



Dear Parents, Carers and members of our local community,

Welcome back to Term 4! Hopefully we will see some more sunshine as we progress through this term. The sunshine this week really lifted the spirits and on Wednesday we even had some children declaring that summer was here... a little premature perhaps but it was so wonderful seeing the children able to go on the field and not get completely covered in mud!

Term 4 is short but we have got a lot packed in! We have 2 dress up days this term. World Book Day and Comic Relief. There is no money associated with World Book Day but as we are during the time of lent we will be raising money for Comic Relief. Reverend Gary has even promised to make a visit to show off his "wearing something funny for money" costume! We have got 2 Open the Book sessions over the term. Our first occurred this week where we had a number of our children dressed up as sheep to help reenact the bible story. We will also be celebrating world science week and walk to school week which all fall in this term. Reverend Gary is also running a worship on Lent.

All class topic webs are now on the school website. Please have a look if you have not done so already.

Key information and dates follows below and they are also on Class Dojo so please look there for further information.

Can you help?

One of our parents has raised that they would be interesting in creating a group for those of you that would be willing and able to help around the school, from things like painting walls, cutting brambles, working on the front wall etc. It is a wonderful idea and obviously would be a huge help to our school. If there are any of you that think that you have the ability to help out-even if it is for just an hour during a half term for example, please can you let Mr Evans (Dad in Yr 2) or myself know and then there will be a meeting and discussion about a few small projects that the group could tackle! Huge thanks to anyone that comes forward to support in advance!

The White Paper

This week, the Department for Education published a new White Paper, "Every Child Achieving and Thriving" alongside a consultation titled "Putting Children and Young People First". These documents outline the governments long-term vision for the future of education in England, with a particularly strong focus on transforming support for children with SEND. The new legislation will not commence until September 2029. Key points outlined include;

- High Quality teaching for everyone; Every school and nursery will follow new National Inclusion Standards to ensure all children get high quality support as soon as they need it. This is supported with investment in training for schools to support the needs of their pupils.
- Quicker access to specialists; Working closely with health colleagues to improve access to speech and language and educational psychologists for example.
- Review of layered support and clearer individual support plans (which we currently call IPM's).
- The "specialist" stage will become the new style EHCP's underpinned by specialist provision packages. Following the legislation children that already have an EHCP will be assessed and either move to a specialist provision package or keep their EHCP until they move to their next phase of education where they will receive an Individual Support Package.

We are encouraged by the government's direction of travel, which seeks to relieve the pressure on parents and schools alike by creating a more joined-up system of health, care and education.

Our priority continues to be the success and wellbeing of all of your children. We welcome the commitment from the government to ensuring that the system is more inclusive and available to children and families quickly and consistently. If you have any questions about it please do not hesitate to speak to myself or Mrs Bradshaw, our SENDCo.

I hope that you all have a great start to the term.

Mrs Hibell

DIARY DATES

Monday 2nd March—High school place offer day

Thursday 5th March—World Book Day

Friday 6th March—Year 5 Dyson Perrins Science Workshop

Friday 6th to 15th March—British Science Week

Monday 9th March—Parents Consultation Meetings

Wednesday 11th March—Robins trip to the Early Years Music Festival

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Wednesday 18th March—Kestrels trip to Wicton Farm

Friday 20th March—Comic Relief—cake sale and non uniform

Tuesday 24th March—Rocksteady Parent Performance (further information to follow)

Thursday 26th March—Year 6 parents SATs meeting

Monday 30th March to Friday 10th April—Easter holiday

Thursday 16th April—Primary school place offer day

Thursday 16th April—Buzzards parents residential meeting

w/c 27th April—Bikeability for years 4, 5 & 6

Monday 4th May—Bank Holiday

w/c 11th May—SATs week

w/c 11th May—Christian Aid week

Friday 15th May—Sponsored Fun Run

w/c 18th May—Walk to School Week 2026

18th May—Buzzards Bellboating at Upton Marina (further information to follow)

Friday 22nd May—Inset day

Monday 25th May to Friday 29th May—Half term holiday

Monday 1st June to Friday 5th June—Buzzards Residential at Grittleton House

Saturday 6th June—Madresfield Fete

Thursday 11th June—class photos and Y6 leavers photos

Monday 15th June—Kestrels & Robins trip to Goodrich Castle (further information to follow)

Monday 22nd June—Buzzards Lifepath (further information to follow)

Thursday 25th June—Buzzards Regatta (further information to follow)

Friday 26th June—Owls Lifepath (further information to follow)

Wednesday 1st July—Sports Day & BBQ

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THE DOWNS



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