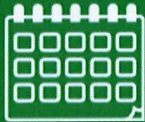




Dates for Your

DIARY



Friday 26th May

Last day of school

Monday 5th June

First day back at school

w/b Monday 12th June

Y1 Phonics screening week

Friday 30th June

PD day—school closed to pupils

Saturday 8th July

Community outdoor develop-
ment day

Friday 14th July

Summer Fair

Friday 21st July

Last day of school

NEWSLETTER

A message from the

PRINCIPAL



Dear Parents/Carers,

The focus for this month has been our end of year assessments. We started with our Year 6 SATs week. The children approached the week with a 'can do' attitude and impressed us all with their determination. You may have seen the coverage about these tests in the news and the difficulty of them, particularly the reading paper. While assessments are important, they are only a snapshot in time and measure a limited amount. As well as being good readers, writers and mathematicians we want our children to leave us ready for the next stage in their learning. The tests do not measure artistic, musical or sporting ability; neither do they measure a pupil's character. Year 6 are now busy completing their writing assessments as well as preparing for their end of term show and transition to secondary school.

There are currently assessments for Year 2 and upcoming assessments for Year 1, and some Year 2s, in phonics and Year 4 in their times tables. I am sure all of these children will show determination and resilience as they embrace the opportunity to show what they have learnt.

In this newsletter you will find out about all the other amazing things that have been taking place this half term, including the King's Coronation celebration and the Year 6 trip to Duxford.

Have a lovely half term.

*Naomi
Brown
Principal*





Safeguarding

This time of year the PSHE topics are around relationships and how our body changes. These topics are covered in our Jigsaw lessons and are taught at an age appropriate level.

In all year groups we discuss the term consent and what it means. Consent is when we seek permission for something to happen or make an agreement to do something. It requires respect and communication from people involved and is an important concept for children to learn about from a young age. Consent includes knowledge about, and respect for, their own and others' boundaries.

This is something that is taught across the curriculum from Reception to Year 6. If a child understands the concept of consent, they will be more likely to have the skills to remove themselves from situations where they feel uncomfortable and respect when others want to do the same. Understanding consent is the basis for understanding sexual consent later in life.

If your child wants to talk about these topics, it is best to try to find a good time to start a conversation. Pick a time when your child's relaxed and when there aren't other people in your family around. It can help to make the conversation relevant to something that's happened recently. For example, if you've been watching a TV series or film where one of the characters is in a relationship. Try not to rush the conversation and let your child talk to you in their own time.

We also teach that children need to respect their own and each others bodies. This is covered in the PSHE curriculum and we also use the NSPCC Pantosaurus video and material. These can be found at [https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-](https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/support-for-parents/pants-underwear-rule/)

[children-safe/support-for-parents/pants-underwear-rule/](https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/support-for-parents/pants-underwear-rule/)



Sporting News

On the 27th April, 8 Year 6 children took part in an Orienteering event at MCA run by the Forest Heath Sports Partnership.

The children were in Teams of 4 and ran the course in pairs. Using a map of the school grounds the children had to find 20 hidden stations and mark them correctly on a score card. Once completed the pairs had to run back to the base and their time recorded.

All the children performed brilliantly and had fun trying to find the stations as some had been hidden quite well.

Team A came a very credible 11th out of 15 teams.

Team B ran well and finished in second place just behind St Louis. They participated in the county finals at Haughley Park on the 25th May. We await to see how well they have done.



Netball

On the 24th May, 18 Year 5 children took part in a netball tournament held at Great Heath.

The children were divided into two mixed teams of 9 children with 5 children on court at a time. The children had to rotate positions each half and at the start of each game.

It was a great spectacle with some fantastic standard of netball played by all teams.

Both teams played well and Team A managed to finish a brilliant third and receive bronze

Future Sporting Events

Thursday 8th June - U11 Mixed Cricket Tournament at Mildenhall Cricket Club

Thursday 15th June - U11 Girls Cricket Tournament at Chippenham Cricket Club

Tuesday 20th June - Years 4, 5 and 6 sports' day

Thursday 22nd June - Years 1, 2 and 3 sports' day

Attendance

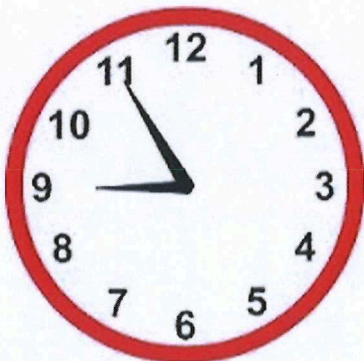
Below you will see our current attendance for this half term. Well done to Year 5 and Year 6 for being at 96%. We have 3 classes who are above 97%. Well done to Hercules, Spitfire and Typhoon classes for achieving this.

Whole School	95.4%
Reception	92.4%
Year 1	94.2%
Year 2	95.9%
Year 3	95.5%
Year 4	95.0%
Year 5	96.0%
Year 6	96.0%

We are experiencing a number of parents requesting time off for children in term time. This must always be requested in advance via the school office. Term time absence is rarely authorised and should be avoided as it can incur a fine.

Lates

Our late arrivals to school this half term was 0.7%. Please remember that the learning starts at 8.55am and children need to be in class at this point.



Quick reminders

Car park

Please do not block the entrance to the staff car park or the entrance to the new disabled bays (towards Nursery).

Please note that the car park is a no smoking area and parents must not smoke or vape in the car-park.

Wilder Schools Project

Work for our project has started with a fantastic log circle of seats. Please do not let children climb on these. More will be added over the coming weeks—please ensure children avoid playing on the area.

Uniform

Thank you to those who are wearing the correct uniform. We have quite a few children who do not wear ties—ties are part of the uniform for children from Y1—Y6. Please ensure your child wears their tie. Uniform for Nursery will become compulsory in September.

Parent Governor Vacancy

We still have vacancies for Parent Governors. This is a fantastic opportunity to really be involved in making the school even better. If you would like to find out more please pop into the office for an informal chat and application pack. You don't need a background in education—you just need to care about our school and want to make a difference for our pupils.

Y6 trip to Duxford

On Wednesday 24th May the Year 6 children visited Duxford as part of their topic work. As part of the day they were documentary makers. Here are some of the things the children have said:



Molly: "It was a great experience being able to see everything so close. It has made me more interested in planes."

Izzy: "It was amazing speaking to Robert and finding out what it was actually like being alive in World War 2"

Kacey: "It was so much fun making the video documentaries. It was also interesting - I found out that the Blackbird in the American Hangar was the only one to be found outside of the USA"

Gracie: "Listening to the radio communications in the Operations Block felt like we were really there during the Battle of Britain"



GRE-officeadmin@attrust.org.uk



01638 713430



greateathacademy.attrust.org.uk



@GreatHeathAcad



Girton Close, Mildenhall, Suffolk, IP28 7PT

The King's Coronation

On Friday 5th May, we celebrated the King's Coronation. We all dressed in red, white and blue and the kitchen provided a special school dinner. In the afternoon we joined together in the school hall, wearing our crowns we had made, and the choir performed some Coronation songs before we all sang the National Anthem. Our plan to have a tea party on the field was abandoned due to the rain, so all children enjoyed their biscuits and cakes in their classrooms. Thank you parents for your support with the day.



Great Heath Newsletter

May 2023 | 4