

Hello/Dobry Den

Dear Parents and Carers

Welcome back to school, I hope that your Easter holiday was peaceful and that you are raring to go for the next 14 weeks. The Summer Term although long, is jam packed with events. Please check the Calendar dates regularly [see next page], we try to give as much notice as possible.

This week we welcome our new **Spring cohort of 3 year olds** to our thriving **Preschool**. They have settled extremely well and Mrs Shurlock and her experienced team are very proud of their behaviours. Mrs Kadar, Mrs Shoplyak and our recent recruit Miss Lilly-Jai Smith are enjoying finding out all about the children.

We pride ourselves on developing our communication with you, each week in our newsletter we share information about what is happening in class and our half **Termly Learning Leaflets** [coming out soon] from both schools hopefully inform you of what learning is taking place in all areas of the curriculum. As you know the children learn a lot.

For instance this term in the **Infant classes** the children are finding out about Antarctica and Captain Robert Scott. This week they had a visit from Jerome who has recently been in Antarctica and has been emailing the children and sharing photos of his expedition. **Next week**, the **Infant children** will be able to visit a special dome in the hall that will enable them to 'experience' Antarctica even more. Have you seen our pictures on Facebook of the children trying on thermal clothes?

This term **Year 6** will have more transition events with **St Peter's School**. Our science sessions will continue and I believe that there are some drama sessions scheduled too. How exciting!

We welcome **Mrs Vic Hollison** back from maternity leave into **Holly Class**, she will work with **Mrs Claire Booth**. If you would like to talk to Mrs Hollison she will be available after school for a meet and great on **Tuesday 23rd April** from **3.30pm - 4.30pm** in her class. We have refreshments and would love for you to come and chat with her and Mrs Booth about anything you think they need to know about your child.

Coming up this term some of the children will participate in statutory testing at various times: **Year 1** [Y1 Phonics Screening - wk beg 10.6.2024], **Year 4** [Y4 Multiplication check – wk beg 3.6.2024 – see our [website](#) for further support following the workshop in Spring] and **Year 6 children** [Y6 Statutory Assessment Tests - SATS wk beg 13.5.2024], please look out for further information via email and please pop in if you are worried about these events so that we can share supportive ideas.

Next week, many of our **Year 4 children** are off to **Burwell** on Wednesday for their annual residential for 3 days. How exciting! On Thursday morning the **Huntingdon Mayor** and his wife are visiting our schools for a tour.

Best wishes / Vsechno nejlepsi

Rae Lee [Headteacher]

Language of the Month

This month we are polishing our **Czec** phrases with the help of Miss Kayleigh Reid. Each morning in Ready to Learn and Routine time the children in the **Infant School** learn about the **Czech Republic**. If you have any books, photos or artefacts we can use for our display, please pop them into school. Last month **Andrei** in Class 5 shared so many resources for our Romanian display and the children loved exploring them.

Wanted / Chtel

Due to a low birthrate across the county, there are spaces in both our **Preschool** and our **New Reception classes for September 2024**. If you know anyone who would like to send their child to a **good school with several outstanding features** do share our [school website](#). They can also book a **bespoke tour** of the classrooms and meet staff. **Thank you for promoting us and supporting us!**

Preschool

This week **preschool** were very happy to welcome all of their children and families back and hear all about their adventures over the Easter break as well as welcoming new starters who have all been superstars! We began reading our core story of 'The Gruffalo'. We used natural resources such as flowers and leaves to make 'potions' and make marks on paper to represent what we had made. **Next week**, in PE we will move like different types of transport. As well as introducing games and puzzles based around 'The Gruffalo' story.

Reception

This week **Class 1 and 2** have started a new enquiry learning on Antarctica by sharing a letter and then getting to meet a real Antarctic scientist, Jerome! We had a look at some real Antarctic clothing worn by members of the British Antarctic Survey. The children thought about what they would like to find out about Antarctica and we started to think about the similarities and differences between England and Antarctica. Our new literacy focus book is 'Peace At Last' and the children have loved using our story shelves and props to retell this story. **Next week** we will be learning about what it is like to visit Antarctica and look closely at the animals that live there.

Year 1

This week **Class 3 and Class 4** have started to learn about Antarctica. We were lucky to try on some Antarctica clothing from the British Antarctic Survey and enjoyed listening to our visitor Jerome about his recent work out in Antarctica. In English we read 'The Day the Crayons Came Home' by Drew Daywalt and discussed our favourite crayon and parts of the story. In maths we learnt about doubles and halves using our knowledge to solve some missing numbers on bar models. **Next week**, in science we will discuss where animals live and begin to group and classify them.

Year 2

This week **Class 5 and 6** began 'The Story Machine' by Tom Mclaughlin and discussed the story setting. In maths we learnt how to find halves and quarters of amounts. We practised how to subtract on an empty number line. We loved being geographers by naming the continents and oceans of the world. What fun we had looking at the clothing worn by Scientists from the British Antarctic Survey. **Next week**, in English we will write clear instructions on how machines work. We are sure the children will love the Wallace and Gromit animations for this! In maths we will look at equivalent fractions. In science we will explain why animals are/are not suited to their environment. In DT we need strong, sturdy boxes, shoe boxes are ideal but cereal box are not sturdy enough. If you have any spare then please send them in.

Year 3

This week **Beech and Chestnut** have been editing our English work and started our new class novel, 'The Nothing to See Here Hotel'. We began learning about volcanoes and in art we started our sculpture topic. The children had a fantastic first swimming session. We walked to the pool beautifully and were very patient while everyone was being assessed. A polite reminder to please label all clothing items and towels for your child! **Next week**, we will start learning about Ancient Greece.

Year 4

This week **Holly and Willow Classes**, wrote letters to the Mayor persuading him to/not to build an IKEA on our field...watch this space for the outcome! We investigated a non-fiction text linked to earthquakes and started reading our new text, 'Krindlekrax'. In maths, we explored what makes a 'whole' and what is 'part' of a 'whole' as to support fraction work. In science, we asked questions about our teeth and their functions. Art was exciting as we learnt about Antony Gormley and the types of sculptures he does. This will inspire our own sculpture making over the next few weeks. **Next week**, we find out what Ruskin does next in 'Krindlekrax'. We are excited about our teambuilding activities at Burwell and in school. For wk beg 29.4.2024 please send your child with their toothbrush, toothpaste and a face cloth for an investigation. Your child will choose how they participate in an investigation. We will use a disclosing tablet to show what our teeth look like before cleaning and after cleaning. It would be wonderful, if all children have the opportunity to choose to participate because they have their equipment at school.

Year 5

This week **Oak and Ash** Classes have started their new class book, 'Who Let the Gods Out?'. In maths, they have been looking at perimeter and area of compound shapes. In science, we conducted experiments to see which substances were soluble and insoluble. **Next week**, we will continue learning the skills to play tennis.

Year 6

This week **Pine and Sycamore** classes have practised answering different types of questions in reading. In English, we researched Victorian workhouses to write a non-chronological report. Maths has involved us looking at 3D shapes and their nets, then moving onto looking at line graphs. In science, we have written an explanation text on the circulatory system. Finally, the children all enjoyed our PE lessons, which this term will focus on cricket and football. Thank you to all those who completed their Easter homework and entered our art competition.

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Dates for the Diary / Date per il diario

Sparky Start Day	Infant School	Thursday 25th April	To start our Antarctica enquiry work we have an Antarctica Dome experience in the school hall
Burwell Trip	Year 4	Wednesday 24th April - Friday 26th April	The Year 4 children will be engaging with a wealth of exciting activities on this residential trip
May Day	All Schools	Monday 6th May	All schools closed for May Day
Mosque Trip	Year 2	Friday 24th May	Year 2 children will be visiting a mosque in Cambridge as part of their RE work.
SAT Week	Year 6	Monday 13th May - Thursday 16th May	Our Year 6 children will be invited to Breakfast Club in the Junior School and supported to persevere through the statutory Year 6 end of KS2 Tests
Half Term	All Schools	Monday 27th May - Monday 3rd June	A week and 1 day for half term
Library Trips	Infant School	Wk beg Tuesday 4th June	Infant children walk into Town to visit Huntingdon Library for their Sparky Start on geography
Y6 Swimming begins	Year 6	Wednesday 5th June	Y6 top up swimming lessons
Empathy Day	Junior School	Thursday 6th June	A chance to celebrate and support children's ability to empathise with others.
Phonics Screening	Year 1 & Year 2	Wk beg: Monday 10th June	Year 1 and some Year 2 children will participate in the DfE Phonic Screening Check
Stay & Play [1]	Preschool children	Friday 14th June	All preschool children starting Reception in September 2024 are invited to Stay and Play on our front playground to meet their new teachers and make friends.
New Reception Parents Meeting	Preschool parents	Monday 17th June	An opportunity to find out which Class your child will be in from September and more information to support them in their transition to school. This is an adult only event.
New to Year 1 Parents Meeting	Reception Parents	Thursday 20th June	Parents are invited to pop into the Year 1 classes with their Reception child
Stay & Play [2]	Preschool children	Friday 21st June	For Reception New Starters 2024 on our front playground
Stay & Play [3]	Preschool children	Friday 28th June	All For Reception New Starters 2024 on our front playground.
Summer Fete	All schools	Friday 28th June	Summer Fete from 2.00pm on the school field and playgrounds [weather permitting]
Stay & Play [4]	Preschool children	Friday 5th July	For Reception New Starters 2024 on our front playground.
Stay & Play [5]	Preschool children	Friday 12th July	For Reception New Starters 2024 on our front playground
Gulliver's Trip	Year 6	Friday 5th July	Y6 Annual trip to Gulliver's in Milton Keynes
Last day of Term	All Schools	Friday 19th July	Last day of Term
Treehouse Club	All Schools	Friday 19th July	Our After School Club will not be open on this day due to staff training.



