



Thank you for your response regarding my text about dogs around school. Well-behaved dogs carefully and sensitively managed are usually an important part of introducing children safely to animals and allaying any fears, but we have had a family involved with a particularly unpleasant incident and we want to give them time and space to get over this. Please keep dogs away from the school gate for now.

A heads up about World Book Day (March):
Please DON'T BUY THE COSTUMES APPEARING IN THE SHOPS! We are in planning mode and have something very different, much more eco and much less expensive in the pipeline!
Dr Mitchell

Diary Dates: *(New dates will be in red)*

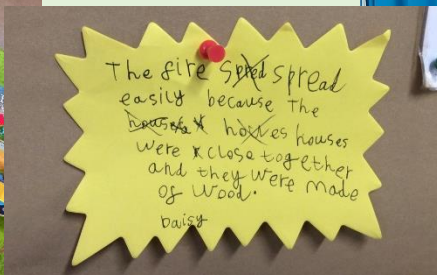
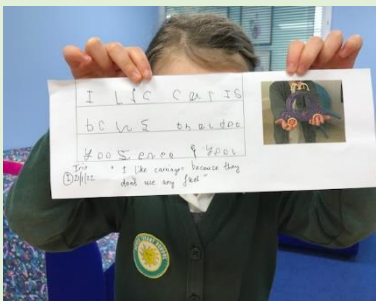
- Tuesday 25th January 7pm, phonics meeting for Y2 parents and carers
- Thursday 27 January, Bedtime Story Club
- Friday 4th February Website Photos
- Thursday 10 February, Bedtime Story Club
- 14-18 February, Half Term, school closed to pupils
- Monday 21 February, INSET, school closed to pupils
- Week beginning 28 February, Parent/Carer consultations – either in person or by phone Mon/Wed
- Sunday 6 March – DIS takes over Junior Parkrun!
- 11 April – 22 April inclusive – Easter holidays
- Wed 27 April, class photos

Learning Round Up

Reception have been learning about modes of transport and writing about cars, trains, buses and even cherry-pickers!

Year 1 have been learning about the continent of Africa and had a Ghanaian drumming workshop with drummer Nii Boye on Monday, with thanks to FODIS for supporting this.

Year 2 have begun learning about the Great Fire of London. Out on the Treetops they have been making models of the bakery where the fire started, as well as developing dance and movement to music inspired by fire.



Attendance

Good attendance is important for your child's progress, especially in early reading and phonics, where we follow a very structured programme. Headteachers cannot authorise holidays in term time and so you should not make this request. If you have an *exceptional* circumstance (and we are aware Covid is still having an impact) you would like to discuss, please contact the office. From the Summer term when things are more back to normal we will be very firm about referring *all* unauthorised absence for a 'fixed penalty notice'. **Anything below 90% is considered 'Persistent Absence'.**

Website Photos

We will be having photos taken for an update to the school website on Friday 4th February. If you have received a reminder about your photo permission preferences, please ensure it is returned to the school office. **Please let us know in writing if there is any change to your preferences.** Children who cannot be photographed will not be used on the website and all photos will be 'natural groups' with no names but we do really want to capture our very special school to show to the world!

Chair of Champions

Libby, Puffin; Hughie, Hedgehog; Ellen, Owl; Maryam, Kingfisher; Arthur, Foxes; Rowan, Hedgehog; Ben, Squirrel; Sofia, Puffin; Elena, Puffin; Sophia, Owl.

