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Friday 26<sup>th</sup> January 2024

Dear Parents/Guardians,

I hope this newsletter finds you well and enjoying the beautiful spring weather – a much welcomed improvement on the wind and rain we've been experiencing.

### Illness

I've had a few queries this week about children being in school when they are unwell, so I thought it best just to clarify the school's position.

I think that most people would agree that if a child has a 'minor illness' then there is no reason for them to be missing school but there is a fine balance to be struck – we don't want to teach our children that they should be off school for every little snuffle but neither would we want them to pass on their illnesses to other children and potentially make them ill.

It is probably easier to say when a child should not be in school:

- If they have a high temperature;
- If they have had any bouts of vomiting and/or diarrhoea in the last 48 hours

It is also worth just reminding everyone of the guidance from the NHS about whether or not children should be in school if they are ill - [Is my child too ill for school? - NHS \(www.nhs.uk\)](https://www.nhs.uk).

### Parent Consultations and Children's Books

I hope that those of you who have had your parental consultations this week have found these useful; unfortunately, we did have more last-minute cancellations than we normally get.

I strongly believe that one of the best indicators of a child's success in school is the relationship between school and parents; you will have knowledge of behaviours that we may not see at school (and vice versa) and the teachers will have their professional insights into your child's learning and development. These consultations are one of the ways in which we share these and I would urge all parents to make every effort to keep to their appointment as this does have a knock-on impact.

Years 3, 4 and 5 will be bringing home books this weekend. This is an opportunity to look through your child's books with them and ask them what they have been learning about. I would start by asking your child to show you an example of their work that they are particularly proud of and asking them why.

Please could these books be back in school in Monday as we will need these for their lessons.



**Artsmark  
Gold Award**  
Awarded by Arts  
Council England



### PTA Quiz Night

The PTA committee have organised a quiz night to help raise funds for the children of Bridge School. The date is Friday 15<sup>th</sup> March and details are on the attached poster. There is only space for 10 teams so this is sure to fill up quickly. Tickets can be purchased from the school office from Tuesday.

### New TAS

On Tuesday, we interviewed for two new teaching assistants to fill the gaps left by Mrs Holdaway and Miss Creaven. We had a good selection of candidates and interviewed five prospectives. I am really pleased to say that we have appointed Mr Welch (who will be working in Birch class) and Mrs McCoy (who will be supporting in Chestnut class).

Barring our usual safeguarding checks, they will both start after the February half-term but we're hoping that we can get them in a little earlier to meet the children so that they can hit the ground running when they do start.

Thank you and have a lovely weekend.



James Tibbles  
Headteacher

## 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.

- |                                                                                                                         |                                                                                                                                      |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| ☆ <b>Whole Class (Ash)</b> for excellent behaviour and conduct on our trip to Wildwood. <i>Miss Goddard</i>             | ☆ <b>Millie B (Chestnut)</b> for writing a brilliant persuasive letter inspired by 'The Day the Crayons Quit'. <i>Mr Chamberlain</i> |
| ☆ <b>Ralph T (Elm)</b> for forming the letter in his name correctly on the big board. <i>Mr Redpath</i>                 | ☆ <b>Thomas R (Hazel)</b> for his enthusiastic approach to his reading. <i>Mrs Harvey-Maw</i>                                        |
| ☆ <b>Sophia K (Elm)</b> for communicating clearly with adults. <i>Mr Redpath</i>                                        | ☆ <b>Amelie G (Birch)</b> for always showing a fantastic attitude to all her learning. <i>Mrs Corral</i>                             |
| ☆ <b>Wren J (Willow)</b> for excellent contributions to class discussions in science! <i>Mrs Cork</i>                   | ☆ <b>Talya Y (Holly)</b> for an excellent Twisted Tale full of creative vocabulary. <i>Mr Ablett</i>                                 |
| ☆ <b>Emma A (Rowan)</b> for fantastic independent work in maths this week. <i>Miss Andrews</i>                          | ☆ <b>Stanley V-L (Maple)</b> for having a mature and positive attitude in class. <i>Miss Allison</i>                                 |
| ☆ <b>Kosmas (Oak)</b> for a great persuasive letter with correct punctuation. <i>Mrs Amelia</i>                         | ☆ <b>Millie S (Poplar)</b> for her wonderfully creative ideas at the architecture workshop. <i>Mrs Allen</i>                         |
| ☆ <b>Sylvie R (Pine)</b> for working hard in all areas and for a lovely piece of persuasive writing. <i>Mrs Tomsett</i> | ☆ <b>Oliver R (Sycamore)</b> for being a positive role model in all aspects of school life. <i>Mrs Langsdon</i>                      |
| ☆ <b>Beatriz E (Beech)</b> for her persuasive letter writing in English. <i>Mrs Dennett</i>                             |                                                                                                                                      |

### News and Blogs

On our school website, we proudly share some of our children's learning on our school blog. Please feel free to click on any of the images below to be taken directly to that blog post.



#### Architecture Workshop - Year 6

A massive thank you to Vicky Kirk, a



#### Creepy Claws visits Year 2

On Tuesday 23rd January Year 2s

[READ ALL BLOGS >](#)

## Upcoming Dates

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

**CALENDAR >**

<b>Monday 29<sup>th</sup> January</b>	<i>Parental Consultations (all week)</i>	Year R (Elm) trip to Wildwood
<b>Tuesday 30<sup>th</sup> January</b>		
<b>Wednesday 31<sup>st</sup> January</b>		
<b>Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> February</b>		
<b>Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> February</b>		2pm: PTA Meeting (Class Reps)

<b>Monday 5<sup>th</sup> February</b>		
<b>Tuesday 6<sup>th</sup> February</b>	Safer Internet Day	
<b>Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> February</b>	9am: Year 5 Class Assembly	Team Building at St Anselm's (select Y3 and Y4)
<b>Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> February</b>		Year 6 trip to Marlowe Theatre – Wizard of Oz
<b>Friday 9<sup>th</sup> February</b>	Chinese New Year celebration (select Y5)	

### *Half-term*

<b>Monday 19<sup>th</sup> February</b>		
<b>Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> February</b>		
<b>Wednesday 21<sup>st</sup> February</b>		
<b>Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> February</b>		
<b>Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> February</b>		

<b>Monday 26<sup>th</sup> February</b>		
<b>Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> February</b>		
<b>Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> February</b>		
<b>Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> February</b>		Football Match vs. Chartham School
<b>Friday 1<sup>st</sup> March</b>	PESE: National Offer Day	