

And so Christmas feels like a life time ago....Happy New Year everyone! I hope you all had a wonderful Christmas and a good break with your families. It has been great to welcome the children back at the start of the new Spring term. Everyone has settled back into their classes and it feels like the holiday never happened! It was lovely to hear the children's stories of Christmas and listen to what a magical time many of them have had.

We have hit the ground running at the start of the term and it is lovely to feel the classrooms are once again buzzing with energy, and it's a joy to see the children return with enthusiasm, ready to embrace the opportunities that lie ahead. There is lots planned so please make a note of the diary dates you will find at the end of this newsletter.

*you don't need
a cape to be a
hero. you just
need to care.*
KID PRESIDENT

KENSIEKATE.COM

Seesaw
Keeps everyone in the learning loop

An important letter was sent out on Wednesday about the use of SEESAW. Please make sure you have read it and are using SEESAW appropriately. The vast majority of our parents use SEESAW

appropriately so it saddens me that I have had to write this letter at all.



EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES



A letter will be sent home

on Monday about the clubs on offer for the Spring Term. Please return this as soon as possible to secure your child's place.

LATES – We are still having a number of children turn up for school late each day.

Children that are on time start the day settled, relaxed and ready to learn. Children that arrive late are often stressed and embarrassed and take a while to settle into their day. Late arrivals cause disruption within the class which has an effect on everyone.

Our **Local Authority Attendance Officer** came to school on Wednesday morning and managed to speak to a number of parents and children about the importance of being in school on time. This will now happen regularly to encourage good punctuality.



**Be In SCHOOL
Be On TIME**

ATTENDANCE

Well done to Year 5 for having the best attendance this week.

F2 – 89.3%

Year 1 – 91.6%

Year 2 – 90.3%

Year 3 – 95.3%

Year 4 – 93.4%

Year 5 – 95.7%

Year 6 – 89.7%

UNIFORM REMINDER - As the new academic term begins, we'd like to give some gentle reminders about some key points from our uniform policy. Whilst we want the children to be comfortable and ready to learn, we do need to maintain high standards of presentation: Please make sure your child has:

- **Black shoes**
- **A warm coat in the colder weather**
- **The correct PE kit**

Too many children are coming to school not wearing an appropriate PE Kit. Our PE kit consists of blue (navy or royal blue) leggings, shorts or trousers and a white t-shirt and blue sweatshirt.

If you do not have an appropriate sweatshirt, your child can wear their school sweatshirt over a white t-shirt and take this off during PE. We will be contacting parents when their child is not in the correct PE kit and if we have one available, we will give them one to wear from our school set.

**SCHOOL
UNIFORMS**

Attendance - Driving up attendance and tackling persistent absence is at the centre of new stronger measures launched this week by the Government Department of Education as pupils return to school this term.

The Education Secretary Gillian Keegan said: 'The benefits of our success in raising education standards can only be when all children are in school.

Tackling attendance is our number one priority. We want all our children to have the best start in life because we know that attending school is vital to a child's wellbeing, development, and attainment as well as impact future career success.

Every day counts: when children miss school, it's not just about missing lessons, it's also about losing valuable moments spent with their friends and teachers.

A national communications campaign on the importance of attendance has also been launched this week targeting parents and carers. Under the strapline 'Moments Matter, Attendance Counts' it outlines the importance of attendance for attainment, wellbeing, and development.

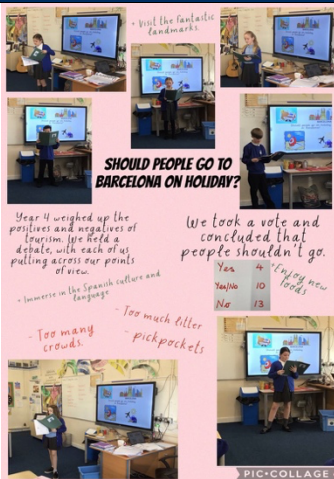


Good attendance means...

Being in school at least 95% of the time or 180 to 190 days

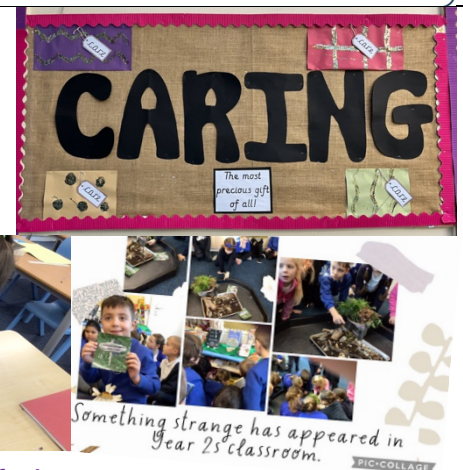
365 days in a calendar year

175 days not in school!



Thank you to Foundation 2 who have created our beautiful whole school value display. Our school value for the month of January is 'CARING'.

In school this week, something strange has appeared in Year 2s classroom. They have looked at all the clues and made some predictions.



Year 4 have been learning about Barcelona in their Geography lesson and considered whether people should go on holiday there.

In maths in Year 6, they have been using fraction spinners to consolidate their understanding of equivalent fractions.

This week in Assembly we have been thinking about the feast of the Epiphany. We remembered how the wise men from the East were guided to Jesus. We thought about the meaning behind the gifts given to Jesus and reflected on what we can give to Jesus. We learnt that Jesus Himself is the most perfect gift of love from God to us.



Spring Term Dates

Monday 15th January – (pm) Year 5 Police PSHE Session

Tuesday 16th January – 3:30pm – Parents Meeting about First Holy Communion

Week beginning Monday 22nd January – **CLUBS to START**

Tuesday 23rd January – Year 5 - Hi Impact Workshop – Pneumatic Rockets

Wednesday 24th January – 9:30am – BISHOP MARK visiting school

Thursday 25th January – Year 5 PSHE Day with Mr Sledge

Monday 29th January – (pm) Year 5 Police PSHE Session

Tuesday 8th February – 2pm - Enrolment Service in School for First Holy Communion children

Friday 9th February – (pm) – Road Safety Session for Year 5 and 6

Monday 12th February – Parents Afternoon/Evening

Tuesday 13th February – Parents Afternoon/Evening

Tuesday 13th February – Year 5 working with Mrs Seed from Upton Hall – Science Session on Forces & Mechanisms

Wednesday 14th February – ASH WEDNESDAY – 9:15am Mass in Church

Friday 16th February – Break up for Half Term

Monday 26th February – Children return to school

Thursday 29th February – Mr Sledge working with all classes in KS2 - FAIRTRADE

Monday 4th March – (pm) Year 5 Police PSHE Session

Thursday 7th March – WORLD BOOK DAY

Thursday 7th & Friday 8th March - Year 3 Residential to Barnstondale

Friday 8th March – (am) Year 5 to Woodchurch High for Science Session

Tuesday 12th March – (am) Year 5 to Woodchurch High for Science Session

Tuesday 12th March – 6pm – FIRST FORGIVENESS in Church

Friday 15th March – Comic Relief Red Nose Day

Tuesday 19th March – Mrs Seed from Upton Hall working with Year 6 – Science Session on Human Circulation

Wednesday 20th March – Year 5 Hi Impact Session – Robot Wars

Thursday 21st March – Mr Sledge PSHE Day working with Year 6, Year 3 & Year 4

Friday 22nd March – (pm) Year 5 to Woodchurch High for Science Session

Week beginning 25th March – HOLY WEEK

Thursday 28th March – Whole School Retreat Day

Thursday 31st March – Break Up for Easter

Enjoy the weekend, Mrs Ralph



UK Health
Security
Agency



Should I keep my child off school?

Yes

Until...

Chickenpox	at least 5 days from the onset of the rash and until all blisters have crusted over
Diarrhoea and Vomiting	48 hours after their last episode
Cold and Flu-like illness (including COVID-19)	they no longer have a high temperature and feel well enough to attend. Follow the national guidance if they've tested positive for COVID-19.
Impetigo	their sores have crusted and healed, or 48 hours after they started antibiotics
Measles	4 days after the rash first appeared
Mumps	5 days after the swelling started
Scabies	they've had their first treatment
Scarlet Fever	24 hours after they started taking antibiotics
Whooping Cough	48 hours after they started taking antibiotics

No

but make sure you let their school or nursery know about...

Hand, foot and mouth	Glandular fever
Head lice	Tonsillitis
Threadworms	Slapped cheek



SCAN ME

Advice and guidance

To find out more, search for health protection in schools or scan the QR code or visit <https://qrco.de/minfec>.

**WEEK
2**

CHOICE 1

CHOICE 2

CHOICE 3

DESSERT

MONDAY

TUESDAY

WEDNESDAY



THURSDAY

FRIDAY



Meatballs in Tomato Sauce served with Spaghetti, Garlic & Herb Bread and Seasonal Vegetables



Cheese & Tomato Pasta served with Garlic & Herb Bread and Seasonal Vegetables



Honey Roast Gammon served with Roast/Mashed Potatoes, Seasonal Vegetables & Gravy



Chicken Korma served with Rice, Naan Bread & Seasonal Vegetables



Breaded Mozzarella Sticks served with Chips & Peas or Baked Beans

VEGETARIAN VERSIONS OF THE ABOVE MEAL AVAILABLE DAILY



Jacket Potato with a Selection of Fillings Served with a Side Salad



Jacket Potato with a Selection of Fillings Served with a Side Salad



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Jacket Potato with a Selection of Fillings Served with a Side Salad



Jacket Potato with a Selection of Fillings Served with a Side Salad



Deli Choice of Breads with a Selection of Fillings Served with a Side Salad



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Banoffee Muffin



Chocolate Cookie



Fruit Cup



Strawberry Ice Cream Cake



Golden Crunch Cookie

AVAILABLE EVERY DAY – UNLIMITED SALAD, FRESHLY BAKED BREAD, FRUIT YOGHURT & FRESH FRUIT PLATTER. FOR ALLERGEN INFORMATION, PLEASE ASK ONE OF OUR CATERING TEAM. ALL THE ABOVE DISHES ARE SUBJECT TO AVAILABILITY.