

Dear parents and carers,

Half term has arrived and with it some well-timed improvements to the weather forecast! I hope you all have an enjoyable week off with your children. School re-opens on Monday 26th February at 8:45am.

Parent-teacher meetings

Thanks to everyone who came to the parent-teacher meetings this week. We hope you found it a useful update on where your child is currently with their learning and what they need to do next. You will get your child's end of spring term report sent home just before the Easter holiday. Special mention to our School Council tour guides who did a fantastic job meeting and greeting the visitors: Joey, Jewel, Sophie D, Hugo L, Santana and Connie.

Parental support

Can I politely ask that, at least in front of your children, parents and carers are supportive of the school's approach to behaviour management and the follow-up from this. We continue to work hard to implement the Empowerment Approach and where parents / carers have joined Coaching Time, this has been successful in showing a united front to help the child improve their skills and be a pro-learning and pro-social member of our school. A small minority of parents / carers challenge the school's handling of incidents and can undermine the consequences and follow-up which we implement in-line with our policy. A reminder that you have all signed the home-school agreement in support of the school's policies.

We will be hosting another parent session on the Empowerment Approach in the near future and hope lots of parents / carers will attend to learn more about how vital it is we have a joined-up and consistent approach to help children improve the skills they need. A huge part of the Empowerment Approach is that consequences occur to help children learn from and reflect upon an incident. All incidents are fully investigated, and the consequence issued in school matches the behaviour which has occurred. The consequences are not "fixed" but very situational-dependent. The length of time for a consequence is also not fixed but dependent on a child showing they have learnt the skill they were lacking. The reason for the consequences is to try and prevent a repeat of the incident and ensure all children in school are safe and have their right to learn respected.

Examples of some consequences are:

A period of time not playing with certain equipment (e.g. football / scoops) if there was unsafe play

Being sent to another class to reflect and reset for 10 – 15 minutes if a child has caused a classroom disruption

Being asked to re-do work in their own time if it is not a child's personal best

Not being allowed on the playground for an amount of time until a child has had some coaching and proved they can play safely. Instead a child would be kept in The Base (KS2) or Sunshine Room (EYFS / KS1) to learn some appropriate play skills

Not being allowed to represent the school or participate in "fun" activities if a child is disrespectful to adults

A fixed-term exclusion (suspension) is a consequence for serious incidents

Reading

This week's reading winning classes were Crocus and Poppy. Randomly chosen individual winners were Klara and Eve.

Please continue to keep up good reading habits over half term! We are really seeing a positive impact from the increase in reading at home so we want to maintain this momentum! Please also see the letter regarding World Book Day and our in-school plans to promote "Reading your way" on Thursday 7th March.

Bartonian winners

Well done to all of term three's Bartonian winners who had their prize-giving today for showing our school value of Self Belief. Please see the EBPS termly round-up for these and more photographs!

Build update

It has been confirmed that the current Bluebells mobile will be out of use with effect from 8th March and will be demolished over the Easter holiday. Due to this work taking place on-site, we will sadly not be offering the HAF clubs here over Easter. Eligible families have been sent their HAF codes and will be signposted to holiday clubs in other local schools. We hope to re-offer the HAF clubs again during the summer holiday.

Attendance

Our whole school attendance today was a very low 91%. This means almost 10% of children were off-school and missed a day of learning. Our attendance target is 96%+. Please note the term dates and be mindful that learning continues right up to the end of each term and children who are absent on the first or last day of terms still miss a significant amount. Term-time holidays will not be authorised.

Wishing you a lovely half-term break.

Miss Lally

Diary dates for next term

Monday 26th February to Friday 1st March – Y5 Bikeability

Wednesday 28th February – Y4 Anglo-Saxon day

Friday 1st March – Mufti Day

Thursday 7th March – World Book Day

Friday 22nd March 3.45pm – Junior choir concert

Tuesday 26th March – Y1 trip to Woburn

Thursday 28th March – End of term

A reminder that details of school events can be found on our website, [here](#).

Letters home this week:

World Book Day 7th March

Lavender class change – Letters to Y2 classes

School holiday fund vouchers – Entitled pupils only

Welcome to parents evening

EY donation request

Reception health screening questionnaire – EY only

Bikeability checklist – Y5 bikeability participants only

Crocus class parents evening postponed – Crocus class only

Anglo Saxon day – Y4 only

Gymnastics club next term

Attachments:

Online safety – Dating and relationships