



Newsletter - Summer (1) 2018

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**Value of the Month - April: Unity
May: Patience**

PARENT QUESTIONNAIRE RESPONSES

Attached, you will see an analysis of our recent questionnaires for parents. Thank you very much to everyone who submitted a response. Individual comments have also been taken on board and changes, where appropriate, will be made.

I think the results of the analysis speak for themselves and the only comment I would like to make is that, of the three parents who said they strongly disagree with the statement, "The school deals effectively with bullying," two of these parents were commenting on behalf of what they perceived from other parents and their response did not refer to their own experience.

AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS

A list of our After School Clubs is also attached to this newsletter.

I am extremely grateful to so many of our dedicated staff who provide after-school or lunchtime activities for children.

We are continually adding to the number and range of clubs we offer – I believe we are one of the only schools in the area offering a Mandarin Club for example, and whenever possible we offer clubs at no cost to parents, with school covering the charges from professional coaches.

GDPR

GDPR refers to General Data Protection Regulations. Although school has always been fully compliant with the Data Protection Act, new rules about the collection, use and retention of the data we hold about children and families come into force on 25th May. I have compiled a new Privacy Statement that is in line with the regulations and it will be sent out to all parents following approval from our governors.

Over £170 was raised from our "Odd Socks" day in aid of Down Syndrome Awareness and Emily (who had the idea to support it) presented the cheque to Liam for the charity run by his family.





Sincere thanks to Mr Laird who painted the fantastic mural adorning the outer wall of our Infant Library.



FRIENDSHIP BENCHES

We purchased several "Friendship Benches" for children who wish to chat together, read and enjoy games at playtimes. I am immensely grateful that one bench was bought with a kind donation from two former pupils; David Burns and William (Mark) Gibbon (1976-80), or better known as Norsey and Twigwidge from the 1976 school play.

I was delighted to show Mr Gibbon around school recently and he was so impressed that the school has, "gone from strength to strength and really is an exemplar of modern, cutting edge, primary education."

Dates:

Friday 18th May – Fun Run

Friday 25th May – School closes for half-term at the usual time and reopens on Mon 4th June

Thursday 19th July 2pm – Leavers' Assembly

Friday 20th July – school closes for summer and reopens on Tuesday 4th September

SPORTS DAYS – Wed 20th June
10am – Nursery/Reception

Thurs 21st June 2pm Years – 1 & 2

Friday 22nd June 1.30pm – Yrs 3 - 6

All holiday dates are available at <https://bit.ly/2qUfjOZ>

PARENTPAY

Some of you may have experienced problems paying for trips etc. via ParentPay recently. We are working with them to improve this service and thank you for your patience.

NOTE FROM MR BIRKETT.....

Welcome back to school for the final term of the year! I hope you all enjoyed a lovely Easter break with your families. I also hope you like the new-look, "bumper newsletter," as this is one of our responses to a comment in our Parents' Questionnaire. (I have also included some useful tips about keeping your child safe online.) Remember our website and Twitter account are the best ways to keep up to date with good news stories from school, "as they happen."

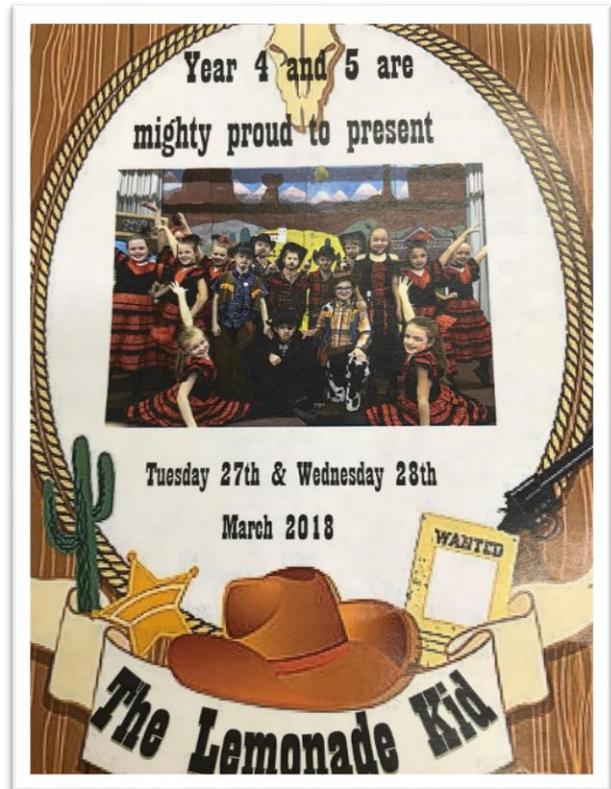
ATTENDANCE

Please remember that it is expected that family holidays are not taken in term time and requests for absences will only be authorised in exceptional circumstances. Attendance below 95% is defined under national guidelines as, "persistent absence."

Super artwork from our youngest children...spring is here!



One of the highlights of our year so far was watching this amazing show! Thank you again to all the staff and children (the stars of our show!) who made The Lemonade Kid so successful. (School has 4 spare DVDs (with added sound effects!) If you would like to buy one – please enquire at the office.



SCHOOL LUNCHES

After gathering views from School Council, we altered this term's lunch menu. We are hoping to make further changes next term so that children can have more choice and stay for a packed lunch for some days during the week if they prefer that to the three options on offer. With this system, meals **MUST** be ordered online but it will ensure greater flexibility for parents. Further information will be sent out about the "Lunch Shop" system shortly.



Part of our Infant Playground will be cordoned off soon so we can begin removing old play equipment and installing these!!!!



TIMES TABLES

As well as reading daily with your child, one of the other most helpful things you can do is to help them learn their times tables. Attached to this letter are some ideas to help with this that were first sent out in September. Please be aware that it is a National Curriculum expectation that all children know their multiplication tables and related division facts by the end of Year 4, ready for government tests being implemented next year.