



FEBRUARY NEWSLETTER

February 2019

Dear Parents and Carers,

We are enjoying an exciting term with the children, with lots of special events planned.

We are looking forward to Fair Trade Fortnight which begins on Monday 25 February and which the children will be participating in.

We also look forward to World Book Day on Thursday 7 March, and there is more about this later in the newsletter.

Our whole school theme this term is a science one – ‘Food, Glorious Food’ with a focus during British Science Week, beginning on 11 March.

We are looking forward to working with our student in Cherwell Class – Alexandra Hunter – who is on placement from Oxford Brookes University.

Thank you for the completion of the questionnaires sent out during January. The results are being collated and the findings will appear in the March Newsletter.

Finally, as I know you are very aware, the car park next to the school becomes congested at the beginning and end of the school day. This is the Parish Council car park and is not owned by the school which means unfortunately, that we are unable to regulate its use. Can I ask you however, to remain extremely vigilant with regard to safety, if using this car park as a driver at the beginning or end of the school day, or as a pedestrian walking through it with your children.

With my thanks,

Grace Slater

Attendance

It is very important for pupils to maintain regular good attendance at school - we know that children who attend school every day have the best chance of fulfilling their potential and making the most of their educational opportunities. As parents you have a legal duty to ensure regular and punctual attendance by your child at school, and I would like to thank those who ensure their child's good attendance at school.

May I remind you too that, following government guidance, I am unable to authorise holidays during term time, or indeed any leave during term time, except in the most exceptional of circumstances. Any such request for leave, should be made in writing to myself as headteacher. Could I please also draw your attention too, to the school's early return after the Easter break, as the Spring Term begins on Easter Tuesday – Tuesday 23 April. Thank you.

Attendance is rigorously monitored, so please contact the school office to let us know if your child is absent from school due to illness. We will contact you, if your child is absent without reason.

Childhood illnesses

The minimum periods of exclusion from school for the more common illnesses are listed below. Some children may require longer periods than those specified before their general health permits a return to school.

Illness Period of exclusion

Chicken pox - 5 days from appearance of rash

Measles - 4 days from appearance of rash

Rubella - 6 days from appearance of rash

Whooping cough - 5 days from commencing antibiotic treatment

Mumps - 5 days after onset of swelling

Impetigo - until lesions are crusted and healed or 48 hours after commencing antibiotic treatment

Sickness/diarrhoea - until symptom-free for 24 hours

Punctuality

The children's entrance to school is closed at 8:55am every morning for security reasons so that access, after this time, can only be made via the school office. All children who arrive after 8:55am must report to the office. In addition, we know that children find coping with a late arrival difficult as, walking into a quiet room when all their friends are ready for the day, can be very daunting.

Cherwell Class

On Wednesday 23rd January Cherwell Class were visited by Gemma from the Blue Cross animal charity. This visit supported our science topic of 'Animals including humans' and helped us to find out more about our role play area which is a vets. Before the event, Cherwell class wrote a selection of questions that they wanted to find out about and after they wrote reports.

Here are a few extracts from their reports:

'Over 3000 animals come into the rescue centres in a year and the Blue Cross even carry out operations if animals need them'. (Delilah)

'The Blue Cross told us how to keep our pets healthy and fit. Gemma also told us how much food and water to give them everyday'. (Emily)

'Gemma bought in Dooby the dog. He was very funny!' (Isla F)

'We learned lots about caring about animals'. (Ava)

'Staffordshire bull terriers are the type of dog they have most in the centres and huskies are also becoming very popular'. (Peter)

Isis Class

Isis Class had a visit to Abingdon School Science Laboratory on Wednesday 30th January, to support their science topic on solids, liquids and gases. During the session, the children had the chance to use laboratory apparatus and measuring equipment. They investigated temperature and found out what happens when materials change from solid to liquid to gas.

Thames Class

Thames Class have an exciting visit arranged to Stonehenge on Tuesday 5th March. During the session, the children will have the chance to take part in an interactive workshop and tour the historical site. This will enhance the children's understanding of their topic work on 'Stone Age to Iron Age'.

Gambia Non-Uniform Day

On Thursday 14th February, we will be celebrating our link with Bakau Lower Basic School. The children will be learning more about The Gambia and finding out about its Independence Day celebrations (Gambia's Independence Day is on 18th February).

We would like the children to come to school on Thursday 14th February wearing clothes that are the colours of the Gambian flag: **red, blue, green and white**. Children may wear any, or all, of these colours, and can also wear clothes that are other colours as well!

We would also like to make a collection on this day, to send to Bakau Lower Basic School, and suggest a donation, should you wish, of 50p per child, please.

Thank you very much for your support.

World Book Day

World Book Day falls on Thursday 7th March this year and we would like to celebrate this.

If your child would like to come to school as a character from a book on World Book Day we would be delighted. Costumes need not be elaborate some suggestions should you wish to use one, are:

Sports Kit – dressing as a character from a sports story. For example: 'Football Academy' or 'Frankie's Magic Football'; 'Ballet Shoes' or 'Rugby Spirit'.

School Uniform / Home Clothes – dressing as Harry Potter; Matilda; the Wimpy Kid or Tom Gates.

Please could your child bring into school any book they have particularly enjoyed at home? There will be an opportunity for them to share their book with other children during the day. Thank you.

Sports News

Forthcoming Events

Hockey Tournament at Tilsley Park for a team of Year 5 children.

High5 Small Schools Netball Tournament at Thomas Reade School for a team of Year 5/6 children.

Friends of Radley Primary School

Rags2Riches 4 Schools

We have a Rags2Riches 4 Schools collection on Tuesday 5th March. Start collecting your unwanted clothes, soft toys, shoes, belts and handbags! Please bring your filled bags to school on Monday 4th March and place outside the Old School building.

If you are unable to fill a bag this time, please could you return the empty bag to the school office. Thank you.

Orchestra Day

Our thanks to Helen Eccleston for organising the Family Orchestra Day on Saturday 26th January. This was a fantastic event, which culminated in a concert featuring both classical and modern music, and was enormously enjoyed by adults and children alike. Helen harnessed a huge amount of existing talent, as well as enabling musical beginners to participate in what proved to be one of the happiest and most enjoyable of days. Thank you Helen!

Radley CE Primary School - Road Crossing Patrol Person

An opportunity has arisen, with funding from the Parish Council, for the appointment of a temporary School Crossing Patrol Person. This is a term time only appointment, with hours between 8.25am and 9.10am each morning and 2.50pm – 3.35pm each afternoon. Training through Oxfordshire County Council, and appropriate clothing will be provided. The pay for this position would be £8.75 per hour.

For further information or an application form, please contact the School Office on 01235 520814, or email to office@radleyprimary.uk

Applicants must be aged 18 or over, and it may be possible for a job-share to be considered. The closing date for applications is Thursday 28th February, 2019.

School Office

Pupil Medical Information

Please ensure you keep the office up to date with your child's medical information. Should your child require medication during the school day, please complete a form from the office. All medicines should be in their original packaging, in date and the correct dosage given. Thank you.

Primary School Health Nurse Team

Please see attached newsletter from the Primary School Health Nurse team.

Parents' Evenings – March 2019

Appointment times for each class are in the reception area. Please sign your name against the time you would like to meet with your child's class teacher.

Government Funding 30 Hour Eligibility Codes

Parents claiming for the 30 Hours Government funding need to reconfirm every three months. You should receive an email from the HMRC to remind you each time. Please log back into their Childcare Choices account to reconfirm, the website address is: www.childcarechoices.gov.uk

Some parents have discovered that their reconfirmation button doesn't work. Parents will need to call HMRC on 0300 1234097 to solve this problem. Thank you.

School Meals

If you would like your child to have a school dinner you will need to pre-order their meals online using School Money www.eduspot.co.uk All dinners must be booked and paid for at least one week in advance by midnight on the preceding Thursday.

If your child is entitled to free school meals you will still need to book online using School Money at least one week in advance by midnight on the preceding Thursday. You will be able to choose your child's meals for the week and will not be charged.

Red Nose Day– Friday 15th March

To join in the fundraising for this important charity we will be holding a non-uniform day on Friday 15th March. Children can come to school dressed in red and donate £1 for the privilege! We will have a supply of Red Noses for sale at a cost of £1 each from the school office. First come, first served!

Diary Dates

Thursday 14th February	Gambia Non Uniform Day - Red, Green, Blue & White
Friday 15th February 18th to 22nd February	Inset Day—School closed Half Term Break – School closed
Monday 25th February	Back to school
Tuesday 5th March	Rags2Riches for Schools collection early am Thames visit to Stonehenge (packed lunches)
Thursday 7th March	World Book Day
W/c 11th March	British Science Week
Thursday 14th March	Parents' Evening 3.30pm to 6pm (Cherwell/Isis/Thames)
Friday 15th March	Non Uniform Day—Red Nose Day
Monday 18th March	Parents' Evening 3.30pm to 5pm (Reception) Parents' Evening 4pm to 7pm (Cherwell/Isis/Thames)
Tuesday 19th March	Cherwell visit to Abingdon School Science Lab
Wednesday 20th March	Isis concert Christchurch in Oxford 11am to 11.30am Parents' Evening 3.30pm to 5pm (Reception)
w/c 25th March	Last week for after school clubs
Monday 25th March	Last swimming lesson for Isis class
Wednesday 27th March	Isis Sheldonian Theatre concert 5pm (Tickets online)
Thursday 4th April	Easter Service in St James' Church 9.15am
Friday 5th April	End of Term School finishes at 1.30pm School Council Cake Sale 1.30pm
8th to 22nd April inc.	Easter break
Tuesday 23rd April	Summer term begins—Back to school