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January 2018

Dear Parents

Achievement Assembly

This month's Achievement Assembly will take place on Friday 26th January at 2.45pm. Refreshments will be available from 2:25pm and don't forget the cake raffle: 50p a ticket. The Achievement Cups will be awarded for 'kindness, consideration and helpfulness' and children from Year 5 and 6 will be sharing some of their work.

Head Boys

Congratulations to Teddy Saunders and Monty Neale who have been chosen as our Head Boys for this term.

Cross Country

The next race will be on Thursday 8th February and there is another scheduled for Thursday 8th March. Let's hope the weather is kind and the events are able to take place.

Table Tennis

Following an anonymous donation to the school we have been able to purchase an outdoor table tennis table. Thank you to Mr Martin for putting it together and of course to the mysterious donor.

Sainsbury's Active Kids

Sainsbury's will no longer be giving out Active Kids Vouchers, after 13 years they are considering a new approach to Active Kids in the future. Thank you for all of the vouchers you have collected over the years.

Football Team

School Football Team Practice begins on Wednesday 31st January at lunchtime. Due to a number of other commitments I am not able to offer after school practice this term.

School Nurse

The School Nurse will be in school on Tuesday 30th January for a drop in session from 3pm. Just wait outside the school office for your turn. She has also asked that we send out information about threadworms – see attached. They are common in children and spread easily. If you discover your child has threadworms please treat them and everyone in your household, even if they don't have symptoms. Threadworms spread when their eggs are swallowed. This is why it's important to encourage children to wash their hands regularly.

E-safety

I've been asked by the Police and Child Sexual Exploitation colleagues to forward the following link to a parent e-safety survey: <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/internetsafetysurvey4parents>. Please complete the survey as it will help them know what children are doing online. The survey will be live till the end of January 2018. The following website will also give you lots of up-to-date information about internet safety: <https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents/>.

Djembe Drumming

We have probably been allocated the Tuesday 26th June matinée performance at De Montfort Hall. Further details as soon as we get them.

Foxton Locks

Children in Years 1 – 6 have been invited to Foxton Locks on Friday 9th February to see the maintenance work going on at Foxton Locks, further details to follow. There is an Open Weekend at the locks over the weekend 10th and 11th February. You will get a chance to see the rarely exposed chambers of Foxton Locks, the longest and steepest staircase locks in the UK as they are being drained of water.

Class Newsletters

Each class has a newsletter for this term. The children should have all taken home a copy. The newsletters are available on the school's website under the 'Classes' tab. Viewing the newsletters online makes it easier to access the Internet links.

Basketball

On Monday 29th January there will be no after school basketball as Igor is attending a tournament.

Change4Life Campaign

This was on launched on the 2nd January 2018 and targets sugar intake in children.

Research has highlighted the importance of educating young people to identify healthier snacks, understand food labels and understand the effects of high sugar content. We know that currently:

- Half the sugar children consume comes from unhealthy snacks and sugary drinks;
- On average, children are consuming at least 3 unhealthy snacks and sugary drinks a day, with around a third consuming 4 or more;
- Children in England currently consume three times more sugar than is recommended.

These unhealthy eating habits can lead to obesity and tooth decay.

With this in mind the latest campaign introduces a simple tip '2 snacks max' per day. The campaign aims to encourage parents to give no more than two packaged snacks per day, to reduce children's sugar intake.

Winter Weather

If we have to close the school because staff have not been able to get to work, we will notify parents via text message, the school website and reports on BBC Radio Leicester (both through broadcasts and their website). When the weather is cold and wet the children must bring a warm, waterproof coat to school with them. Unless the weather is very, very wet, children will be outside at break and lunch time.

Year 5 and 6 Music

We are very pleased to have David Wheway, a senior lecturer in primary education from Christ Church University in Canterbury working with our Year 5 and 6 children. He will be recording music activities with the children in a circle, the children building rhythm ensembles in groups and as a whole class (with conducting) and children talking about music they have listened to/listening activities.

Parents Evening

Letters for Parents Evening have been sent home, Fox Cubs and Year 5 have appointments available on Tuesday 30th January. Year 1, 2, 3 and 4 have appointments on Tuesday 30th and Wednesday 31st January. As always, if you need an alternative date please see the class teacher for a mutually convenient time.

Head Lice

This is an ongoing problem. Parents, please check your child's hair regularly. There is no need to purchase expensive or smelly chemical solutions – a simple and effective way of eliminating lice is to wash your child's hair, apply plenty of conditioner and comb the hair through with a nit comb with the conditioner still in the hair. This needs to be done every second day until you are no longer finding lice/nits. Further details in the attached leaflet.

P.E.

The children in all classes have P.E. outside in any weather; please ensure they have appropriate kit that will keep them warm and dry if it's raining.

Job Vacancy

We are looking to employ a cleaner to assist Mr Martin. The position is term time only at the end of the school day. For further details please ask.

Easter Service

The Achievement Assembly on Friday 23rd March will take place at Foxton Church starting at 2pm.

Yours sincerely

Mr P Clark
Head Teacher