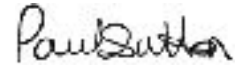


Summer Term

Welcome back after the Easter break. We are experiencing very cold starts in the mornings. Please ensure children are dressed appropriately for cold or warm weather.

Please do take a note of the diary dates below - these are also on the school website.

PARKING - Please DO NOT BLOCK neighbours driveways or park on the yellow lines outside of school (the parking restrictions are displayed on posts). Let's have a great term!



Diary Dates

Mon 1 May	Bank Holiday: School Closed
Thur 4 May	Polling Day: School Closed
Mon 8 - Fri 12 May	SATS Week
Mon 8 May	Governors Meeting 19.30
Thur 11 May	Nursery Trip
Thur 18 May	Year 3 Trip: Celtic Harmony Camp
Mon 22 - Fri 26 May	Gilwell Park School Residential Y5/6
Tue 23 May	Year 4 Trip: Lincoln's Centre - WWII Experience
Mon 29 - Fri 2 Jun	Half Term
Thur 8 June	Polling Day: School Closed
Mon 12 - Fri 16 Jun	Y1 Phonics Screening Check
Mon 26 - Fri 30 Jun	Sports Week
Thur 29 Jun	Year 2 Trip: Lookout Discovery Centre
Sat 1 Jul	PTA Summer Fayre
Thur 6 Jul	PTA Disco evening
Tue 11 Jul	Year 6 Performance
Thur 13 Jul	Transition Day
Fri 14 Jul	Year 6 Trip: Gulliver's Land
Tue 18 Jul	Nursery Last Day
Wed 19 Jul	Picnic Lunch - School finishes at 14.00

Reply from David Williams!

Year 5 were very excited when they received some post on Wednesday 19th April, and were even more excited when they saw what was inside the envelope. It was a reply from David Williams! As part of World Book Week, Year 5 wrote letters to David Williams about the book *Gangsta Granny*, as we had just finished reading it in class. We also sent off our illustrations too, which David Williams said were 'very impressive!'. The reply and signed autograph is currently sitting on our classroom door if you want to come and have a closer look.

Miss O'Neill



Children's University

Congratulations to the children who have now received the following awards:



Taylor Evans -	Gold Undergraduate Award
Yuvan Thakkar -	Bronze Undergraduate Certificate
Grace McFall -	Silver Undergraduate Certificate
Morgan Evans -	Bronze Undergraduate Diploma
Laura Murphy -	Gold Undergraduate Diploma
Emily Boyd -	Bronze Undergraduate Degree
Bhavisha Raghvani -	Gold Postgraduate Masters

The Children's University is a great way to reward children for all their learning outside of the classroom. The deadline for this year's graduation is fast approaching and will be at the end of May. If you are unsure of which activities can be added, or are unsure of how to add them, then please do come and see me. Miss O'Neill

Congratulations to the following children who completed Times Too last half term!



Isabella Sampson (4B), Alicia Sobrun (4B), Calum Murray (5) Chichi Nwodo (5), Casey Murray (5)

Miss O'Neill

Girls' Football Team

On Thursday 20th April, the girls' football team played Beechfield in a friendly. It was the first time some of the girls had represented Orchard and they were all really excited to play their first match. It was great to see the girls progressing through the game, with the more experienced girls supporting them also. A great show of teamwork was displayed by all! It was a close game, with the score being 1-1 with 2 minutes left to play, after a great first half goal by Amelia M, her first for Orchard! With only a few minutes left on the clock, Orchard seized their opportunity and Kortney scored the winning goal, on her debut! It was a great team effort and all the girls really enjoyed themselves. Player of the Match goes to Kortney, for listening to all the advice before the game, and working tirelessly to put it into practice!

Miss O'Neill



Attendance

Please look at the latest attendance monitoring information. We are pleased that this is a 0.8% improvement on the same time last year. This is a 'dip' on our last report but there has been a significant amount of illness especially with our younger children at the end of last term. **There were also many children who were away either side of the Easter Break - this has reduced our attendance overall figure to below the National average! This was very disappointing.**

It is one of our main school improvement priorities to ensure all children have 'good' regular attendance - this means over 95%. No child should be lower than 90% except for exceptional medical reasons.

		Percentage Attendance	Nos of pupils (with marks)
ALL Years		95.9	383
Boys		96.1	192
Girls		95.8	191
Ever FSM		93.8	67
Non Ever FSM		96.4	316
In Care			0
Pupil Premium		93.8	67
Non Pupil Premium		96.4	316
Summer Born		95.7	118
Current FSM		93.8	41
Non Current FSM		96.2	342
SEN	K, A or P	94.7	44
	E or S	90.1	5
	All	94.3	49
	No SEN	96.2	334
Traveller			0
Non Traveller		95.9	383
First Language	English	96.1	205
	Other	95.7	178
Ethnicity	White - British	96.0	135
	White - Irish	98.0	2
	Traveller of Irish heritage		0
	White Other	96.1	51
	Gypsy/Roma		0
	Italian	98.5	2
	Turkish	97.7	6
	Turkish Cypriot		0
	All White	96.2	196
	White and Black Caribbean	95.7	17
	White and Black African	95.5	3
	White and Asian	97.0	12
	Any Other Mixed Background	95.4	20
	All Mixed	95.9	52
	Black Caribbean	98.1	10
	Black - African	97.7	11
	Any Other Black Background		0
	All Black	97.9	21
	Indian	96.0	35
	Pakistani	94.7	51
	Bangladeshi		0
	Any other Asian Background	94.2	16
	All Asian	95.1	102
	Chinese		0
	Any Other Ethnic Group	96.2	12
	All Non White	95.7	187
	Information Not Yet Obtained		0
	Refused		0
Year	R	93.6	60
	1	96.3	86
	2	95.8	60
	3	96.4	57
	4	95.9	60
	5	97.9	31
	6	96.8	29
All Above		95.9	383

Calling All Runners!

The Watford 10K will be returning to Cassiobury Park on Bank Holiday Monday, 1 May. In addition to the main 10K event, there are 1k and 3k races so everyone can join in the fun regardless of their age or fitness level. All proceeds go to local charity, Watford Mencap. For more details and to sign up for the race please go to

www.watford10k.org.uk