

Friday 11th February 2022

# February Newsletter



Dear Parents and Carers,

As we come to the end of another quick half term, can I start off by thanking you all for supporting the school throughout a challenging period. Again, we have to consider ourselves extremely fortunate in terms of the number of cases with perhaps only around 5-7% of pupils off at anyone time with COVID. This is three times less than the national average last week for primary aged children. Therefore, we are extremely grateful for the level of caution and precautionary testing that we know has taken place at home to ensure any outbreaks have been limited.

Similarly, can I also say a massive thank to the school staff who have shown a tremendous amount of flexibility and hard work to ensure all classes ran as normal whilst juggling live lessons and doing so when we were also very short of staff.

Hopefully, this will only improve now as we move towards the summer and therefore, the school will be reissuing some further changes to our COVID rules when the pupils return. However, as we demonstrated quite spectacularly last summer, the school will still need to take some precautions for the remainder of the year.

**The Parent Teacher's Association (PTA)** The PTA are a collection of 5-10 parents who volunteer some of their time to organise events and fundraising activities that benefit every child within the school. Through their efforts, all of our pupils have enjoyed experiences such as school discos and Easter Egg hunts as well as raising funds to pay for the school library and trim trails.

Like many areas, the work of the PTA has been devastated by the restrictions that have been in place over the last two years. In short, having had almost no income, the PTA funds are such that this will have a direct impact upon what we can provide for your child over the next year or two.

## PTA EASTER RAFFLE

Friday 1<sup>st</sup> April 2022

Only £1 per ticket



We are now in a position to start running some events therefore information about the Easter Raffle will be sent out after half term. This in turn will help fund the children's Easter Egg Hunt at the end the term.

However, at this point, it would seem unlikely that the school fairs which traditionally have accounted for the majority of PTA funds will be able to take place this year. Therefore, if the PTA is able to be in a position to fund any larger projects in the foreseeable future, we need to try and look for some additional ways to build up funds.

So we are planning to hold our first Easter Sponsored Fun Run! The plan is to hold a mini -park run at the school on the first Saturday of the Easter Holiday. There will be a £2.50 entry fee and hopefully some additional funds raised through sponsorship. Fancy dress is optional and there will be refreshments for sale for those who just want to watch their children run whilst enjoying a coffee.



**The Importance of Reading / World Book Day** Without wishing to sound like a broken record, reading remains the greatest challenge within the school currently. Reading at home is probably the most important way in which pupils can support their own learning beyond the school day.

Therefore, we are very keen to celebrate the 25th anniversary of World Book Day on Friday 4th March. We are inviting all children to dress up as a character of their choice. There is also a competition for your child to enter where they create and decorate a wooden spoon based upon a book character. An email was sent last week outlining the details of this day in full.



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**Curriculum** This year, there have been legal changes around what the children are taught within Relationship and Sex Education during their time at primary school. In terms of content, the school made this change about 3 years ago and therefore we do not see that there will be significant changes to our current curriculum. However, one major change is in a parent's ability to opt out of certain aspects of this learning. As a result, it is really important that we have the opportunity to consult with parents and take your views into account. This was planned for last summer but we will now be aiming to share this virtually in November through a series of TEAMS presentations with more details to follow shortly.



