

Dear Families,

We hope the children are enjoying the first day of the holidays! Today, the teachers are busy working on looking deeper into our wider curriculum lessons and planning some wonderful learning for the children on their return in term 5. Hopefully the sun will make a return over the next two weeks, but above all, we look forward to welcoming the children back after some rest and fun.

Mrs. G. Sherwin



Term 5 and term 6 assessments

Every day is a busy day in a primary school, but now the lockdowns seem to be a distant memory, the statutory tests as determined by the Department for Education, are set to resume this year and make those days even busier.

Year 6

Our Year 6 children will complete their end of Key Stage 2 Statutory Assessments in SPAG (spelling, punctuation & grammar); reading and maths. The dates are set by the DfE and the tests must be administered under test conditions. Our year 6 children are already used to this process and have completed a series of 'mocks' in order to prepare themselves of what to expect. We have been working on helping the children to achieve their very best so they enter secondary school with a solid foundation of knowledge to work from.

Monday 9th May: English grammar, punctuation and spelling (paper 1 and 2)

Tuesday 10th May: Reading

Wednesday 11th May: Maths paper 1 (arithmetic) and maths paper 2 (reasoning)

Thursday 12th May: Maths paper 3 (reasoning)

Year 2

This year, the end of Key Stage 1 SATs have been reinstated. This means that our year 2 pupils will also sit a series of assessments which help to guide the assessments that the teachers make. These assessments are sat in small groups during the month of May. Again, our year 2 children are familiar with the set up of these situations, but we will of course ensure that the children feel no pressure and are able to achieve the best for themselves.

Year 1

During the week commencing 6th June, our Year 1 children will complete the phonics screening check which is used as a tool to see how well children have secured their ability to use synthetic phonics. The screening check is carried out in a 1:1 situation. Again, the children are used to this process and simply see it as time with Mrs Bradbury to go out and read!

Year 4

From 6th June to 24th June, our Year 4 pupils will be the first cohort of children to complete the new statutory multiplication check. There will be more information to follow in term 5, but in the meantime, please support your child in recalling their times tables (up to 12 x 12). 'Times tables rockstars' is perfect for this! Also, the benefits of quick fire questions over breakfast and dinner will also help your child's rapid recall of times tables facts.



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Back to school

Just a reminder that we all return to school on Tuesday 19th April.

Our breakfast club will resume on Wednesday 20th April.



PE kits

Please help your child to bring the correct PE kit to school. PE kits should be brought into school at the start of term and children will change prior to the lesson. Children should wear their house colour t-shirt (please speak to Mrs Walker in our lower office if you need a new one). Dark shorts/ jogging bottoms must be worn. We will start sending home reminder letters for children who continue to wear the incorrect PE kit. Thank you for your support.



Reading

We continue to order books to keep our library stock modern and of interest to the children of Dame Janet. We are always grateful of donations so if your child has enjoyed a book and you no longer need it, then please consider us.

We've discovered that there are plenty of online book shops on Ebay who sell wonderful quality second-hand books.



Data sheets and assessment

Across the year, we have worked hard to ensure that through parents evening appointments you are kept in the loop with regards to your child's progress. We are also aware that some parents may appreciate further information regarding how assessments are made at Dame Janet. With this in mind, at the start of term 5, we will be sending home data sheets which show the assessment outcomes for children in year 1 to 6. Within this, we have included a summary of how assessments are made and what this means.

National Online Tutoring Programme

All schools have received funding to strengthen the learning which was lost across the multiple lockdowns. We are lucky to have a great team of teachers at Dame Janet who will be using some of their own time to offer tutoring sessions after school. This process begins for year 6 after the holidays and will then commence for other year groups shortly after. The tutoring sessions are intended to give those in receipt the best chance of strengthening their current understanding. They are not an indication that a child has 'fallen behind'. If you have any questions, or are keen for your child to take part, please speak to your child's class teacher.

Easter bonnets/hats



We look forward to seeing the Easter bonnet creations on our return. As soon as we have chosen the winners, we will let you know! Keep an eye on our social media (Facebook and Instagram) accounts.



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