

The value we are looking at this half term is Generosity . Our HeartSmart focus is: Get HeartSmart!

Monday 3rd October 2022
Autumn 2022 Newsletter 5

Things to remember:

- Tomorrow is Read with a Friend or Relative - after drop off please meet in the hall for 9am- all invited to come along and spend some quality time reading with your child (and possibly your child's friends!) Bring a book along if you wish! The session will finish at around 9.30 ready for the children to begin their usual morning lessons.
- Coats can still be donated to school (plus any other winter weather gear!)

Dear Parents and Carers,

The newly appointed School Council are keen to get going on the Coat Exchange, so if you haven't yet searched through your children's cupboards for those they have grown out of, please have a look this week! The collection seems to be expanding into anything encompassing winter weather gear, so we have had waterproof trousers and salopettes donated - just please don't donate wellies yet, as they are next on our list!

Reporting to Parents and Carers Update

In the summer term we invited parents and carers to complete a questionnaire about aspects of the school. One of the messages that came from this is that some of our families are concerned they do not know enough about their child's progress over the year at school. Prior to COVID we had a half termly reporting system that worked well, and we are going to reintroduce this in light of these concerns. The planned reporting for the coming year is as follows, and these will run alongside written reports, parent/carer evenings and any other meetings that are planned:

- Snapshot reports for Years 1- 4. These are short reports that update you half termly on your child's attendance, attitude, progress and/or targets:
 - Snapshot 1 - end of Autumn 1 - attendance and targets for the end of year
 - Snapshot 2 - end of Autumn 2 - attendance, attitudes and progress
 - Snapshot 3 - end of Spring 1 - attendance and attitude
 - Snapshot 4 - end of Summer 1 - attendance and attitude (spring 2 covered by full written report)
 - Snapshot 5 - end of year - attendance, attitude and end of year results

If you have any questions, concerns, or things you wish to celebrate with us, please remember we are always happy to meet with you - it is best to contact staff directly if you wish to talk anything through.

School Uniform

We have a number of school sweatshirts and cardigans available to buy directly from the school. These are available to purchase via SchoolMoney and prices are as follows:

School logo cardigan £13.75

School logo sweatshirt £12.25

To purchase, simply log onto SchoolMoney, order and pay. You can then collect directly from the school office. We have a limited number of sizes.

Pupil Premium and Free School Meals

Regardless of what year group your child is in, did you know that if you are receiving qualifying benefits, you could get extra £££'s for the school, and a free school meal if your child is in Years 3 or 4? In addition to this the school will qualify for extra funding known as the Pupil Premium. If your child is in Reception, Year 1 or Year 2 they will already receive a free school meal under a different government scheme, but if you are eligible for Pupil Premium and don't claim, the school is missing money and your child is missing extra benefits such as help with school uniform and the cost of school trips, and access to free holiday clubs run by Dorset Council! You can check if you are eligible here: dorsetcouncil.gov.uk/free-school-meals, or via telephone on 01305 221090. You can apply for the Pupil Premium at [Apply for pupil premium – Dorset Council](#)

With the current concerns around the cost of living it really is worth checking to see!

Cost of living information

Linked to the above, there is information on the Dorset Council website about places to contact for support with cost of living help: [Cost Of living help - Dorset Council](#). Please share this as widely as you can with those who might need it, as we all know it is more important than ever at the moment.

Staff Update

We are very pleased to welcome Gracie Longshaw into our Year 4 team. Miss Longshaw will be working alongside Ms Carter in the mornings, so you will soon see her at the door at drop off. Many of our children know her from their dance lessons, and we are hoping we may be able to make use of her expertise in the near future!

FABS Update

A big thank you to the FABS who have recently funded some maths equipment for the school in the form of rekenreks. We introduced these to our younger children last year and they made an enormous impact on their number sense and fluency, and the FABS have enabled us to purchase some to now use with our older children. If you are interested in what a rekenrek is, more information can be found [here](#).

Cake Sale - please note the cake sale on Friday October 14th will be stocked by our Year 3 families, and all proceeds will go towards Year 3 to fund trips and activities for the class. We aim for other classes to also take on the cake sale across the year to raise funds.

A Stars Club for ASD Children

Attached to this email is an information leaflet for A Stars club. If you or a friend or relative have a child with ASD please do have a read. The club is meant for the entire family (if they wish to come), and although parents and carers are responsible for their own children, a TA is provided to lead activities, and the club is currently free! The club is probably best suited for children from 5 up to around 13 years old.

Half Term Ideas - Nothe Fort Science Fair

Sunday 2nd October 2022

10.30am - 4.00pm

Nothe Fort will be hosting a fun day of hands-on science activities.

- **Institute of Physics** will be launching rockets and looking at polarised light
- **The Victorian Scientist** will be demonstrating weird and wonderful objects
- **Portland Museum** will be showing finds from the local shipwreck of the Abbergaveny
- **Wessex Water** will be making a water filter
- **CEFAS** will be bringing a host of activities including field microscopes, non-native species and take a fishing games
- **Litter Free Dorset** will be running 'Bin your Butt' experiments
- **Weymouth Astronomy** look at the importance of the sun to life on earth and a demonstration the Astronomy software STELLARIUM
- **Fossil Fun** will be painting ammonites and hunting for fossils.
- **Nothe Fort** will be looking at weapons and firing a Victorian cannon

Yours faithfully,
Mrs Collings

Calendar Dates Autumn Term 2022

Date	Time	Event
OCTOBER 2022		
Tuesday 4th	9am	Read with a friend or relative
Thursday 6th	9am	YR hearing tests
Week beg. Monday 10th		Parent/teacher meetings - staff will contact you with details
Monday 10th	9.15am	Parent Workshop - mental health
Friday 14th	2.45pm	YR parents and carers tea and cake - all families invited after school
Monday 17th - Friday 21st		Festivals and Food Week
Wednesday 19th	9.30am 6pm	Harvest festival assembly FABS Halloween Bingo
Thursday 20th	LAST DAY OF AUTUMN 1	
Friday 21st		INSET
Mon 24th - Fri 28th		HALF TERM
Monday 31st		INSET
NOVEMBER		
Tuesday 1st		START OF SECOND HALF OF AUTUMN TERM Year 3 trip to Bovington Tank Museum