

Newsletter



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.

- Monday 28th January** – Book Character Dress Up Day.
Tuesday 29th January – Author Visiting School – Adam Guillain – book signing 3.10pm to 3.40pm.
Tuesday 29th January – Hot Chocolate and Story Time.
Friday 1st February – Fox Class Assembly.
Friday 8th February – Whole School Miles Apart Parent Share – 2.30pm.
Thursday 14th February – Old Folks Lunch Club.
Monday 18th February to Friday 22nd February - Half Term.
Wednesday 27th February – Year 2 trip to SeaCity Museum.
Friday 1st March – Butterfly Class Assembly.
Friday 8th March – Rabbit Class Assembly.
Monday 11th March and Tuesday 12 March – Life Bus Visiting School.
Tuesday 12th March – Parents' Evening.
Thursday 14th March – Old Folks Lunch Club.
Thursday 14th March – Parents' Evening.
Friday 15th March – Hedgehog Class Assembly.
Friday 15th March - YR2/FS Disco.
Friday 22nd March – Deer Class Assembly.
Saturday 23rd March – Community Choir at Madejski Stadium.
Friday 29th March – Badger Class assembly.
Thursday 4th April – Easter Service – 2pm.
Friday 5th April – End of Term – 2pm

BOOK CHARACTER DRESS UP DAY

The children are invited to come to school on **Monday 28th January** dressed as their favourite book character. We look forward to seeing a variety of costumes, however, please ensure that the children wear sensible footwear and come to school with a coat.

ADAM GUILLAIN – BOOK SIGNING

Adam will be signing a selection of his new books after school on **Tuesday 29th January**. The book signing will take place in Hedgehog Class from 3.10pm until 3.40pm. The books are priced at £6.99 each.

BIRTHDAY SWEETS/TREATS

As part of our wish to promote healthy eating may we remind you that we no longer allow children to bring birthday sweets/treats into school to give to their classmates. Thank you for your support with this.

STAR AWARDS

The following children were presented with Star Awards at today's Celebration Assembly.

Butterfly – Amelita Lagden, Arabella Warwick, Ellie Burnard and Morgan Hunt.

Rabbit – Charlotte Harriss, Charlotte Mordecai, Jenson Choules and Samuel Looker.

Deer – Aidan Wood, Alba Cairns, Grace Russell, Isabella Fordham and Penny Giles.

Badger – Alisha Patel, Jacob Glover, Sophia Richardson and Suzanna Westcombe.

Fox – Abigail Roberts, Amelie Clemison, Caitlin Minter and Lily Brookfield.

Hedgehog – Belle Cook, Charlotte Bone, Riley Saunders and Tayla Croshaw.

HOT CHOCOLATE AND STORY TIME – TUESDAY 29TH JANUARY



All children are invited back to school at 5.30pm until 6.15pm on **Tuesday 29th January** for hot chocolate and story time. Children will need to come back to school (to their classes) to hear stories, bringing their teddy bears and dressed in their pyjamas.

SCHOOL CLOSURE/SEVERE WEATHER

If the School has to close for any reason a text message or email will be sent in the first instance, with our Facebook Page also being immediately updated. If you do not have a mobile telephone could you please let the office staff know; we will then make a note to ring your home number. Thank you.



FS AND Y2 DISCO – FRIDAY 15TH MARCH

It is the FS and Y2 disco on Friday 15th March 6.00pm – 7.30pm. We are looking for volunteers to help with nail painting, refreshments and supervision. If you are DBS checked via Mortimer St. John's and would like to volunteer please contact Sophie McKay (sophmckay@gmail.com) or Laura Brown (lauracastelli@hotmail.com).

Tickets will be on sale from the school office on **Monday 11th March** priced at £3.

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Smartphones
view here.



ROAD SAFETY

Louis Taylor came to visit the Foundation Stage children on Monday (change to previously advertised date) to present his Road Safety Road Show. With the help of Troy, his puppet, he explained how to cross the road safely. He taught the children actions to go with the rules: hold hands, stop, look and listen. He also explained what the different coloured lights mean at a road crossing.

The children thoroughly enjoyed the presentation and learnt the importance of road safety in a fun and entertaining way.

"The puppets made me laugh." – Phoebe

"He taught us to be safe crossing the road. The red light means stop. The green light means walk and hold our mummy's or daddy's hand." – April

"I liked it. I enjoyed the stories he told us about not running when we cross the road." – Matilda

"I liked his puppet Troy, the Road Rangers friend." - William

ATTENDANCE



This is Caroline. She is in Year 2 and has 90% attendance. Caroline thinks this is pretty good, so do her parents. Are they right?

90% attendance = ½ day missed every week!

90% attendance in one school year = 4 weeks of lessons missed!

90% attendance over five school years = ½ school year missed!

Each year there are only 190 statutory school days, which means that if your child has 90% attendance or below, they have missed at least half a day a week. Ofsted regards attendance below 90% as persistent absence.

SCHOOL UNIFORM

Please may we remind you that boots are not part of our school uniform. If your child needs to wear boots due to adverse weather please can you ensure that they bring their school shoes to change into.

Additionally, we have noticed that some children are wearing jewellery items to school. Please can you remind your children that jewellery is not to be worn at school, however, a sensible watch is permitted. Thank you.

LOST PROPERTY

We have several items of lost property, gloves, hats, scarves, a watch, necklaces, car keys and a fitness tracker. If you or your child are missing any of these items please call into the school office. All items that are not collected will be donated to charity at half term. Thank you

CHANGE OF MENU – TUESDAY 5th FEBRUARY

As part of the Chinese New Year celebrations, the school dinner menu will change on Tuesday 5th February to the following:

Mains

Sweet and Sour Chicken
Stir Fried Vegetables in Black Bean Sauce
Beef Chow Mein
Fresh Filled Jacket Potato

Sides

Chinese Rice
Asian Style Vegetables
Salad Bar

Desserts

Chinese Butter Cookies
Spiced Chocolate Rice Pudding
Fresh Fruit Salad
Yoghurt

KEYRINGS ON BOOK BAGS

Please may we request that the children do not have any keyrings or similar items attached to their book bags. The trays that are provided for the children are not able to accommodate these extra items.

COMPOSTER - ECO WARRIOR UPDATE

We are delighted to advise that through fundraising, we have raised enough monies to purchase our composting system, which was installed last week. We have a wonderful area to house the turning system and two maturation boxes. This week we have started to compost all of our food waste from the kitchen and the classroom food-recycling caddies. Our specialist Eco Warriors will be helping to recycle the food waste on a daily basis.

Our aims are to reduce our waste disposal costs, reduce landfill, reduce greenhouse gases, reduce road transport, reduce our school carbon footprint and create our own compost to use to grow plants. Thank you for all your support with making this happen.

POSSIBLE CONSULTATION TO FEDERATE

Since their initial letter to parents in November, the governing boards of Mortimer St. Mary's and Mortimer St. John's have been working closely with the Local Authority and Diocese to explore the possibility of federating the two schools. A joint working party has been formed, made up of governors from both schools. The information and advice they have gathered will be discussed further at meetings of the two governing boards next month and a decision made about the next steps. An update will be sent out to parents following these meetings. If you have any queries in the meantime please do not hesitate to contact the school office of either school.

