. Please remember - because we are small schools, a week's holiday from one child is sufficient to take the school below national expectation. Where unapproved holidays are taken during term time, it is likely that a PENALTY NOTICE will now be issued.	

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

W.J. Farrington