



Newsletter MSM

Welcome back, we all hope you had a lovely summer break. It was wonderful to see all the children back in class together. We realise things are a little different and may have more changes but we will keep you up to date as soon as we know anything.

TERM DATES

Please see below a list of term dates, which we trust you will find of use. We will give you information concerning each event nearer the time.

Tuesday 20th October – Pupil Photos

Monday 26th October to Friday 30th October - Half Term

Tuesday 10th November - Parents Evening

Thursday 12th November - Parents Evening

Wednesday 18th November - Flu Immunisation 20/21 Reception to Year 6

Wednesday 16th December – MSM Christmas Parties

Friday 18th December - End of Term 1:30pm

SCHOOL CAR PARK

Please can we remind parents/carers not to park on the school car park at any time.



SHARE YOUR LIGHT AWARD

The following children have been awarded a Share Your Light Award by their class teacher:

Jupiter - Bella F and Stella J

Saturn - Holly R Oscar S

Mercury – Riley S and Bella V

Venus - Jack C Noah D

Neptune - Oakley C and Alex H

Mars - Fred D and Cerys N

Orion - Jack H and Stanley J

Gemini - Evie C Jack M

WARM CLOTHING

Please can you send your children with additional clothes too keep warm this term, we are ensuring the schools are being regularly ventilated, so the temperature in the classrooms maybe lower. This will mean having extra layers available and a coat. Also possibly a track suit for PE. Please ensure that your child's belongings are labelled.

HOW TO GET A COVID-19 TEST

The fastest way to organise a test result is to go to a testing site. Individuals will need a pre-booked appointment or they will not be given a test. Parents/carers can also order home test kits to be sent directly to them. To book an appointment

<https://www.gov.uk/get-coronavirus-test>

or call 119

These routes remain the primary channels for any individuals displaying coronavirus symptoms to get a test.

CORONAVIRUS SYMPTOMS

Parents/carers should book a test if a family member develops one or more of the main coronavirus symptoms:

High temperature

New, continuous cough

Loss or change of their sense of taste or smell,
or

You are recommended to get tested by a healthcare provider (e.g. GP or nurse)

As schools and colleges across England return pupils and students may feel unwell for example with a sore throat, stomach upset or a headache. These pupils and students don't need to book a test but may need to stay off school or college and seek medical advice through their GP or pharmacist as usual.

FUTSAL

Due to Covid-19 Futsal has not been able to run any after school clubs, so they have an alternative NEW program for girls interested in trying futsal and football.

Please see the attached flyer regarding their FREE taster sessions running this Wednesday 9th and Friday 11th September.

ONLINE SAFETY

Please see attached The Mortimer Federation of St John's & St Mary's online safety flyer. There are some links to further information to keep your children safe. We hope you find it useful.



SOCIAL MEDIA – SUPPORT FOR SCHOOLS AND PARENTS

Please see below a link to signpost support for parents and children.

<https://www.saferinternet.org.uk/blog/advice-parents-what-do-if-your-child-sees-something-upsetting-online>

LUNCHTIME CARER and TA VACANCY

The Headteacher & Governors are looking to employ someone who is dynamic, motivated and flexible for this rewarding role. You will be joining our highly committed and professional lunchtime team.

The successful candidate will play a key role in encouraging our children's social skills therefore it is essential you enjoy working with children, be inspiring, resourceful and able to adapt to a varied routine. Duties will include supervising and supporting children to play, helping to lead games and organising equipment.

Please see the attached advert for more information.

HELPING YOUR CHILDREN WITH READING

We've brought together a list of ways to help primary-aged children read at home.

1. Encourage your child to read - Reading helps your child's wellbeing, develops imagination and has educational benefits too. Just a few minutes a day can have a big impact on children of all ages.

2. Read aloud regularly - Try to read to your child every day. It's a special time to snuggle up and enjoy a story. Stories matter and children love re-reading them and poring over the pictures. Try adding funny voices to bring characters to life.

3. Encourage reading choice - Give children lots of opportunities to read different things in their own time - it doesn't just have to be books. There's fiction, non-fiction, poetry, comics, magazines, recipes and much more. Try leaving interesting reading material in different places around the home and see who picks it up.

4. Read together - Choose a favourite time to read together as a family and enjoy it. This might be everyone reading the same book together, reading different things at the same time, or getting your children to read to each other. This time spent reading together can be relaxing for all.

5. Create a comfortable environment - Make a calm, comfortable place for your family to relax and read independently - or together.

6. Make use of your local library - Libraries in England are able to open from 4 July, so visit them when you're able to and explore all sorts of reading ideas. Local libraries also offer brilliant online materials, including audiobooks and eBooks to borrow. See [Libraries Connected](#) for more digital library services and resources.

7. Talk about books - This is a great way to make connections, develop understanding and make reading even more enjoyable. Start by discussing the front cover and talking about what it reveals and suggests the book could be about. Then talk about what you've been reading and share

ideas. You could discuss something that happened that surprised you, or something new that you found out. You could talk about how the book makes you feel and whether it reminds you of anything.

8. Bring reading to life - You could try cooking a recipe you've read together. Would you recommend it to a friend? Alternatively, play a game where you pretend to be the characters in a book, or discuss an interesting article you've read.

9. Make reading active - Play games that involve making connections between pictures, objects and words, such as reading about an object and finding similar things in your home. You could organise treasure hunts related to what you're reading. Try creating your child's very own book by using photos from your day and adding captions.

10. Engage your child in reading in a way that suits them - You know your child best and you'll know the best times for your child to read. If they have special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) then short, creative activities may be the way to get them most interested. If English is an additional language, encourage reading in a child's first language, as well as in English. What matters most is that they enjoy it.