



Dear Parents and Carers,

Another term has whipped by and we once again find ourselves coming to the end of term holiday.

Having celebrated learning and achievements through parents evening last week, we also wanted to share some of our wider focusses and successes in school.

Please read on below to see some of the other things that we have had going on.

Enrichment and wider curriculum

This term we have continued with library visits to Weoley Castle Library. We have also enjoyed incredible Egyptian workshops in Year 3 and a rather wet but enjoyable trip to Bishop's wood in Year 4.

We are extremely proud of the children who have attended our **Debate Mate** competitions. They won various debates against competing schools and are currently ranked 7th out of schools competing in Birmingham, London and Manchester.

In February, we celebrated the NSPCC **Number Day**. Miss Hill organised for a range of professionals to visit us in school and tell us how their knowledge and understanding of maths is essential to their job. Children also learned about various other famous mathematicians and completed different challenges. Many children have voiced their inspiration from this day.

We have also learned about and explored **International Women's Day, Safer Internet Day and Mental Health week** – all things that strongly connected to our values and current national circumstances.

Strike Days

We thank you for your support with the industrial action days. We know that this can cause difficulty for families but we are united in the need for conditions in school to improve which will impact on both teachers and pupils.

26,443 teachers who qualified in the last five years have already left the job. More than 20,000 new recruits join the profession every year, but around one in eight leave within their first year. After three years almost one in four have quit.

The statistics are startling and change is needed to ensure that children and teachers receive the support that is needed.

There are currently no further strike days planned whilst discussions between the teaching union and the government take place, so we hope that a resolution can be reached

Parking & Safety

You may have noticed that we have had numerous visits from parking enforcement over the last several weeks. On these days, safe and sensible parking is much improved showing that it can be done!

We have shared with children the importance of safe parking and how easy it is to do a short walk to school – even if you have to drive in and then park a little further away. We have also had children from the Eco-council out sharing leaflets to raise awareness of dangerous parking and driving alongside the appointment of a new crossing guard.

Unfortunately, I have still received feedback from parents that this is continuing to cause issues including several reports of near misses.

Especially with the improving weather, do not be the person responsible for injuring a child for the sake of several minutes walk.

Please support us to keep all of our children safe.

Parent meetings

So that we can share any important information regarding all upcoming statutory assessments, we have arranged various parent's meetings for relevant year groups. Please see below:

Year 1 phonics talk – Tuesday 18th April 2023 at 3.30pm

Year 2 SATs talk – Monday 24th April 2023 at 3.30pm

Year 4 Multiplication check talk – Thursday 20th April 2023 at 3.30pm

Safeguarding and Attendance

Like any piece of technology, phones, laptops, ipads and games consoles have both benefits and risks. Many of the risks depend on how these are being used. There are some key concerns we have about children using these devices in particular:

- Cyberbullying and harassment from friends and strangers
- Unwanted or inappropriate contact from friends and strangers
- Over-sharing personal information, such as full name, location or images
- Accessing inappropriate content
- Excessive screen time
- Behaving inappropriately or unkindly online to each other.
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We are increasingly having to deal with more incidents in school from fall outs of the above things happening with children after school and at the weekends. These incidents can then continue to have an impact in school on some children emotionally with friendships and effecting their education.

Most social media platforms (e.g. TikTok, Snapchat, Instagram) state their age rating as 13+. This is because US data laws dictate that below this age, children must have a parent's or guardian's permission to sign up. It has less to do with content.

How can parents help their children stay safe online?

10 things every parent can do to keep their kids safe online

- Talk openly with your child about their online activity
 - Keep screens and devices where you can see them
 - Know your parental controls
 - Know who your children's online friends are
 - Be 'share aware' to protect your privacy
 - Keep control of your family's digital footprint
 - Teach your children to keep their location private
 - Keep track of online time
 - Be #SocialNetworkSavvy
 - Lead by example
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Dates for Diary

Training Days – Monday 17th April 2023 and Friday 30th June 2023.

Reception – (28.03.23) Eye tests in school. (03.05.23) Attwell Farm visit. (22.05.23) Oak Weoley Castle Library visit.

Year 1 - (08.05.23) 1SW Weoley Castle Library visit. (12.05.23) 1EH Weoley Castle Library visit.

Year 2 - (28.04.23) 2NS Weoley Castle Library visit. (05.05.23) 2RY Weoley Castle Library visit.

Year 3 – (27.03.23) 3SV Weoley Castle Library visit. (24.04.23) 3RS Weoley Castle Library visit.

Year 4 – (23.05.23) Thinktank trip.

Year 5 – (29.03.23) Wonderdome visit in school.

Year 6 – (27.03.23) DECCA workshop in school.

Monday 1st May 2023- Bank Holiday (School closed).

Monday 8th May 2023 – Bank Holiday- Kings Coronation (School closed).

Tuesday 9th May 2023 to Friday 12th May 2023 – Year 6 SATs week.

Friday 26th May 2023- Half term - Monday 5th June 2023- Return to school.

Thank you for your continued support and please come and speak to us any time you have any queries or need any help and support.

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Kind regards,

Mr Hull