



Dear Parents,

We're almost at the end of another busy half term and everyone is ready for a well-earned break. This week is dedicated nationally to Children's mental health. It's a good opportunity to stop and have a chat with your child to make sure all is well and also to reflect on family lives as life can be so busy it's all too easy to miss out some quality family time together having fun. Let us all try to do something that will make our family members smile this week. In school we start assemblies every week by looking at the 5 elements of wellbeing (see above) and to check if we are trying to do each of these:

1 CONNECT: We need to communicate with each other so we can understand and support.

- 2. **KEEP LEARNING:** I'm sure you will agree that we all learn something new no matter what our age.
- 3. TAKE NOTICE: It's important that we take note of each other to check we are all okay.
- 4. GIVE: There is never a greater feeling than knowing you've helped someone else in whatever way you can.

5. BE ACTIVE: Doing a physical activity everyday generates positivity within.

When we return after half term, we will enter the season of Lent on <u>Wednesday 2nd March</u>. This Church season lasts for six weeks and guides us into that natural need of reflection and thoughtfulness before Easter on April 17th. The children will be given the opportunity to think about what they can do more of to help others or possibly give something up that will enable them to help others. We refer to these as our Lenten promises and will have the theme of a Lenten journey. Perhaps, you can join us by making your own personal Lenten promise. We signify the beginning of this time by marking the cross on our foreheads with ashes- a simple symbol reminding us of that we are all equal with a beginning and an end. We hope to have this service in the school hall or Church if we are okay to gather together. Otherwise, the younger children will have their own liturgy in their classrooms with their teacher. After this event, ask your son/ daughter what their Lenten promise is and maybe we can all help each other through this reflective season.



Best wishes to you all,

Mrs Christopher

STAFFING NEWS

Miss England will be leaving our school at <u>the end of July</u>. She has exciting plans to go travelling around the world. She has taught at our school for almost 10 years and we will indeed miss her very much especially her expertise and enthusiasm for outdoor learning activities. We also want to wish her all the best on her new travel adventures later this year.

Mrs Kent will be taking early retirement this year and will leave our school on <u>Friday May</u> <u>13th</u>, the end of Year 6's SATs week. She too will be missed very much by us all. Mrs Kent has been at the school for 7 years and been instrumental in teaching French to the key stage 2 children over the years. *Merci Madame Kent, nous vous souhaitons bonne chance pour l'avenir!* (Thank you Mrs Kent, we wish you well for the future).

The 'High 5' Reading Challenge Update



I'm delighted to announce that lots of children have now received their 125 reading signature certificates. Over the next half term, we are doing up our school library and hope to buy new books which the children will help to choose. If you are still finding it difficult to get your child reading at home, please let the class teacher know so they can offer little incentives that may help.

WORLD BOOK DAY 3rd March (25th year)

Come to school dressed as a book character on Thursday 3rd March to celebrate

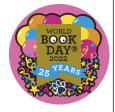
World Book day. There will be extra story time sessions and the opportunity for children to share favourite books with their classes.

We are also hoping to have the author 'David Lawrence Jones' at our school for a spectacular showcase event on his book series. When this date is confirmed, you will have the opportunity to buy some of these books and get them signed by the author. More details will follow nearer the time.

Prefect News

We are helping all Children to behave well at school. Next half term we will be giving reward Cloakroom Certificates to remind Children to keep our Class spaces Clutter -free. This will help keep everyone safe when walking around inside the building.





ECO WARRIORS BLOG by Year 5:

We are continuing to think of more and more ideas to help us remember the importance of looking after our planet. Our latest plan is to hand out little reminder cards to children as they leave assembly, then they read these to the class. Some of these reminders are:



Signs of Spring

Next half term, the children would like to fill our planters with colourful flowers. If you would like to contribute, we need compost and plants to fill up the large containers outside the Year 3 classroom. It would be lovely to see these filled with colour. Please give any contributions to Miss England. Thank you for your support.



<u>'NUT FREE SCHOOL' REMINDER</u>

Please remember we have children with nut allergies, therefore do not allow any foods containing nuts in your child's school lunch.



SCHOOL UNIFORM

We all want our children to look smart in their uniforms so please check that your child is wearing the correct uniform including their tie. PE kits have navy shorts and navy t shirts (school logo) and also include **plain** navy or black joggers or hooded sweater / school fleece. (no sports logo sets please).

As always, if you are having problems getting your child the correct uniform or if your child has difficulty wearing the correct uniform, please talk to us and we will come up with a solution together.

Attendance

At the end of last term, we celebrated 'good health' by giving our 99% & 100% attendees certificates. At that time, they gave some tips on how to keep healthy. These were:

1. Go to bed on time and get enough sleep 2. Eat healthily 3. Drink lots of water.

Punctuality

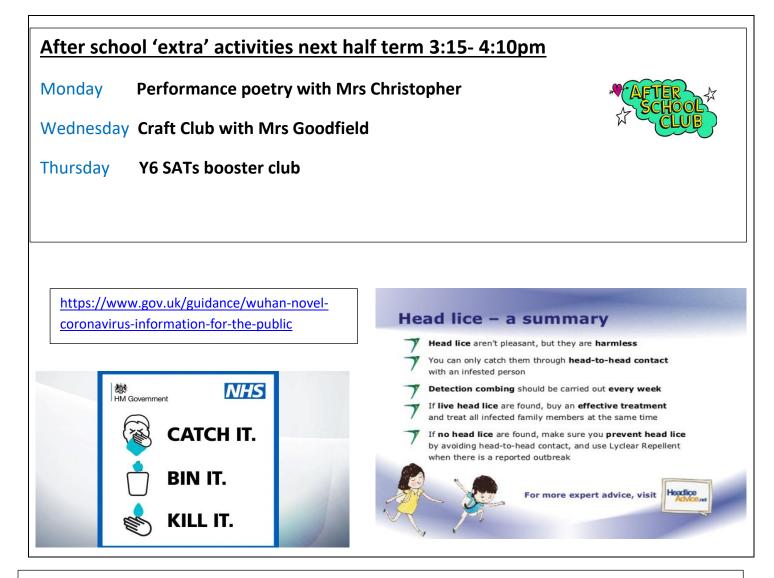
I cannot stress enough the importance of punctuality. Please try to get your child to school on time each day. It is good for them and also for the rest of the class as it means the class can get the learning started promptly. If you're having any problems getting to school on time, please let us know so we can understand and support you.

All our sports events photos are on the website. This term there has been handball and cross country events at The Purbeck school. The children showed great stamina and team support at the cross country event when many ran back to help a slower runner complete the race. Well done everyone!



Results for cross country are below:

Y4 Boys 8th place Y4 Girls 3rd place



Dates for next half term

28/2/22 STAFF TRAINING DAY (no school)

2/3/22 Ash Wednesday- start of Lent

3/3/22 World Book day -dress up as a book character

15/3/22 British Science Week

30th March – 1st April Y4 New Barn Residential Trip (please pay deposits asap or contact Mr Pickavance)

25/3/22 Mother's Day service (Our Mother Church)

4/4/22 Holy week services in school

8/4/22 Last day 1:30pm finish