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Friday 24th February 2023

Dear Parents/Carers,

I hope that everyone had an enjoyable half-term and the children seem to have returned to school well. I hope that the small change we've made to the gate procedure has helped the transition and apologies again for springing it on you on Monday!

I'm really pleased that we have been able to reintroduce swimming back to the timetable following the closure of the Simon Langton pool and our first session this week went really well.

We've also had some success in sport this week as our Year 2 and Year 4 teams attended a cricket event yesterday where one of our pupils was awarded the MCC Spirit of Cricket Ambassador award – well done Rupert (Year 4) and well done to the teams who attended who have also written reports below.

On Thursday we went to play cricket. We played against two other schools. There were fielders and batters. We had four games to play to see who would be the winner. We practised before we played the first game. The schools we played against were Sheldwich and Wickhambreaux. The batters' job was to hit three balls of the cones which were called t's. At first, we got really confused we thought the other team had won but luckily, we had won! The fielders' job was to put the balls back on the cone before the other team got too many runs. The second game we played against Sheldwich and we won. In the third game Betsy's glasses unfortunately broke and we had to search for a little screw. Luckily, we won this game as well. We won the final game securing us first place.

By Ella, Raef and Elara (Year 2)

A few of people from both year 4 classes went to Spitfire Cricket Ground to play rapid fire cricket against some other local schools but unfortunately Mona wasn't able to make it. Nevertheless we played on with everyone else and we did her proud. After a quick lunch we played 4 matches. In our group we had to play against Canterbury and Pilgrims Way twice and all four games were tough and quite a challenge we were quite nervous but excited too.

We won every match- a few key highlights are that on our second match we won but it felt like we drew because it was so intense. The score was 49 - 29 to Bridge. Rupert got 13 runs with 3 brilliant hits and Imogen got 2 balls back to the cone. We won overall, by 1 point. In the final it was a tough match but we came out on top by one run. We felt very happy and proud that we won – and very relieved too! Hopefully we did Mona proud.

Well done to all, and well done to Rupert for his award. At the end they handed out awards Rupert got a certificate for his supportive attitude. And Nik got a magic moment medal for playing well and doing good hits.

On the way home we had a big party in the bus we sang, and celebrated. We waited until we were on the bus to be respectful to the feelings of the other teams.

By Rupert, Nik, Finn, Laurence and Imogen (Year 4)



I was also pleased to receive some photos of two of our children performing in a Chinese New Year dance a few weeks' ago. Benny and Nicole performed at the Gulbenkian Theatre in front of an audience including the Mayor of Canterbury – an incredible opportunity and they were then presented with certificates of appreciation which we presented to them both today.



Upcoming Dates & Events

World Book Day

Today your children will have received their World Book Day voucher. This year we will be celebrating World Book Day on the 10th March (rather than the suggested date of 2nd March) to coincide with Neurodiversity week 13-19th March.

We are inviting the children to dress up that day if they would like to as a character from a book. We are also looking forward to welcoming author, Tom Delahunt.

Tom will be starting the day by taking a whole school assembly, followed by working throughout the day with individual year groups talking about his book, with question-and-answer sessions.

Finally, there will be a chance to get your own copy of his book signed after school under the year 6 canopy.

Tom will have a limited number of books with him for sale for £10. If you would like to order a copy in advance please follow the link: [CCCU The Wandering Lamb \(canterbury.ac.uk\)](http://CCCU The Wandering Lamb (canterbury.ac.uk))

From the back of Tom's book;

From The Times Higher Education Award winner for Most Innovative Teacher of the Year 2019, this delightful children's story follows a lamb who is wonderfully different.

Curiosity leads him wandering from the flock on a search for acceptance. But when a shepherd shows him unconditional love, he is set free, happily different and ready to dream.

Visit to Church – Lent

To coincide with Lent, next week, the children will be visiting the church to learn more about this period of time and consider the lessons that can be learnt from this and how we can apply these to our daily lives whether we are of the Christian faith or not. Parents would have already signed the local visits consent form but we may be seeking some parent volunteers to accompany.

Tuesday	Year 2	1CJ	Year 6	3JA	RGR
Wednesday	Year 4	1LA	Year 5	3LC	RKG

National Offer Day for Secondary Schools

On Wednesday, parents of Year 6 children will find out which secondary school their child has been allocated for September. If, after receiving your email, you wish to discuss anything then please do contact me directly via email.

An Audience with Hari Budha Magar

Many of our families will know Hari as he has been a parent at the school for a great number of years now. A few weeks ago, Hari delivered a talk at the Malthouse and I had a couple of parents contact me asking what we could do to support him.

Hari lost both of his legs whilst serving in the Royal Gurkha Rifles and is now challenging himself to be the first double-above-knee amputee to climb Mt. Everest. In aid of his fund-raising, he speaks about inspiring people to fulfil their own dreams and to raise awareness of disability. I know that that the event at the Malthouse was well-received and Hari has offered to come and speak to both our children and adults within school.

This is an opportunity to hear Hari share his incredible story and how he plans to conquer Everest later this year and it is not to be missed.

Normally tickets for events such as this would be sold for approx. £20, however Hari has kindly recognised that some of our families may be struggling with increased costs at the moment and has agreed to sell tickets at a reduced cost of just £10 a head – you are able to purchase tickets via ParentMail and parents are also able to optionally purchase the tickets at their full value of £20. The PTA will also be selling refreshments on the evening and all proceeds (tickets and drinks) will go towards Hari's expedition.

Tickets will be limited as we only have capacity for just over 100 people in the hall and can be purchased on ParentMail.

An Audience with Hari Budha Magar

Where: Bridge School

When: Thursday 2nd March, 7.30pm (doors open at 7pm)

Link: [Home - HARI BUDHA MAGAR](#)

Parents Maths Workshops

Over the course of the next term, we'll be inviting parents to come into school and learn a little about maths and the strategies that we use to teach children the four operations. The first of these will be at 9am on Thursday 9th March and will be for Year 3 and 4 parents. There is no need to book, please come in through the school office.

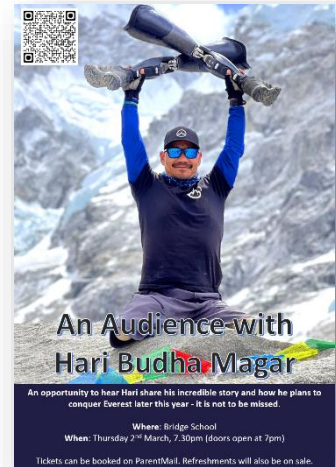
Additional dates:

Thursday 16th March, 9am: Year 1 and 2 parents Maths workshop

Thursday 23rd March, 9am: Year 5 and 6 parents Maths workshop

With very best wishes,

James Tibbles



Celebration

Star Pupils

Each Friday, we celebrate children who have impressed the adults in school either through their learning or demonstrating one of our Christian values.

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| ☆ Mary (RKG) for excellence in all areas of school life, especially with reading this week. <i>Miss Goddard</i> | ☆ Erin B (4AH) for her consistent effort across all of her learning and always setting an excellent example. <i>Miss Thompson</i> |
| ☆ Sebby B-G (RGR) for superb and very quick maths, understanding new vocabulary. <i>Mr Redpath</i> | ☆ Dexter B (4ST) for your writing and amazing group work in English. <i>Mrs Tomsett</i> |
| ☆ Henry H (1CJ) - for excellent contributions to discussions about toys and consistently trying his best. <i>Mrs Cork & Mrs Usher</i> | ☆ Lennon K (4ST) for your writing and amazing group work in English. <i>Mrs Tomsett</i> |
| ☆ Annabelle M (1LA) for her fantastic independent writing about toys from the past. <i>Miss Andrews</i> | ☆ Stanley V-L (4ST) for your writing and amazing group work in English. <i>Mrs Tomsett</i> |
| ☆ Betsy S (2SA) for super work multiplying by 2 and 10. <i>Mrs Amelia</i> | ☆ Pansy F (5HA) for her efforts in all of her learning; your hard work is paying off. <i>Miss Allison</i> |
| ☆ Alinda A (2GD) for the amazing progress she has made in her reading. <i>Mrs Dennett</i> | ☆ Ted P-C (5JS) for always using feedback and advice as a means to improve his work and bringing a smile to the classroom every day. <i>Miss J Smith</i> |
| ☆ Lyla T (3JA) for excellent contributions to our English lessons on Skara Brae this week. <i>Mr Ablett</i> | ☆ Finnley B (6JP) for demonstrating resilience during our first swimming session on Thursday. <i>Mr Perfect</i> |
| ☆ Heidi N (3LC) for being brave when meeting a Stone Age man and measuring lines accurately in Maths. <i>Mr Chamberlain</i> | ☆ Harrison B (6JW) for tackling a difficult long division question with perseverance and resilience. <i>Mr Wren</i> |

News and Blogs

This week there have been a number of blogs posted on the school website. [Year 3 took a visit the Stone Age](#) earlier this week and [Year R have been practising their motor skills](#) in our outside learning area.

We have also created a new blog based around [children's mental health and wellbeing](#) and I've highlighted a video around body image that I felt had a positive message that adults could share with the children.

24 February 2023



Year 3 Visit the Stone Age

Yesterday, Year 3 took a flight on

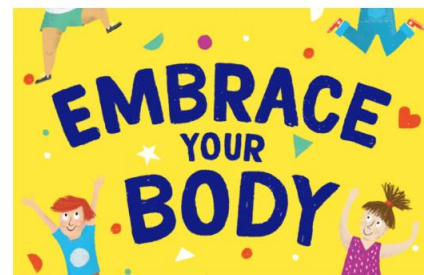
22 February 2023



Year R loop the loop!

Year R continue to practise their gross motor skills and build their

21 February 2023



Embrace Your Body

Body image is a topic that quite often comes up as children get older

Upcoming Dates

All dates and events can be found on our school calendar.

CALENDAR >

Monday 27th Feb	9am: Speech & Lang. Parents Group	
Tuesday 28th Feb	Year 3 Rocks Day Visits to church (Lent)	
Wednesday 1st Mar	Year 3 Rocks Day Visits to church (Lent)	9.00am: PTA Rep Meeting
Thursday 2nd Mar	Year 6 Swimming	1.45pm: Literacy Difficulties (Parent's Meeting)
Friday 3rd Mar		

Monday 6th Mar	Japanese students in	
Tuesday 7th Mar	Year 3 to 6 cross-country	
Wednesday 8th Mar	Rochester Cathedral trip	
Thursday 9th Mar	Year 6 Swimming	9am: Year 3/4 parent maths workshops
Friday 10th Mar	School Book Day	Indoor Athletics

Monday 13th Mar	Year 4 Trip to Museum of Kent Life		
Tuesday 14th Mar	Year 4 Trip to Museum of Kent Life		
Wednesday 15th Mar			
Thursday 16th Mar	Year 6 Swimming	9am: Year 1/2 Parent Maths Workshop	Art Trip for select children
Friday 17th Mar	Red Nose Day		

Events for Parents

I know that parents appreciate a great deal of notice for significant events in the school calendar and therefore we have created an [events](#) page on our school website which has important dates for the whole school year.

We will do our very best to ensure that the dates published on the website are adhered to but there may be circumstances outside our control which means that there are changes.

If there are dates of other events you would like to know then please ask and we will publish these as well.

