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Happy New Year to one and all!

I hope that you all had a restful break and are as excited about starting the new term as I am. There are lots of exciting things happening in the Spring term. Our school value for this half term is tolerance and we will be looking at ways we can make this a happy and kind new year through promoting emotional understanding and wellbeing encouraging our children to Learn, Reach and Shine.

In assembly today we talked about the new year. We don't know what is going to happen during this year as we can't see into the future. But we do know that this new year, like other new years, holds the promise of being good and happy. However, the new year can't fulfil the promise of being good and happy by itself. We can help by being kind, cheerful, helpful and thoughtful; by sharing and by trying to do our best in all we do. The new year, with its promise that needs help, is like planting a new garden.

Your child will bring home a small compost pod and a few seeds in an envelope over the next few days. This is for them to plant their own seed of promise at home and remind them that good and happy things need help to happen. They will need to water the pod and watch it expand. Then, plant the seed and place the compost pod somewhere warm, watering regularly, until the seed germinates and begins to grow. They will then need to ensure the growing plant has light and warmth as well as being watered regularly.

The seeds are like the new year. They both hold a promise, but they need help from us to fulfil that promise.

Let us all work together in our school to make this a flourishing New Year.



Collection to support local homeless

We were delighted to be approached at the end of last term by two Year 6 students Lydia and Evelyn who were very moved by the plight of local homeless people and wanted to do something to help. The girls organised a collection of food which was delivered to a local charity. If you would like to help further you can support Slough Foodbank https://slough.foodbank.org.uk/by donating food or Slough Homeless Our Concern (SHOC)

<u>https://sloughhomeless.org.uk/</u> with donations of unwanted sleeping bags and tents.



Staff news

This term we welcome Mrs Siddiqi as teacher to 1G who will now be known as 1S. We are also very pleased to welcome back Mrs Morley as Finance Officer. Miss Burniki will also be rejoining us in February when Mrs Howells goes on maternity leave.

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Wellbeing

We are delighted that Ms Rodgers will be joining us to deliver some wellbeing sessions to children in Year 6 to help them as they prepare for the transition to secondary school. Information will be sent home to parents soon detailing how pupils can access these sessions.

Parent Volunteers

We will be holding a coffee morning for parents who would like to volunteer at school on Wednesday 16th Jan at 9.30am in conjunction with Buckinghamshire Adult Learning. The morning is an induction session for those parents who attended the Volunteering in Schools training and also an introduction for any other parents who may like to volunteer at school. Everyone is welcome so do come along to find out more.

There are still some places available on the resilience course being run by the Buckinghamshire Learning team which starts on Wednesday 23rd January. If you would like to find out about either of these courses please speak to Mrs Barnard.

Allergens in school

We would like to remind parents of the importance of not including nuts or foodstuffs containing nuts such as Nutella in children's lunches. We have several children in the school with severe allergies and this is the best way we can all help to ensure their safety.

Secondary School Consultation

Burnham Park E-ACT Academy will shortly be launching a consultation into its future in light of very low intake numbers. All parents are encouraged to respond directly to the consultation when it launches with their thoughts on this important local issue.

House-points

The winner of last term's house competition was Hitcham with 2924. This is a fantastic score to start the year but there is still everything to play for. To celebrate their success the children in Hitcham may wear a t-shirt or jumper in their house colour green, alongside their usual school uniform, to school on Friday 11th January.

Get Active

We have had excellent feedback from the children about the Get Active clubs after school and we are delighted that these clubs will be running again this term. The clubs are as follows: Mon - Yr1-6 multi skills, Tue - Yr 3-6 Nintendo Wii, Wed - Yr 3-6 football, Thur - Yr1-6 multi sports.

Please visit the Get Active website http://www.getactivesports.com/courses/school-and-extra-curricular-clubs/ to book a space or find out more information.

Get Active are also currently recruiting permanent staff to support afterschool clubs in Reading, Wokingham, Bracknell, Slough and Ascot. Successful applicants receive full training and free childcare. For more information visit the Get Active website.

A polite reminder about parking

We have noticed that some parents picking up and dropping off to Rise and Shine and Orchard clubs are parking on the zig-zag lines or in the school entrance. The lines are there to ensure that children and pedestrians can cross safely and be visible to other road users and this is equally important during breakfast and afterschool clubs. Please do not park here and endanger a child's life.

School contact

We would also like to remind parents to not try and deal with school issues between children by themselves but to contact us to remedy the issue. It is very easy for situations to get out of hand when parents approach other parents with disputes.

December's Attendance

Our overall whole school attendance figure for last month was 96.7%. The KS1 award went to class 2G who achieved 97% attendance and the KS2 award to 3H, who achieved 98% attendance, for the month of December.

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Please take note of the following, should there be a school closure due to severe weather conditions:

- We notify Bucks County Council who announce any school closures on their website, www.buckscc.gov.uk.
- We notify the parent body by text as soon as practicably possible.
- Bucks County Council inform Radio Berkshire and Time FM who then broadcast any school closures.
- We also ensure that a notice appears on our main website, www.lentriseschool.co.uk.

Work for pupils is put into their own year band section on the log in area of the website.

E-Safety

A New Smart Phone? A New IPad or Laptop For Christmas? Perhaps a new game for Xbox?

Remember Online Privacy is essential to keep your child safe! Children are using social media to share their lives with friends, family and sometimes people they don't know. It's important they understand how to keep safe online. To help you monitor your child's on-line safety we have included in this newsletter some useful information to help you this Christmas.



We are aware that some of our pupils play Fortnite, a game that gives players the opportunity to fight each other, with weapons, in an animated online. The challenge for parents is to minimise risks and maximise benefits from Fortnite. Parents need to be aware of the age rating, amount of screen time, stranger chat, rage at losing and escalating costs of in-app purchases connected with Fortnite.

In the UK the Video Standards Council rate Fortnite as PEGI 12 for frequent scenes of mild violence. I-Tunes rates the game only suitable for children 12+ due to Frequent/Intense Cartoon or Fantasy Violence and Infrequent/Mild Medical/Treatment Information.

Along with suitability, it's worth checking the online communication settings on the game to ensure children aren't talking to strangers. The game has considerable in-app purchases that you need to be aware of. You should set up passwords on credit cards associated with the system.

Finally, it's important to have some limits in terms of play time for the game. This is something you can agree with your child once you understand how the game works.

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What have we been up to? Early Years and Key Stage One

Early Year's had lots of special visitors during People Who Help Us Week:

- Nurse
- Optician
- Fire Service
- RNLI
- Police
- Lollipop Lady

They learnt about how these people help us in our community.





During the Autumn term Year 1
were learning all about the
local community and explored
this during a trip to Burnham
Library. They learnt about road
safety and enjoyed listening to
a selection of stories.



In Year 2 they have been learning about Famous People. They went back in time and met Florence Nightingale, where she taught them all but what she did during the war. They then pretended to be soldiers and Florence Nightingale within role-play sessions.



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Term Dates

Friday 15th February Friday 5th April Thursday 3rd January Spring Term 2019

Monday 25th February

Tuesday 2nd January Inset Day

Wednesday 24th April Monday 3rd June Thursday 23rd May Tuesday 23rd July Summer Term 2019

Tuesday 23rd April Inset Day Friday 24th May

Wednesday 24th July Monday 6th May May Bank Holiday

Future Term Date 2019-2020

Autumn Term 2019

Wednesday 4th September **Monday 28th October** Monday 4th November Friday 25th October Friday 1st November Thursday 19th December

Inset days 2nd and 3rd September

Spring Term 2020

Tuesday 7th January Monday 17th February Friday 14th February Friday 21st February Monday 24th February Friday 3rd April

Inset day 6th January

Summer Term 2020

Monday 20th April Friday 22nd May Monday 25th May Friday 29th May Friday 17th July Monday 1st June

Inset day 20th and 21st July

Diary Dates

Wk beginning 14th January Afterschool clubs start

23rd-24th January Year 4 visit to Highclere House

Friday 15th February PTA non-uniform day Wk beginning 25th Februry Parent Consultation week Friday 8th March Book character dress-up day

2019 Residential Trip Dates

Wednesday 2nd - Friday 5th April Year 5 to Shortenills Tuesday 25th June - Friday 30th Year 6 to Weymouth

Please note that all dates are subject to change.