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Working together to be the best we can possibly be.

I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me. Philippians 4.13

19th January 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

What a super week we have enjoyed in school. Some of our Governors visited school on Tuesday this week. Our pupils were eloquent and polite, explaining what they have been learning with pride in themselves and our school.

Safeguarding: Are your child's devices safe to use?

Vodafone have gathered brilliant people from across the digital landscape - doctors, researchers, teens, and plenty of busy parents – to explore the different ways we can build happy digital lives.

Vodafone's latest issue of Digital Parenting magazine is available here: [Digital Parenting - Vodafone UK News Centre](#)

Parents and carers can now set up parental controls on Instagram and Messenger. More information here: [New parental controls for Instagram and Facebook Messenger \(vodafone.co.uk\)](#)

Wellbeing: Free courses from the YMCA:

Please join us on the 7th of February 2024 at 7pm in attending this free webinar for all professionals and parents. Register your place using the link below. If you have any questions, please get in touch by emailing us at mentalhealthtraining@ymcatrinity.org.uk

Visit our [training calendar](#) for all other workshops and full day courses.

Topic: How to respond when your child/teen says no

February 7th, 2024; Webinar: 19:00 – 20:00; Q & A – 20:00 – 20:30

Register in advance for this webinar:

https://us06web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_7txpG6z9QseZCKSVz2B1rQ

Gender Questioning Children:

You would have seen from my previous updates that the government's draft guidance on [Gender Questioning Children](#) was published on 19th December. The consultation period is open until 12th March 2024. The aim of this document is to provide guidance and practical support for schools and colleges, including:

- supporting children who are questioning their gender
- protecting children from bullying or abuse
- maintaining child safety and wellbeing

If you would like to complete it, the consultation document can be accessed [here](#).

Book chat:

Please see the attached poster with some ideas to help promote a love of reading.

Bikes and Scooters:

Please can you ensure that all children walk with their bike or scooter from the black gate into the school grounds. This extends to younger siblings who are waiting in the playground at pickup.

PE and Games Clothing Expectations:

Please could we politely remind all parents and carers that children should come to school appropriately dressed for their PE and Games sessions. This includes:

- No watches or jewellery (earrings must be removed for PE, they cannot be taped)
- For all indoor PE sessions, children should wear shorts (under jogging bottoms or leggings in cold weather that can be removed before the lesson)
- For outside games sessions, children are expected to bring in a spare pair of trainers or shoes to change into in case their footwear becomes muddy during lessons
- Hair must be tied up if longer than chin length (boys and girls) or if their fringe is impeding vision
- Uniform regulation kit should be worn. This includes plain/school logo white or red PE t-shirt and plain black shorts, leggings or tracksuit bottoms. **Please do not send your child into school wearing branded clothing, or wearing colours that do not adhere to the uniform.** We are here to support you so please do contact us if you need support with accessing the correct PE kit. FWR also run regular uniform sales where kit is available for a small donation.

Congratulations to Mrs Davison:

We are delighted to announce that Mrs Davison is expecting her first child, due at the end of May. We are currently recruiting a teacher to cover her maternity leave.

East Cambridgeshire Child and Family Centre:

Please see attached for our latest What's On guide for further information about programmes and how to get in touch with the team.

Places are very limited so please get in touch via e-mail or phone to book onto these sessions.

Telephone: 01353 612770 or email: childandfamilycentre.east@cambridgeshire.gov.uk

St Andrew's Church Poetry Competition:

Poetry Competition for the Tedora Cup: FREE to enter. Poetry competition for all ages: up to 12, 13-17, 18 and over.

Poems on the theme 'The Aftermath'. Please send your entries to rjwestwell@hotmail.com or post to: St Andrew's Church Witchford, 73A Main St., Witchford, Ely, Cambs. CB6 2HQ by 11th May.

Please include your name, address including post code, phone, email address and age (or 'adult'). Entrants keep copyright of their poems but agree to publicity and to the church using them for church activities in the future.

Winners will be announced at a concert in the church on Tuesday 11th June at 7pm.

Parking: A polite reminder

Our PCSO was at school this week to monitor parking and ensuring it is safe. The PCSO will be returning in the near future. Thank you to families who continue to park safely and considerately.

Attendance:

Thank you to all our parents and carers for supporting our drive for improved attendance. The Government has identified a child's attendance of 96% and above is the key figure to give best chance of academic progress. Please can we remind you that absence must be reported to the office by 9am on each day.

This week our attendance figure as a school is: 94.5%

ATTEND TODAY ACHIEVE TOMORROW

EDUCATION IS IMPORTANT - DON'T MISS OUT



Looking forward to seeing you all on Monday.

Best wishes,

Miss Turner

Dates for your diary	
23.01.2024	Vision Screening - Reception pupils only
24.01.2024	Year 5/6 Dodgeball Event morning only
31.01.2024	Babylon Art exhibition with some submissions from The Rackham
05.02.2024 - 07.02.2024	Burwell House residential Year 4
19.02.2024 - 23.02.2024	Half Term holiday
01.03.2024	Year 4/5/6 Girls Play Football event
04.03.2024	Parent's Evening days and times tbc
22.03.2024	Height and weight Reception and Year 6 only Year 3/4 and Year 5/6 Netball Tournament morning
25.03.2024	Rocksteady concert time tbc
28.03.2024	Last day of school for pupils and staff
29.03.2024	Good Friday Start of Easter holiday
15.04.2024	First day of summer term Pupils return to school