

Dear Families,

World Book Day



Thank you for your hard work for costumes and pyjamas for yesterday's world book day! We had a brilliant day in school with an amazing whole school attendance of 96.4% - wearing PJ's brings almost everyone to school! In assembly on Monday, I shared information about World Book Day with the children and I showed them some of my favourite books. Reading is so important and helps us become better writers as we have more vocabulary to use. Please do make sure you are reading at home with your child as often as possible. Listening to audiobooks is also a great idea too. Please ask your child what they got up to in school yesterday. My favourite part of the day was seeing the children parade around the playground showing their costumes and favourite books!

Attendance – for week ending 1st March

RPeterPan	RRosen	1Anning	1Donaldson	2Attenborough	2Johnson	3Rashford
90.7%	92.3%	90.6%	91.3%	92.1%	92.3%	92.4%

3Wicks	4Queen	4Thunberg	5Boseman	5Southgate	6Malala	6Obama
96.8%	97.6%	94.1%	94.2%	92.7%	97.1%	95.2%



Our attendance last week was not looking good and I am hoping to see a BIG improvement in next weeks' newsletter! **It is interesting to note that our whole school attendance yesterday (for World Book Day) was 96.5%! Unfortunately, today our whole school attendance dropped to 89% - which means that, on average, there are about 3 children absent in every class today!** So, if we can do it on a "fun" day in school, then we can do it every other day in school, too. It needs each and every one of us (parents AND children) to be aware that one individual child's absence from school DOES have an impact on the whole school attendance percentage. **We all need to work together to get our whole school attendance UP and whole school absence DOWN.** 😊

As you may have seen in the news recently, patients are now able to visit a pharmacy for certain complaints (see alongside) – hopefully this will cut down on waiting times to get through to a GP when your child is feeling unwell – and this should also have a positive impact on Attendance as children will hopefully get seen and treated sooner. We have been informed that Wellwood Pharmacy are taking appointments, so please check your local pharmacy, too.

Visit your Pharmacy First!

- Sinusitis
- Sore throat
- Earache (children)
- Infected insect bite
- Impetigo
- Shingles
- Urinary tract infection (women)

Autism Awareness Day Fundraiser for ADD-vance - Friday 22nd March



On Friday 22nd March, we will be holding an Autism Fundraiser Day with guest speakers from the ADD-vance charity. In exchange for £1, children can wear something blue to school. In addition, Mrs Wilson and a team of children will be selling bracelets that they have been busy making – these will be on sale during school time from Monday 18th March, for £1 each.

The children will take part in many activities and competitions during the day. Thank you in advance for supporting this event.



Parents' Evening Consultations – 13th and 14th March

Parents are required to book a consultation with their child's teacher, using the Arbor app – consultations only take 10 minutes and are an ideal opportunity to get feedback on your child's progress, and to discuss any concerns that you may have. If you have not already done, please go on and book an appointment today.

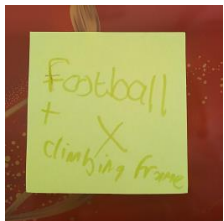
Water bottles

We have noticed that a number of children are bringing to school cordial/squash or fruit juice in their drinks bottles. Please note that children are **ONLY** allowed water in their bottles – any other drinks will be emptied out and replaced with water. For break and lunch times, children may still bring in a carton of juice or squash.

School Meals & Menu

Please note that there will be an increase in the cost of school meals from the 15th April 2024 – all meals for children in KS2 (unless eligible for free school meals) will increase to £3.30 per day (£16.50 per week).

HCL has also released their new menu that will also be coming into effect on 15th April and will run all the way through to the October half term. This new menu has been uploaded to the school website, so please remember to discuss meal options with your child over the Easter holidays.



World Mental Health Day

For World Mental Health Day, we asked children, parents and staff to tell us what sparks joy for you, and this is the note for this week – “Football and climbing frame”.

Kind regards,

Sarah Kneller
Headteacher

Interesting fact: A typical **cumulus cloud** weighs approximately **500,000 kilograms** (or about **1.1 million pounds**). That's roughly equivalent to the weight of **100 elephants!** 🐘
(thanks to Reuben in Y2 for this fact)

Dates to Remember

Wednesday 13th March	9-10am: Coffee Morning – ALL parents/ carers welcome to pop in
Wednesday 13th March	3.30-6pm: Parents' Evening (Nursery from 3-4pm, book directly in class)
Thursday 14th March	4-7pm: Parents' Evening (Nursery from 3-4pm, book directly in class)
Wednesday 20th March	9am: 3R class assembly – all parents/ carers welcome
Wednesday 20th March	Voice in a Million at Wembley
Friday 22nd March	Autism Awareness Day – wear blue in exchange for £1 – see above
Monday 25th March	PTA Easter Bonnet Competition Day
Tuesday 26th March	Last day of term - for Nursery Children only
Wednesday 27th March	Last day of Term - school finishes at 1.30pm
Thursday 28th March	INSET DAY – no children in school
Monday 15th April	Start of Summer Term 1
Friday 19th April	Times Table Rock Star Day – more info to be sent by email 8.50-9.20am: Reception parents welcome directly to class 2.30-3pm: Years 1-6 parents welcome – come in via office
Tuesday 30th April	3.30pm: Y6 PGL parent information meeting – in 6Malala class
Wednesday 1st May	9am: 3W class assembly – all parents/ carers welcome
Monday 6th May	BANK HOLIDAY
Wednesday 22nd May	9am: 2A class assembly – all parents/ carers welcome
Thursday 23rd May	School finishes at normal times for Half Term
Friday 24th May	INSET Day – no children in school
Monday 27th May – Friday 31st May	HALF TERM
Monday 3rd June	Start of Summer Term 2
Wednesday 12th June - Friday 14th June	Y6 PGL residential trip
Wednesday 12th June	9am: 2J class assembly – all parents/ carers welcome
Wednesday 19th June	9am: 1A & 1D class assembly – all parents/ carers welcome
Tuesday 25th June	9.10am: Nursery assembly – all parents/ carers welcome
Wednesday 26th June	9am: Y6 PGL assembly – all parents/ carers welcome
Wednesday 3rd July	9am: RP class assembly – all parents/ carers welcome
Friday 5th July	#WOODFEST 2024
Wednesday 10th July	9am: RR class assembly – all parents/ carers welcome
Monday 22nd July	Last day of term - for Nursery Children only
Tuesday 23rd July	Last day of Term - school finishes at 1.30pm



74% of UK children spend less time outdoors than the 60 minutes recommended for prison inmates.

Let's fix this.

Join the conversation at [#DirtisGood](#) | See the film at [dirtisgood.com](#)



This was an advert for Persil from some time ago – but the link below has some interesting information:

[People | Persil](#)



DSPL6 & Hertsmere Schools' Partnership

SEND Surgery Wednesday 13th March 2024

Hertsmere Schools Partnership (DSPL6) is offering a 30-minute session with our SEND School Family Workers to answer questions and to offer support and signposting for parents/carers of children with additional needs.

Example Topics for discussion:

- Strategies to help support your child at home
- EHCP queries
- Liaising with schools and other professionals
- Navigating the SEND world

To book a 30-minute session, please go to

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/dspl6-and-hertsmere-schools-partnership-send-surgery-march-2024-tickets-856947762827>

Bookings are now open!

When you book, please provide details of the topic that you would like to discuss.

Please be aware there is a high demand for these appointments so please only book on if you are sure you can commit to the time slot.

The SEND Surgeries will be held by

Jo Hansler and Helen Godfrey, SEND School Family Workers

Surgeries will be held via Teams. A Teams link will be sent once your session has been confirmed.

These surgeries are available to all parents/carers of those children/young people who attend education in the DSPL6 Area

More dates will be made available throughout 2024
If you experience any problems booking through Eventbrite, please email SendHSP@mountgrace.herts.sch.uk

