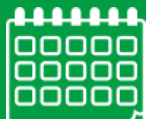




NEWSLETTER

Dates for Your

DIARY



Tuesday 19th December

Christmas party day

Wednesday 20th December

Last Day of School

Wednesday 3rd January

Return to school

Friday 9th February

PD day—school closed to pupils

Friday 16th February

Last Day at school

A message from the

PRINCIPAL



Dear Parents/Carers,

This half term we have launched the changes to our behaviour system with the introduction of GREAT points. These are similar to Dojo points but the children are able to earn more points for certain things. We have been focusing on ensuring we have the correct uniform to make us 'ready' for our learning. The children are looking smart and showing pride in their uniform—please see page 2 for further information including our expectations for footwear.

This half term we had our annual Anti-Bullying week, where the children learnt to 'make a noise' about bullying and we also supported Children in Need and the Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal.

The beginning of November saw our Year 6 Ambassadors represent the school in the Mildenhall Remembrance Parade. Our Ambassadors are voted in by pupils and staff. The children looked incredibly smart and were excellent ambassadors for the school. Well done to Sapphire and Jolon who laid the wreath during the service.

We are now into the run up to Christmas. The children have made decorations for St Mary's Church Stars and Angels Festival as well as for the school tree and we had a successful Christmas Fair organised by our PTA. This week we have enjoyed our performances from Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 and Christmas dinner.

Naomi Brown

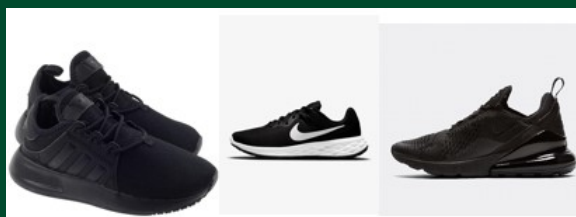
Principal



Quick reminders

Uniform

A huge thank you to everyone for supporting with getting children in the correct uniform. Our uniform states that children need school shoes and not trainers. Please see below for school shoes that we do allow. Trainers are not suitable, especially in winter months, as children's feet can get cold and wet when on the field if shoes are made of soft material. Please ensure that when you next purchase shoes for school they are appropriate and not trainers.



Safeguarding



Anti-Bullying Week

Last month contained Anti-Bullying Week and we have been learning about what bullying is and why it is important that we all speak out about it. The theme this year was 'Make a Noise' and we have learnt that anyone can make a stand against bullying. Children have learnt they can tell a trusted adult if they experience or witness bullying.

We have revisited the acronym STOP (Several Times On Purpose) to describe bullying and have also learnt that this can also stand for Start Telling Other People.

Parents can support by visiting this page: <https://anti-bullyingalliance.org.uk/tools-information/advice-and-support/advice-parents-and-carers>



Attendance

Attending school every day is vital in ensuring children get the best education. Our current attendance rate for the school is **95.1%**. Last half term we had 7 classes at 97% or higher. Well done to Eagle, Osprey and Lightning who had 98% attendance and Typhoon, Spitfire, Loganberry and Mango who had 97% attendance.

Being on time is also very important. Being late can mean children miss vital learning and the chance to start the day with their peers. **School starts at 8.45am and children need to be in class at that time.** Please allow sufficient time to walk to the classroom when arriving. **Please drop children in the main school before Nursery.** A huge thank you to those who are making it in on time.

If you need support with attendance or punctuality please contact the school to speak to a member of our Safeguarding and Pastoral team.

Please note the gate opposite the office will be the last to be locked so please use this if you are caught up on site talking to a member of staff.



Updates

Staffing

This half term we have welcomed Mrs Larner to our KS1 team.

Clubs

As you are aware we have been busy updating our club offer so that we are covering a range of different activities for all ages. So far this term we have had cricket, ball skills, football, art club, creative club, around the world club and seasonal art and craft.

We will shortly be sending out details of our club offer for the first half term in Spring.

My Child At School

You will have received a letter regarding signing up to our new app 'My Child At School'. This allows you to see the GREAT points that your child has been awarded as well as give you the ability to message your child's teacher. Over time we will introduce more features that can be used so please ensure you are set up on this app.

Dinner Money

Please ensure that debts are not accrued for dinners. These need to be paid for in advance.



Behaviour

This term we started using a new behaviour and reward system. The children have been busy collecting our new **GREAT** points for a range of good behaviour, for example:

Following the academy's rules of being safe, ready and respectful

Great homework

Working well in a team

Wearing correct uniform

Being kind

Being helpful

Being in school all week

Speaking well in class

Following the Great Heath Way

The children can be awarded 1 or 5 points by staff for showing these behaviours. When they reach 50 points they can select from the prize pot, which several children have already achieved this term. The prizes become bigger at 100 and then 150 and so on.

The teachers will shortly be selecting children in their class for our Bronze Behaviour award that rewards excellent behaviour for the whole term. This is worth 10 points to the children and a certificate in our end of term assembly.

Thank you to all parents that have managed to access the My Child at School app. We will be gradually using this more to communicate with you and send letters and information, allowing us to phase out the use of Parentmail. If you are still having problems please contact Mr Hicks.

Sporting News



On Wednesday 4th October 10 children from Year 6 competed in a football tournament at Great Heath. They played well, winning their group and progressing to the semi-final. They unfortunately narrowly lost this game on penalties but won the 3rd/4th play off to finish in Bronze position.

The next tournament was on Tuesday 10th October and Great Heath entered 2 teams of Year 4 children. They played well with a great deal of spirit, finishing 13th and 16th. The spirit and determination did not go unnoticed as they won the fair play award.

On Monday 16th October 10 Year 6 girls played in the next tournament at Great Heath. Again they played well and finished joint 2nd in their pool. Unfortunately the winners of the group only progressed to the semi-finals.

The last football tournament of the year was on Wednesday 18th October and 20 boys from Years 5 and 6 competed. Great Heath 2 finished 18th, having played well in their pool. However, Great Heath 1 finished 1st in their pool to progress to the semi-final, which they won and narrowly lost 1 0 in the final to Moulton, finishing in Silver position.



Great Heath Newsletter

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