Friday 24th February 2023 Spring Term Issue: 6



I hope you all managed to have a restful half term break. On our return to school, we have had a busy first week with parent consultations, a library visit, Ash Wednesday and a theatre performance.

Firstly, thank you to those who made their appointment with class teachers on Monday or Thursday this week. We have further meetings scheduled for next Monday. If you were unable to attend your meeting, please make contact with the academy office or class teacher who will try to reschedule with you.

This week saw our Year 2 class visit the library. They report that they had a lovely time and enjoyed bringing a book back that they have borrowed.

Today all the children experienced a fantastic production of Oliver Twist from the M & M theatre company. They thoroughly enjoyed the show and Year 6 also got to experience a behind the scenes workshop. It was a fantastic way to start the celebrations of book week next week – maybe we will have some of the characters appear in our Book Day Parade.

Have a lovely weekend.

Lent

Fr Francis administered the ashes on Wednesday to mark the start of Lent.

As we start the forty days of Lent, we can think conventionally of giving something up but also of doing something extra. We encourage the children to think of something in their behaviour that they can try hard with over the period of Lent. However, whether we give something up or take on something extra, we can all do the most important thing of all that brings us to peace and benefits others: the practise of the presence of God.

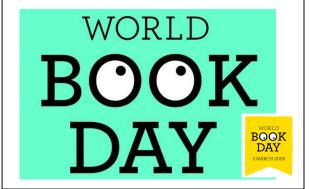
This year, during Lent, are supporting the Catholic Children's Society's appeal - Building Bridges. It is inspired by Pope Francis' call to 'build bridges, not walls' and find ways to connect and help others in their time of need.

Your child has come home with a purple moneybox for them to build. During Lent, we ask for any small change to be put in this box, from pennies to pounds. Every single penny that we raise will go into the Catholic Children's Society's Southwark Crisis Fund to help local children across the Archdiocese who are facing a crisis in their lives.



World Book Day - Thursday 2nd March

Please send in your child dressed as a book character. We love to see homemade costumes, as we do not want to see you spending lots of money. We give prizes to each class and staff are encouraged to look for the most creative costume, which has not been bought. We look forward to seeing the costumes. Any parents/carers are welcome to attend the parade, which will be at approximately 9:00am in the gym



0 days of school	100%
Equates to 2 days off school each year	99%
Equates to 5 days off school each year	97%
Equates to 10 days off school each year	95%
Equates to 20 days off school each year	90%
Equates to 30 days off school each year	85%

VIRTUES AWARD – VIRTUES TO LIVE BY



"This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you." (John 15:9)

EYFS	Stefan and Chrissy
Year 1	Chelsea
Year 2	Evie
Year 3	Oliver
Year 4	Rosie
Year 5	Kamiati
Year 6	Mark

Attendance

EYFS	92.91
Year 1	95.0
Year 2	97.93
Year 3	96.45
Year 4	94.38
Year 5	92.02
Year 6	94.85
Whole School	94.19

The winning class this week was **Year 2** gaining **two** stars in the space race. Unfortunately, no other class won a star, as they did not achieved over 97%.

Attendance Matters!





Jasmine - Year 6



Nursery Star of the Week

Daniel





Industrial Action

NEU members of staff will <u>NOT</u> be taking strike action on Thursday 2nd March.

I am aware that they are considering future strike action on either 15th or 16th March as they still feel strongly about the dispute between the unions and the government over teacher pay and school funding. I will inform parents as soon as possible about these days.

World Book Day will still go ahead as planned on Thursday 2nd March.

No Strike Action Services to Continue as Usual

Parent Helpers

We totally understand that all of you live very busy lives with work and other commitments. However, with lockdown now lifted and life being a bit more 'normal' we would like you to get you involved again.

Coffee mornings are back on the calendar; please see our first date later in the newsletter! We would love for any parent volunteers to help on these days.

In addition to the above, would any parent/carers like to come and in and volunteer their time? This would be to either hear readers or assist in a Year group for a morning or afternoon.

We understand that all your time is precious and valuable but if you are able to offer some of your time it would be much appreciated.



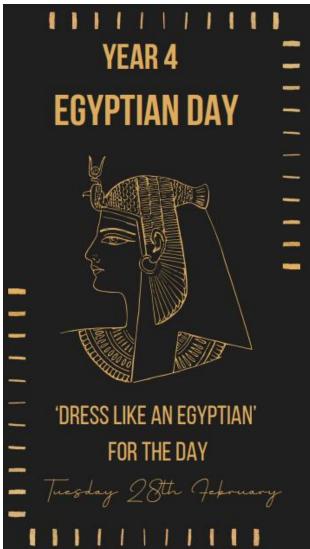
Free Range Assemblies

Please check out our diary dates as your child's class free range assembly has been added to the list!

All parents/carers are welcome to attend.

All assemblies will start at 9:00am.





Parking Reminder

Please ensure whilst waiting for child to start or finish school, you do not leave your car idling. The law states the following:

'drivers must not leave a parked vehicle unattended with the engine running or leave a vehicle engine running unnecessarily while the vehicle is stationary on a public road.'

In addition to the above I would like to remind you be considerate when parking at the start and end of the school day.

I received a complaint yesterday that parents are parking over residents' driveways which is causing them to be late picking their children up from school.



PTA Challenge 23

It's not too late to take part in the PTA's "Challenge '23". The sponsorship form is attached and the extended deadline to hand in monies raised is Tuesday 28th February. All funds raised will go toward the PTA's major funding objective of an outdoor reading room.

"CHALLENGE '23"

23



Coffee Morning

The first coffee Morning of the year will be on **Monday 6**th **March 2023.**

These are great opportunities to come and have coffee and a natter, get to know some of the new and old parents and chat with Academy staff.

Parents have reported that they have missed the mornings and therefore we are super excited to invite you all back in.

If there are any parents that would like to help or bake (or donate) some cakes, this would be also greatly appreciated.

There is no cost for these morning, we simply just want to see you all there, even if it is for 5 minutes ©





Should I keep my

child off school?

Yes

Until...

Chickenpox	at least 5 days from the onset of the rash and until all blisters have crusted over
Diarrhoea and Vomiting	48 hours after their last episode
Cold and Flu-like illness (including COVID-19)	they no longer have a high temperature and feel well enough to attend. Follow the national guidance if they've tested positive for COVID-19
Impetigo	their sores have crusted and healed, or 48 hours after they started antibiotics
Measles	4 days after the rash first appeared
Mumps	5 days after the swelling started
Scables	they've had their first treatment
Scarlet Fever	24 hours after they started taking antibiotics
Whooping Cough	48 hours after they started taking antibiotics

No

but make sure you let their school or nursery know about...

Hand, foot and mouth	Glandular fever
Head lice	Tonsillitis
Threadworms	Slapped cheek





Advice and guidance

To find out more, search for health protection in schools or scan the QR code or visit https://qrco.de/minfec.

ARTIST OF THE MONTH

Michelle Reader

1975 - present







CAN YOU WORK IN THE STYLE OF THEM TO PRODUCE YOUR OWN WORK OF ART?

What can you find out about this artist?

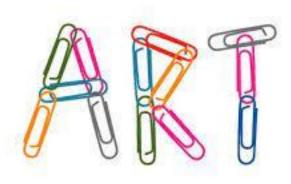
Hand in your creations and facts to Mrs Lee by

Monday 27th March for a chance to win an

amazing arts and craft prize!

Look out for new artists and prizes coming EVERY month!





CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR WINNERS SO FAR...

November - Anushka Yr 3

December - Arihant Yr 4

January- Jane Yr 1

February - Jenson Yr 1

March -

April -

May -

June -

July -

Will your name be joining them this







Diary Dates

Amendments are in Blue and Cancellations are in Red.

Please note the lists of dates below are subject to change and we encourage you to look each week for any changes.

Spring Term 2023

Monday 27th February 2023	Holi Festival Assembly
Monday 27th February 2023	Year 1 Orpington Library Visit
Monday 27th February 2023	Parent Consultation Meetings
Tuesday 28th February 2023	Year 4 Ancient Egypt Day
Thursday 2 nd March 2023	World Book Day
Monday 6 th March 2023	Coffee Morning - Parents welcome after morning drop off
Thursday 9 th March 2023	Year 3 Our Lady of the Crays
Thursday 9th March 2023	Year 5 Free Range Assembly (parents/carers welcome)
Friday 10 th March 2023	Holi Festival Assembly
Monday 13 th March 2023	Circus Science – Whole School Performance (Science Week)
Tuesday 14 th March 2023	Year 4 Free Range Assembly (parents/carers welcome)
Tuesday 14 th March 2023	Year 3 – Educational Visit to the British Museum
Thursday 16 th March 2023	Year 2 Free Range Assembly (parents/carers welcome)
Tuesday 21st March 2023	Year 3 Free Range Assembly (parents/carers welcome)
Tuesday 22 nd March 2023	Year 6 Free Range Assembly (parents/carers welcome)
Thursday 23 rd March 2023	Year 6 Parents SAT's Meeting at 3pm (Year 6 classroom)
Tuesday 28 th March 2023	Year 1 Free Range Assembly (parents/carers welcome)
Wednesday 29 th March 2023	Year 3 and 4 Easter Passion TBC
Thursday 30 th March 2023	KS1 Bunny Run (more information to follow)
Friday 31st March 2023	Easter Mass TBC
Friday 31st March 2023	Last Day of Term – finish at 2pm – NO STARS

Important date reminder!

BANK HOLIDAY Monday 8^{th} May 2023 - King's Coronation

This falls within the year 6 SATs week and therefore the first set of set of tests will be on <u>Tuesday 9th May 2023.</u> Please ensure your child is in school.