

8th November 2024

Newsletter Number 709

Items for Action:

- Dates for the calendar

Items for Information:

- 2024-2025 Term Calendar dates
- Hogwarts Themed Lunch
- Diwali Assembly

Dear Parents and Carers

Welcome back - it has been a gloomy week weather-wise but bright and cheerful in school.

On Tuesday we had a lovely morning with the charity The School of Kindness who came into to talk to Years 1 to 6 about the power of being kind – even in the most challenging of times. The children created pieces of artwork or cards to share with someone about being kind and thanking others for their kindness, maybe you received one yourself. Kindness is one of the most important values to us at school and it was good to share this value again so positively across the whole school. Many thanks to Greig, who heads up the charity, for his time on Tuesday morning.

Diwali was celebrated on October 31st this year and Mr and Mrs Bandla came to school on Thursday where they held a whole school assembly for us on Diwali. The children learned the story of Diwali and then all the children held candles to represent that Diwali is the celebration of light and of good conquering evil. Everyone learned a lot and it was lovely to share the celebration as a whole school. Thank you to Mr and Mrs Bandla for your time and support.

Acorns and Conkers have had fabulous trips out to The Lookout this week. Exploring, discovering, constructing dens and climbing hills! They have all come back enthusiastic and excited about their adventures. Thank you to all the parent helpers who were able to support us on both trips.

Don't forget it is individual school photos on Tuesday next week and also Children In Need on Friday.

Have a lovely weekend and we look forward to seeing you on Monday.

Best wishes



Head Teacher

WINTER
WONDERLAND
**DONATION
APPEAL**



2024 – 2025 Term Calendar Dates

Tuesday	12/11/24	School Photos
Thursday	14/11/24	Yr 4 Willow Class Assembly
Monday	18/11/24	Yr 3 River and Rowing Museum Trip
Wednesday	27/11/24	Yr 4 Viking Day
Wednesday	27/11/24	Parents Evening (4-7PM)
Friday	29/11/24	Yr 3 Sycamore Class Assembly
Monday	02/12/24	Parents Evening (3.45-6.15PM)
Friday	06/12/24	KS1 Christmas Play dress rehearsal
Monday	09/12/24	KS1 Christmas Play PM
Tuesday	10/12/24	KS1 Christmas Play AM
Friday	20/12/24	Last day of Autumn Term 1PM close
SPRING TERM		
Monday	06/01/25	Inset Day
Tuesday	07/01/25	First day of Spring Term
Monday - Friday	17/02 – 21/02/25	Half Term
Monday	24/02/25	Inset Day
Friday	04/04/25	Last day of Spring Term 1PM close
SUMMER TERM		
Tuesday	22/04/25	First day of Summer Term
Monday	05/05/25	Bank Holiday (School Closed)
Friday	23/05/25	Inset Day
Monday - Friday	26/05 – 30/05/24	Half Term
Wednesday	23/07/25	Last day of Summer Term 1PM close





Weekly Birthdays

We wish the following children, a very happy birthday for this week:

**Hudson
Logan NH**



Diwali Assembly

Diwali celebrations at Farley Hill started with some visitors coming to tell us what Diwali was about. Thank you to the Bandla family for coming to tell us all about Diwali! Thanks for sharing the story of Rama and Sita and sharing the festival of light with us! Different year groups did a variety of different activities including acting out the story, making clay Diya lamps, making colourful Rangoli patterns, sharing in Bollywood dancing and made firework pictures. We celebrated Diwali in style and hope many of our Farley Hill family who celebrated over half term enjoyed it!



Hogwarts Themed Lunch

Our school hall was converted into the magical world of Hogwarts for our themed lunch at the end of last term. The children had a wonderful time and lots of wizardry fun was had by all!



Disabled Parking Bays

A polite reminder that disabled parking bays are for parents, grandparents and visitors who require these specific bays. Please do not park in these bays unless you are a blue badge holder. The disabled bays have designated space around the parking bay to allow for easier access. Please also consider that there are a wide range of impairments or conditions not necessarily visible to others, please be considerate and respect others.



Leave of Absence Forms

If your child requires time off school for any medical appointment, please ensure that you complete a Leave of Absence form which can be obtained from our website or paper copy from the Office Reception.

Sickness

Please be aware that if your child has been sick (vomited) or had an upset tummy (diarrhoea) they cannot return to school until 48 hours have passed since the last bout of illness.

Please see NHS guidelines here:

<https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/>

This Weeks Awards

Unicorn Awards			Values Leaf Awards		
Acorns Class	R	Acorns	Oliver	R	Acorns
Conkers Class	R	Conkers		R	Conkers
Reeva	1	Holly	Ava	1	Holly
Bethany	1	Silver Birch	Gabriel	1	Silver Birch
Daniel	2	Aspen	Jack	2	Aspen
Francesca	2	Maple	Daisy	2	Maple
Freddie	3	Sycamore	Teddie	3	Sycamore
Jaxon	4	Willow	Annabelle	4	Willow
Cherry	5	Beech	Jessica	5	Beech
Emily	6	Oak	Nathan	6	Oak

Individual School Photographs – Tuesday 12th November

The school photographer will be visiting us at school on Tuesday.

Individual and Siblings: All individual children and siblings (in school) will be photographed during the school day.

All children will be photographed in full school uniform, wearing school jumpers or cardigans, with white collared shirts and ties, except Reception Classes, who wear polo shirts.



Attendance

In the Government's document 'Working together to Improve Attendance' it states: 'All schools have a continuing responsibility to proactively manage and improve attendance across their school community. Attendance is the essential foundation to positive outcomes for all pupils. This is why we continue to set expectations about attendance levels for our children. **However, we work with all families, and especially those with children who have SEN or medical needs, to support them with any attendance concerns regarding their children. Please don't hesitate to get in touch if support would be helpful.**

0 Days missed. BEST chance of success.	100%	Outstanding
4 School days missed in an academic year.	98%	Very good
7 School days missed in an academic year.	96%	Good
10 School days missed in an academic year.	95%	Almost there
11 School days missed in an academic year.	94%	Improvement Needed
20 School days missed in an academic year. 4 weeks	90%	Concerned
29 School days missed in an academic year. 5 weeks	85%	Very Concerned

FACT: The more time your child spends in school, the better your child's attainment.

Parking – Polite reminder

Please refrain from parking in the residents and visitor car parks on the residential roads near the school.

Several people have had an idea that may help the traffic flow through the school and on Baston Road. If all drivers could make a left hand turn onto Biggs Lane where it meets Baston Road (after exiting the school). This may help the flow of traffic leaving the school site not come to a standstill.

By driving down to the roundabout and coming back up Biggs Lane it may actually save time for everybody.

Thank you for your support,
Mrs Bateman

Online Safety: ROBLOX is used by many children in school.

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about ROBLOX

Roblox is one of the most popular video games among children. In 2020, the game's developers claimed that more than half of the U.S.'s children had played it. As a result, Roblox has become a common name for children's online gaming experiences.

WHAT ARE THE RISKS?

CONTACT WITH STRANGERS
Roblox encourages players to interact online (including a group chat function), which allows children to meet and chat with other players. While Roblox has strict rules about what children can say, it's not possible to prevent children from interacting with strangers. Roblox's chat system is designed to be as safe as possible, but it's not perfect. Children can still be contacted by strangers.

ONLINE DATERS
These are also called 'offers' and are quite common in Roblox. An offer is an invitation to play a game with another player. Offers are usually made in person, but they can also be made online. Offers are usually made in person, but they can also be made online. Offers are usually made in person, but they can also be made online.

IN-APP PURCHASES
Roblox is free to download and play, but there are many items that can be purchased with real money. These are called 'Robux' and are used to buy virtual items. Roblox has a system to prevent children from making purchases without their parents' permission.

PUBLIC SERVERS
Roblox has many public servers where children can play together. These servers are open to anyone who has a Roblox account. Public servers can be a great way for children to make friends, but they can also be a place where children can be exposed to inappropriate content or behavior.

SET PARENTAL CONTROLS
Roblox has a parental control system that allows parents to restrict their child's access to certain features. Parents can set a PIN to prevent their child from making purchases or changing their account information.

DISABLE PRIVATE MESSAGING
Roblox's private messaging function allows children to communicate with other players. Parents can disable this function to prevent their child from talking to strangers.

PRIVATE SERVERS
Roblox has a system for private servers where children can play together. These servers are only accessible to children who are friends with the server owner. Private servers can be a safe place for children to play, but they can also be a place where children can be exposed to inappropriate content or behavior.

MONITOR SPENDING
If your child is using Roblox, it's important to monitor their spending. Roblox has a system to help parents track their child's purchases, but it's not perfect. Parents should talk to their child about the risks of making purchases online.

DEALING WITH STRANGERS
If your child is using Roblox, it's important to teach them how to deal with strangers. Roblox has a system to help children report inappropriate behavior, but it's not perfect. Parents should talk to their child about the risks of interacting with strangers online.

Meet Our Expert
Chris Dodds (aka, Lurdo) has worked as an editor and journalist in the gaming industry since 2005, providing expertise with event coverage, reviews and gaming guides. She is the owner of Lurdo's Gaming and is currently working on various gaming-related projects including game development and writing non-fiction books.

The National College
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Playground at Pickup

Please note that the Pirate Ship and Adventure Playground should not be used outside of the school day. We would appreciate it if you could ensure that your younger children do not play on these whilst you are collecting your school children.

Thank you for your support,
Mrs Bateman