

9th February 2024

Dear Parents

We have reached the end of the first half term of the spring term and I for one am looking forward to a break! I would like to thank the many parents and staff who helped so much last week with the two talent shows. It was lots of fun and great to see children shining in a different way. After a very busy half term, I hope you can all get an opportunity next week for some relaxation and a chance to recharge your batteries.

Maths Shed update – Mrs Hindle has been in contact with Maths Shed and she has the following contact that you should email about any technical difficulties: support@spellingshed.com for the attention of Sarah Barnsley. It will help if you provide Maths Shed with the following details: Are they on the app, or are they on the website? If on an app, is it apple or android? If on the website, which browser is being used? What is the child's username and what time was the homework being completed if it is not registering?

Children's Mental Health Week – I spoke about mental health at the infant assembly on Tuesday and the junior assembly on Wednesday. This week all the children have been running the daily mile every day to raise awareness that exercise can really help your mental health. This was an initiative suggested by the charity **Miles for Smiles**. If you would like to make a donation to the Miles for Smiles charity, please visit <https://www.milesforsmiles.net/>

Online Safety – It was safer internet day on Tuesday 6th February and I spoke to the infants that day and the juniors on Wednesday about the importance of telling an adult if they ever had any worries or concerns about things they might see online.

Girls' Football - Some of our Year 5 and 6 girls took part in a football match on Monday evening against St Michael at Bowes. They managed a 1-0 win with Rose scoring the winning goal. They played really well in a tough match and worked hard as a team. Well done to Louisa, Sorcha, Rosario, Ava, Giulietta, Caitlin, Isabel, Victoria, Rose and Aoife!

Parents' Evening – Thank you for all your responses – 184 were received. 80% of parents would prefer a face-to-face meeting and 10% an online meeting – with some parents having no preference.. Parents' evening takes place in the week beginning 26th February. All the details will be sent out in the week after half term. Face to face will be Tuesday 27th until 5.30pm and Wednesday 28th until 7pm – online meetings will be arranged by request.

Girls' Night Out – On Friday 23rd Feb at 7pm The Friends are organising an evening with stalls selling beauty products, pre-loved clothes, jewellery, candles and artisan gifts. There will be treatments available such as massage, reflexology and nails. If you would like to attend, please make sure you have bought your ticket by Friday 16th February so The Friends can make all the necessary arrangements. Only £7 per ticket with glass of fizz on arrival! See attached flier for more details.

School Council trip – On Monday the children thoroughly enjoyed their trip to Enfield Civic Centre. They met Councillor Suna Hurman who is the Mayor of Enfield and local councillor Edward Smith. The children enjoyed going into the Council Chambers and asking them both questions and learning more about Mayoral duties. The children also got to go into the Mayoral chambers. This was a great opportunity for the children to learn about democracy!

Ash Wednesday – the start of Lent - This year Ash Wednesday falls during half term (Wednesday 14th) and marks the beginning of Lent which prepares us for the celebration of Easter. Lent is a season when we recall our own baptism and do penance. On Ash Wednesday, St Monica's church will celebrate mass with the imposition of Ashes at the following times: 7:00am, 9:30am and 7:30pm. Children, parents and staff are very welcome to attend Mass at St Monica's Church.

Diary Dates

Monday 19th Feb – Return to school after the half term holiday

Wednesday 21st 7pm – Maths evening for parents in Reception, Years 1, 2 & 3 sign up for a place by clicking this link <https://forms.gle/hLGkdBWJ3TE1Pd1E8>

Thursday 7th March – World Book day! See separate email with ideas for dressing up

Friday 8th March – Happy Bag collection - if you're doing a clear out over half term, please save your unwanted clothes, shoes, bags that are clean and in good condition.

Friday 15th March – St Patrick's night in school – bar kindly sponsored by The Dog and Duck, Irish music, dancing and a buffet – £14/ticket. Details have been circulated by The Friends.

Have a lovely half term holiday!

Kind regards
Kate Baptiste
Headteacher