

**We are a global community, learning and growing together.**



Dear Parents and Carers,

Thank you for your patience with this newsletter. I was keen to get this term's dates to you, which has taken time to get together. For a full list of events, please look at the dates list at the end of this newsletter.

### Meet the teacher

Thank you for attending and for your positive feedback. For those who couldn't make it, the PowerPoints have been forwarded to you.

### Curriculum Plans

We are reviewing the formats for presenting curriculum information to parents. In the meantime, however, we will be uploading onto the website some detailed curriculum maps and knowledge organisers. This should be in place by Friday 22nd September.

### PE Kit

Please make sure your child is wearing their PE kit to school on the relevant days. This cuts down on changing time.

### Attendance and punctuality

By law we cannot authorise absence for holiday. We can grant special leave but only in exceptional circumstances such as for a family funeral or wedding.

The government and local authorities are taking a particularly tough stance on this as low absence rates since COVID have had a pronounced effect on children and schools. Our next local authority visit will be on Friday 29th September when individual cases will be discussed. Please work with us on this.

Punctuality has been good this term. We are now opening the school gates at 8.30 am to avoid the bulge on the pavement. We hope to open the gates even earlier in due course but at present, we have a significant problem with unsafe rubbish being left behind by evening and weekend users. We cannot open the school gates until we have completed a full sweep on the site. We are working with the council to resolve this.

### Forest School

Forest School will commence this week for children in Reception and Year 1. Most activities will take place on site, but once a term the children will travel to Hill End for a special Forest School Day. Children should bring wellies, a waterproof coat and some



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waterproof trousers. Don't worry if you don't have the full kit this week, we will start with what you've got.

### Choir and Orchestra

Tania Garrod has started lunchtime choir on a Monday. Orchestra will begin next Monday from 2.45 - 3.30pm. If your child attends drama club, we will ensure that they manage to attend both sessions.

### Collective Worship/Assembly

Assemblies, including a daily act of collective worship begin in full this week. Assemblies give us the opportunity to explore the big ideas in life, to think about why we are here and who we might become. We draw on different world views and religions, with examples from Christianity as our historic foundation. There should be something of value for all attending and no one should feel compromised or compelled to participate. We will be holding a community workshop in November to discuss this further. In the meantime, we respect all decisions to participate or not. If you wish to withdraw your child from collective worship, please inform the school office in writing.

### Friday assemblies

All parents and carers are invited to our weekly celebration assemblies (attended by Reception and Years 1-6). This will take place at 9am every Friday (i.e. after drop off) and will involve celebrating the week's key triumphs, large and small. We will also be celebrating birthdays.

### Phonics workshop

There will be an important reading and phonics workshop for parents and carers on children in Reception and Year 1. This will include information on how phonics and reading is taught and how to support your children at home. We encourage at least one parent/carer from each family to attend this.

### SEN Review Meetings

SEN review meetings will take place on Monday 2nd October from 1-5pm. If your child is on the special needs register, you will shortly receive an invitation to this. If you cannot attend on this date, alternative arrangements can be made.

### Harvest

We will be celebrating Harvest at the church on Friday 6th October at 9.30am. Please join us if you would like to.



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### International Evening

International evening is moving back to its original time of the school year. This will be on Wednesday 18th October at 6pm. Further details will follow shortly.

### PTA meeting

The first PTA meeting of the year will be this Thursday 21st September at 6.30pm in school. Please join for a drink, some biscuits and a chat about events this term.

### Dates for the term

Friday 29th September	Phonics/Reading Workshop
Monday 2nd October	SEN Review Meetings
Friday 6th October 9.30am	Harvest Festival at St. Barnabas Church
Wednesday 18th October 6pm	International Evening
7th/8th November	Parent Teacher Meetings
Friday 17th and Saturday 18th November	Open Mornings (prospective parents)
Friday 1st December 9.15 - 10.45am	Curriculum open classrooms (parents and carers invited)
Wednesday 13th December 9.15am	Christmas songs (Nursery and Reception)
Thursday 14th December 2pm	School Nativity (Years 1 and 2)
Monday 18th December 6pm	School Carol Service (Years 3-6)
Tuesday 19th December	Christmas Lunch
Wednesday 20th December 1pm	Term Ends - no after school clubs

Have a good week.

Best wishes

Beccy Harris Headteacher



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