



VERWOOD C E FIRST SCHOOL & NURSERY

NEWSLETTER

Spring Term
Friday 5th January 2024

Dear Parents and Carers

Welcome back to the Spring Term 2024 and Happy New Year . I hope you have all had an enjoyable Christmas break and are ready for the busy year ahead! On behalf of all the staff, I would like to thank you for all your kind wishes and messages at the end of last term.

Staff returned to school on Tuesday with an excellent training day working with staff from Hillside and St John's First Schools. Our focus was ensuring that all children are engaged with learning. We use Rosenshine's Principles of teaching and Tom Sherrington's Walk Thru techniques to review and focus our teaching strategies and develop how we question and give time for children to think about and share their thinking. We also took time to review our behaviour guidance and learn from our analysis of monitoring from the autumn term.

We have loved having the children return to school on Wednesday. I have been very impressed as I have moved around the school to see each class ready to learn, showing excellent learning behaviours and enjoying new learning topics. Thank you for your support with ensuring that they have the correct uniform and shoes and arriving on time. Classroom doors and the playground gate close at 8.45am and after this point children will need to come into school via the main entrance. Thank you for your support with children being in class, ready to learn at 8.45am.

This term we are trialling teachers remaining in the classrooms in the morning as we welcome children at 8.30am and a teaching assistant on the door for messages. This is to provide a smooth start to the school day as children arrive in the classroom. Any messages for school can be shared through parentmail as well as to the adult on the door.

I would also like to remind families that children should not be bringing into school any toys from home. With lots of new and exciting toys over Christmas, please ensure they stay at home where they are kept safe.

Last term we advertised for a new gate attendant to man the main campus gates. Unfortunately we have not been successful at recruiting for this position. We therefore kindly request that only parents/family members who have been allocated with permission drive onto the campus to drop off or collect children. Some members of staff start work at 8.45am or 9am and we must ensure that there is sufficient parking for them. Thank you for your understanding that we continue to keep the traffic flow on campus to a minimum for the safety of pupils, families and staff. If you have requested permission you will be contacted today with your pass.

In today's newsletter are many dates of events happening this term and into the summer term. We are introducing a new event this term, **Celebrate your child's learning**. Please save the date **Thursday 8th February** when parents and carers are invited into their child's class at 2.30 - 3.00pm to allow your child to share their books and learning with you. We know the children will be excited and proud to share their learning with you.

Katharine Anstey
Executive Headteacher

Children Celebrated in Praise Worship

	Nursery	Oak Base	Sycamore Base	Beech Base	Willow Base	Ash Base
Headteacher's Award	Olive H	Hugo K Chester D	Jack T Ben R	Henry F Autumn K	Oliver S Marlow D	Emma H Ava W

Attendance

Thank you for your support in ensuring your child's attendance in school and being on time every day. Good attendance in school is a top priority and our expectation is that pupils attend school every day for every session.

This week's attendance

Oak Base	94.6%
Sycamore Base	95.3%
Beech Base	95.61%
Willow Base	94.3%
Ash Base	94.59%

Dates for your Diary

FEB

Thurs 25th & Fri 26th Jan - Year 3 Museum trip (further details to follow next week)
Thurs 8th Feb, 2.30-3pm - Celebration of children's learning - parents invited into classrooms
Mon 12-Fri 15th HALF TERM
Mon 19th Feb - INSET
Tuesday 20th - Children return to school
Mon 26th Feb & Thurs 29th Feb, 3.30-6pm - Parents' Evenings (face to face)

MARCH

Thurs 7th March - World Book Day
Fri 8th March - Author visit, Paul Stickland
Tues 12th March, 6.30-8.30pm - EMS musical production (40 KS2 pupils involved)
Weds 27th March, 9.30-10.30am - Easter Service for Years 2, 3 & 4 at the Church - Easter parade @ 2.30pm for Nursery/ EYFS & Year 1
Thurs 28th March - INSET
Easter holidays 29th Mar-12th April
Mon 15th April- Children return to school

Class Assemblies (no looking at books for parents on these dates - just the assembly event):

Year 3: Thurs 14th and Friday 15th March
Year 4: Thurs 21st and Friday 22nd March

MAY

Fri 3rd May, morning - Class Photos

Tues 7th/Weds 8th May - Year 4 Residential to Osmington Bay (one night)

Weds 15th May, 9-12pm - Potted Sports Day

Fri 24th May, 2.30-3pm - Celebration of children's learning - parents invited into classrooms

May half term -Monday 27th May - Friday 31st May

JUNE

Weds 12th June, pm - KS2 sports Day

Fri 21st June - INSET

Fri 28th June - Transfer Day

Fri 5th July - Year 4 leavers' visit to Wimborne Minster

JULY

Tues 23rd July, 9.30am - Last Day of Term & Year 4 Leavers

Class Assemblies (no looking at books for parents on these dates - just the assembly event):

Year 3: Thurs 14th and Friday 15th March

Year 4: Thurs 21st and Friday 22nd March

Car Park and Car Park passes

As you are aware, we were looking to recruit a replacement for Mr Holloway as Car Park Gate Monitor, unfortunately, we have been unsuccessful and have not been able to recruit, as such the gates will be open. We ask you to respect the need to keep pupils safe and ensure staff are able to park to commence their working day. We will monitor this and make changes if necessary. Please only come on to the campus if you have a car park pass. It is imperative that parking is reserved for staff.

Please note car park passes have been issued today. Those who have been awarded a pass will be sent a direct message via ParentMail today.

Head Lice

Just a reminder following the Christmas period we have had more cases of head Lice. Please can we ask you to check your child's hair and treat accordingly. Please click [here](#) for some further information on how to detect and treat Head Lice.

Checking meal orders

We have had a few enquiries regarding whether or not hot school meals have been ordered . Please be aware that you can check yourselves on your parentmail account. If you go into Accounts and then statements it gives you a list of dates and meals you have ordered. If you are unable to trace this, please do not hesitate to ask at the school office if you are at all unsure.

Friends of Verwood

The next Friends meeting will be held on the 24th January at 7pm at the Swans pub. All welcome, please just let us know you are coming along by emailing - friends_of_vfs@hotmail.com we will have an egm note regarding the treasurer role on the agenda.

