

22nd March 2024

Dear Parents/Carers

We've made it to the end of the spring term! The sun is shining and I'm sure that I saw an Easter bunny or two hopping into the hedgerow!

Lots of dates have crept into our school diary so be sure to keep up to speed with a very busy summer term!

Key dates for your diary

	Talbot	St. Peter's
W/C 25 th March	Easter Holiday	Easter Holiday
8 th April 2024	INSET - School Closed	INSET - School Closed
9 th April	BACK TO SCHOOL	BACK TO SCHOOL
15 th April		FOMS - Rags to Riches
19 th April		FOMS - EG Meeting
25 th April	YEAR 4 transition to OLDFIELDS for the day	YEAR 4 transition to OLDFIELDS for the day
2 nd May	TSA Film Evening	
6 th May	MAY DAY	MAY DAY
14 th May	Tempest class photographs	
15 th May	WHITEMOOR LAKES	WHITEMOOR LAKES
16 th May	WHITEMOOR LAKES	ASM Sport Enrichment Day
17 th May	WHITEMOOR LAKES ASM Sport Enrichment Day	WHITEMOOR LAKES
21 st May	INSPIRE Trip for Years 3 and 4	INSPIRE Trip for Years 3 and 4
W/C 27 th May	HALF TERM	HALF TERM
W/c 3 rd June	Multiplication Tables Check for Year 4	Multiplication Tables Check for Year 4
7 th June		Tempest class photographs
20 th June	Summer Solstice Sounds	Summer Solstice Sounds
21 st June	TSA sponsored walk ASM Sport Enrichment Day	

24 th June		ASM Sport Enrichment Day
3 rd July	YEAR 4 transition day to OLDFIELDS Transition Day for Years N-3	Year 4 Transition day to OLDFIELDS Transition Day for Years N-3
5 th July	REPORTS sent home	REPORTS sent home
12 th July	Leaver's assembly at 9.15am	Leaver's Assembly at 2pm
19 th July	END OF TERM	END OF TERM
22 nd July 2024	INSET - School Closed	INSET - School Closed

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 and Mrs. Delaney-Lewis manage 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.
- Please note that OFFICE HOURS are 8am - 4pm. Just a reminder that no messages will be read outside of these hours. **Please also email the OFFICE EMAIL for WAC bookings and emergencies and not Dojo as the office email is the only place that both Mrs. Hill and Mrs. Delaney-Lewis can access the same message.**

WE HAVE CELEBRATED THE FOLLOWING BIRTHDAYS THIS LAST TWO WEEKS!

Pippa and Ronnie

We hope that you really enjoyed your birthday on Thursday!

The date for our academisation has been delayed by the DfE until 1st May. We will keep you informed of any further developments.

- The Easter hats at both sites were absolutely FANTASTIC!! Thank you so much for all the time that went in at home to produce such amazing creations!!!
THANK YOU also to the TSA for organising a lovely Easter bonnet parade through the village this afternoon - PERFECT weather (unlike last year!) and for the Easter tombola after school - I hope that you were lucky!
- We are very much hoping to launch our Peter Pan Playgroup at St. Peter's early into the summer term so WATCH THIS SPACE! Meetings have been taking place and everything is lining up very nicely. The playgroup are currently very short of toys appropriate for this age group so if you are doing any spring cleaning this Easter and find any toys that are no longer needed, the playgroup will gratefully receive them!
- We are still hoping to find two new Play Leaders to run our TALBOT TODDLER group from April onwards. As this group is now thriving, we are really keen to keep it going. If there is anyone who is interested in volunteering to run/help out at the playgroup, it runs from 9am til 11am (term time only) on a Wednesday morning in the school hall. Please speak to myself or the Office Staff to express your interest!
- We have got a number of under 1s who attend our TALBOT TODDLERS but we are really short of toys that are suitable for this age range. If you have got any toys that are suitable for UNDER 1s that you would like to donate, they would be gratefully received!
- The after school club activities at Talbot after the Easter break will be as follows:

Monday	Gardening
Tuesday	Choir
Wednesday	Multi Sports
Thursday	Gardening

For those that have already booked Wraparound Care, there is no need to book into these clubs as they form part of our Wraparound Care. If you have not already booked in and would like your child to take part in these clubs then book in the usual way via the school office. **Don't forget - under the new WAC terms and conditions, there will be a charge applied for late bookings.**

- Don't forget that the price of a school meal is increasing after the Easter break. The meal price from April 2024 will increase from £2.83p to £2.95p per meal.

Don't forget, under our new DEBT POLICY, your services may be suspended if you have an outstanding balance with no payment plan in place to clear the debt.

- The warmer weather is creeping in and we will soon be in the summer term. Please ensure that your child comes to school each day with their water bottle. Water bottles are kept in the classroom and the children are able to freely access them as they wish.
- After the Easter break, children are invited to change over into summer uniform should they wish to do so. Please ensure that your child's summer uniform is in line with our uniform guidance on the school website. Also, during the break, please check all items of uniform and make sure that they are clearly named - this is the time of year when jumpers and cardigans start to come off and can easily become lost if the item isn't named.

STAFFING UPDATE

Last week we said 'Good-bye' to Mrs. Langridge at St. Peter's. Mrs. Langridge came to us from a supply agency to fill a staffing gap. We are delighted for her that she has now managed to secure a permanent position in a school.

Mrs. Holden remains absent from school. Miss Davies and Mrs. Dwyer will continue to cover the class supported by Mr. Morgan and Mrs. Fowler.

- After the Easter break, we will be reviewing our HOMEWORK policy. We will inform you of the changes after the review has taken place.

PLEASE REMEMBER that we are a NUT-FREE SCHOOL. Nut products coming into school poses a real risk to the children that we have who suffer from NUT ALLERGIES. Please check that any food sent into school adheres to our NUT-FREE policy.

- **PLEASE REMEMBER - 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 at least 6 weeks and this will result in them having to miss at least 12 PE lessons. In the same way, in line with our uniform policy, hair must be tied back and no jewellery is permitted with the exception of PLAIN STUD earrings.**

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. Reading every day makes a REAL DIFFERENCE!

I have set a target for the children that they read at home AT LEAST THREE TIMES A WEEK. This can be any form of reading! Diaries will be checked each Friday to monitor home reading.



This week is a **DOUBLE ROLL OF HONOUR** for certificate winners rolled over from last week:

<u>The Woodlands Federation Certificate Winners</u>				
Certificate:	Talbot:		St Peter's:	
Pen Licence				
Presentation Award	Willow:	Ivy,	Ash:	Lauren B
	Maple:		Birch:	
Maths Award:	Willow:	Freddie, Noah	Ash:	Oliver, Ronnie
	Maple:	Kyryl, Jack	Birch:	James N, Huxley
English Award:	Willow:	Zac, Tegan	Ash:	Ronnie, Eva
	Maple:	Max, Rubie	Birch:	Olivia, Jenson

Star of the week:	Willow:	Indie, Charlie	Ash:	Freddie, Niamh
	Maple:	Harry, Ellie	Birch:	Oliver, Jack
Golden rules/value award:	Willow:	Olivia, Isabella	Ash:	Hugo, Oliver
	Maple:	Lola, Jasper	Birch:	Archie, Ava
Headteacher award:	Willow:	Ivy,	Ash:	Arthur, Bonnie
	Maple:	George	Birch:	Huxley, Jack
Out of School Achievements:				
Talbot:		St Peter's:		
Lola: Brownie Badges - Take Action, Make Change and Speaking Out Mia - Taking part today in Young Stars ice-skating competition				

WELL DONE to all these children!

ATTENDANCE THIS LAST WEEK:

Talbot	St. Peter's
Class with best attendance: Miss Allen's class with 93.8% This falls short of our school target and does not meet national expectations.	Class with best attendance: - Miss Beynon's class with 98% WELL DONE! This meets our school target and meets national expectations!
	You get to share Tiny Ted this next week!
Whole School attendance this last week: 92.7%	Whole School attendance this last week: 97.6%

This falls short of our school target and does not meet national expectations.

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.**

GET INTO SCHOOL ON TIME AND BEAT THE LATE GATE!

Some interesting facts:

Being 5 minutes late every day for a year adds up to the equivalent of 3 days missed.

Being 10 minutes late every day for a year adds up to the equivalent of 6 days missed.

REMEMBER – Being late can:

Cause embarrassment for your child.

Make it harder for them to settle.

Cause disruption to the class.

On behalf of all the staff and myself, I would like to thank you for all your support during this term and wish you a very happy and relaxing Easter break.

W.J. Farrington