



Dear Parents and Carers

We have enjoyed welcoming you to the school to look at your children's work this week prior to parents' evenings next week. It is a pleasure to share your child's hard work with you. Thanks for all who have attended.



The art exhibition was also well attended and we had some super comments about the children's art work from both children and parents. School Council shared that children loved the opportunity to see other year groups art work and to see all the different uses of colour and styles. One child enjoyed said that children liked seeing their siblings art.

We are as proud of your children's talents as you are and glad we had the opportunity to share their creations with you. My thanks to Mrs Nerney and the staff for putting this together.



Governor Election

Thank you for all who returned their ballot papers. I have sent a letter to all families separately however would like to thank both the parents for putting themselves forward. It was close however I can confirm that Mrs Farida Jeewa has been elected as a governor. We look forward to her joining the governing body to help steer the school. Our governor Mrs Kynaston-Pearson came in to monitor the EYFS provision and the well being activities that are taking place in the school. She commented on the fact that there is a real sense of plans underway and that mental health is a real focus in the school. She also noted that the EYFS team are all very enthusiastic about teaching and helping the children develop. They are constantly thinking of new ways to engage the children and are willing to listen to the children's ideas on what they should incorporate into the teaching. Thank you to Mrs Kynaston-Pearson for giving up her time to come into the school to complete the visit.

Diary Dates

Monday 13 and Tuesday 14 February – Parents Evening

Thursday 16 February – Fund Raising Event Red and White Socks Day

Thursday 16 February – Swithland Assembly 2.15pm **(CANCELLED NEW DATE TO BE CONFIRMED)**

Monday 20 – Friday 24 February – Half Term

Friday 3 March – Speedwell Assembly 2.15pm

Monday 6 March – 8 March Conover Residential Trip

Friday 10 March – Fourfold Assembly 9.30am

Friday 17 March – Rosewood Assembly 2.15pm

Friday 17 March – Red Nose Day (More details to follow)

Wednesday 22 March – Foundation Windmill Farm Trip

Friday 24 March – Rivendell Assembly 2.15pm

Thursday 30 March – Year 3 Beaumanor Hall Trip

Parents' Evening Next week

Parents Evening next week will be held virtually. I know many of you have signed up already and our staff are looking forward to having their sessions with you. Do take time over the weekend to log on, check your IT equipment is working and you are able to log on. In this way you can check all is working well before the meeting time. As it is a computerised programme, it cannot be adjusted if you arrive late to the meeting or if technology doesn't work. If there is anything we can help with at the office, do come and ask for help.

Behaviour Support

Recently, we have noticed an increasing amount of behaviours where children are not looking out for each other or being aware of others' feelings. This tends to be on the playground where they are more free to make their own choices. Staff are working hard within school to help the children make the right choices however I would ask all parents to support with ensuring that children are guided and supported at home too. Getting on with each other will be a theme for after half term in school as well as lots of work that has been done this week as part of Children's Mental Health Week. Thank you for your support.

Fund Raising Event

We have of course seen the news of the current worrying situation in Turkey and Syria from the recent earthquake. We know some of our families are from Turkey so would like to extend our support and kind wishes to all who are affected with this terrible situation. We have had parents extending their thoughts and support to our Turkish families as well. Our teachers have been given resources to help the children if any ask about the earthquakes or anything that worries them in the news.



As you appreciate, we are a giving school and our children would like to raise money for this worthwhile cause. To this end, we are having a red or white socks day on Thursday 16 February. Socks can be all red, all white or a mix of red and white, all combinations accepted! These are the colours of the Turkish flag so a fitting way to show the families are in our thoughts all day. Please send your child in with a donation of £1 on Thursday if they wish to wear these colourful socks and support the fund raising appeal.



Basketball Tournament

Wednesday evening saw eight of our children across year 5 and 6 take part in a tournament at Gartree High School. They were up against seven other teams in a round robin format, in two groups of four. Our first game was extremely challenging against the eventual finalists, failing to register any points. However, we found our rhythm in our second and third games, winning both comfortably. The children showed great resilience, defending very well, not allowing the opposition to score at all. We eventually finished as group runners-up, reaching the semi-final. Unfortunately, the opposition proved too much and we lost. Our teams' respect for the officials and rules did not go unnoticed, as we took home the 'Spirit of the Games' award. We are extremely proud of the way our children played and the teamwork they showed on court. Well done to those involved!



Attendance Award



This week the classes with the highest attendance in KS1 is **Stepping Stones**.

The class with the highest attendance in KS2 this week is **Oakwood**.

Congratulations!