



# Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome back to the Spring term, and what a cold start it has been! With the rain and now the ice I just wanted to remind you to be careful as you walk round the school grounds. You will have seen the flooding

that occurs on the path around Hedgehog class, we are looking into ways we can solve this however with the rainfall we have been having there is not an easy solution., so please just be careful around this area.

The children have come back into school well and are enjoying their learning this term. Year 2 have started their new topic 'Out of Africa' and have already started learning about African animals. Year 1 have been reading the book 'Dragon Post' by Emma Yarlett, and this topic is based around dragons and castles. The Reception children are learning all about 'People who help us' starting firstly with people around the school, it is lovely to see them walking around the school so confidently. If your job involves helping others, either within the emergency services, the health profession or in another role, and you can spare some time to come in and talk to the children about your job please let the reception team know.

Please see below details about the day changes to our Forest School sessions. Children need to be dressed appropriately for these sessions including having a waterproof coat and trousers. Warm layers are needed during this term to ensure they stay warm enough.

Reception parents please check the dates below for a phonics workshop in a few weeks, a letter will be coming home soon for you to confirm which date you can attend. Mrs Lucy Whiffin, Headteacher

## **Dates for your Diary**

#### January

Thursday 18th January—Census Day,

Tuesday 23rd January—PTA Meeting @9am

Wednesday 24th January 5.30pm—Phonics workshop for Reception Parents

Thursday 25th January 8.50am — Phonics workshop for Reception Parents

# February

Friday 9th February—Last Day of Term Monday 12th—Friday 16th February HALF TERM BREAK Monday 19th February—INSET DAY Tuesday 20th February—First day back

Remaining INSET DAYS 2023—2024: Monday 3rd June 2024

#### **Forest School**

Forest School sessions start again next week. The company 'Woodland Wonders', who lead these sessions for us have had to change the day they provide these sessions. Forest School sessions will now be on a **Monday.** Year 1 will still have their session in the morning and year 2 will still have their session in the afternoon, both on a fortnightly basis.

## Year 1 morning session

Monday 15th January —Hedgehogs Class Monday 22nd January —Owls Class Monday 29th January —Hedgehogs Class Monday 5th February — Owls Class **Year 2 afternoon session** Monday 15th January —Squirrels Class Monday 22nd January —Badgers Class Monday 29th January —Squirrels Class Monday 5th February — Badgers Class

Children must wear warm layers for these sessions and have waterproof coats and trousers. Children come to school wearing their forest school clothes.

## Chartwell Competition—BEE READY

Chartwells are running a competition along with the 'Bee Happy' the Bumblebee Conservation Trust. As part of our 'Bee Happy' campaign, this January they are launching, 'Bee Ready'. The focus throughout this term is on getting ready for the hibernating bumblebees, which emerge in the spring.

This is where the children can help! Creating a buzz with our competition Chartwells want children to design a 3D flower garden poster,

showing what hungry bees can feast on when they come out of hibernation. The children will be bringing home an A4 poster template to draw their design, and



then make it 3D by adding bits of material, paper, wood, card, buttons, or anything else they have to hand to bring it to life!

The entry forms have been given to children in their book bags. There will be two winners in each school, both receiving a certificate and a flower garden starter kit for their classroom.

## **Attendance Matters**

As we start the spring term we wanted to remind you that every day your child misses from school could have an Impact on their learning. High attendance ensures children achieve their potential.

In the next few weeks we will be sending home a new attendance policy to all parents. Please look out for this. This will explain how we support attendance in our school and also explain how the national fining system works.

If you are having any concerns getting your child into school please talk to your class teacher and we can support you with this.