



March 2024

Dear Parents/ Carers,

Once again, we've had a busy term with lots of exciting things to look back on over the past few weeks...

**Children's mental health and wellbeing week:** During this week we had:

Mindfulness Monday - children painted rocks

Community Tuesday - A group of Y6 leaders hid painted rocks around the village

Work-out Wednesday - Children took part in an outdoor workout

Outdoor Thursday - Classes had an outdoor learning session

Express yourself Friday - Children wore non-uniform and reflected on what's good about themselves.



**Science Week/ Silly Science Show:** As part of Science Week, children watched a farming live video and we had a Silly Science Show visit school. Children were really entertained watching various exciting experiments and their subject knowledge and scientific vocabulary was praised by our visitors!



**Burwell House Residential Trip:** The first of our residential trips this year took place earlier this month when Y3/4 children stayed over for 1 night at Burwell House. During their visit, they took part in lots of outdoor activities that focussed on different skills and team work. They were a credit to the school and had a fantastic time!





**West Stow Trip:** Meanwhile, in Y5/6, children went on a trip to West Stow which linked with their topic on Anglo-Saxons and Vikings. They walked round the reconstructed village and spent time exploring artefacts in the museum.



**Animal Experience:**

We had a wild visit from meerkats, snakes, lizards and cockroaches for children in KS1. They got to hold all these African animals and enjoy an immersive experience that linked to their topic.

**ALL OF THESE WONDERFUL EXPERIENCES ABOVE WERE HEAVILY SUBSIDISED BY OUR LOCAL CHARITY, GOWARD AND EVANS, MAKING THESE VISITS MUCH MORE AFFORDABLE FOR PARENTS/CARERS. ONCE AGAIN, WE ARE DELIGHTED TO HEAR THAT THEY ARE WORKING CLOSELY WITH THE SCHOOL FOR THE NEXT FINANCIAL YEAR, MEANING WE ARE VERY LUCKY TO BE ABLE TO OFFER MORE ENRICHMENT TO OUR CURRICULUM. THANK YOU TO GOWARD AND EVANS FOR THEIR CONTINUED SUPPORT!**

**Family Point Winners: EARTH!**

Well done to children in Earth who won the most family points this term. As their reward, children in Earth can wear non-school uniform on **Friday 19<sup>th</sup> April.**

**Gymnastics:** A selection of children from Y2-Y4 took part in a gymnastics competition. As always, our children made us incredibly proud and a few of the children won silver and bronze awards in their individual disciplines.





**Tag Rugby:** A small selection of Year 3/4 children had the opportunity to try out some fun Tag-Rugby games at a festival. For many, it was a first time experience in the Lakenheath colours, all of them showing great character, teamwork and lots of energy!



**Autism Acceptance Week:** During this week, a few children bravely presented an assembly about autism. They also organised some wonderful lunch time clubs including: drawing club, coding club and a club dedicated to all things space! We also had a fabulous time walking down to the pavilion for a whole school walk/run. Children dressed in colours to create a children spectrum! Thank you to all the staff and volunteers that made this possible.



**Safer Internet Day:** Digital Leaders presented an assembly all about keeping safe online. They bravely talked about strategies to protect ourselves and the importance of speaking out and reporting concerns.



**Police Visit:** Two police officers visited and engaged with children at lunch time. The children got to ask questions and (more importantly) try on the hats and handcuffs!

### Parent Pay:

Unfortunately, for the foreseeable future, we are no longer able to accept cash/ cheques in school due to the availability of banking in the immediate area. This is not a decision we wanted to make but unfortunately our hand has been forced now banking services are very limited.

After Easter, all payments to school (e.g. school dinners/ school trips etc.) will have to be paid via SchoolComms. (This doesn't include PTA events as they have their own account and can continue to accept cash). We understand that this may be inconvenient for many of you but please be assured that this will not mean any increase in costs for any of the services.

If you require more information on how to make payments using School Comms (School Gateway), please do not hesitate to contact the school office: 01842 860256.





**Important Dates for the diary:**

- Easter holidays: Friday 29<sup>th</sup> March - Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> April
- Tuesday 16<sup>th</sup> April: Children return to school following Easter Break (Friday 12<sup>th</sup> and Monday 15<sup>th</sup> are PD Days)
- Monday 13<sup>th</sup> May- Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> May: Year 6 SATs week
- Friday 24<sup>th</sup> May: Year 3 Trip to Colchester Castle
- Monday 27<sup>th</sup> - Friday 31<sup>st</sup> May: HALF TERM

**Our 10 point Attendance Reminders:**

1. Please take family holidays during the school holidays. Holidays in term time will result in a fine (£60 per adult, per child)
2. Please call in before 9am if your child is not going to be at school. It saves us having to call you
3. If your child is regularly off due to illness, we will call you for a meeting to see how we can help
4. Absence due to illness can be unauthorised if we suspect your child is well enough to come to school
5. If your child comes into school after 9am, the registers are closed and it counts as 1 session of unauthorised absence
6. Too many unauthorised absences will result in a fine or a referral to our School Attendance Support Officer at Suffolk County Council
7. If your child has a medical appointment, please give school a copy of the appointment so we can authorise the absence
8. If you know there is an unusual or unexpected reason for your child's absence, please talk to us ahead of time (if possible). We may agree to authorise the absence.
9. 90% - or below - is classed as persistently absent / poor attendance (this is equivalent to a day off every 2 weeks!)
10. If you or your child have any worries about what's happening or has happened in school please bring your child in to school and talk to us about it. Please do not give your child a day off.

**Attendance Matters**



**Of course, lots of bugs do go round this time of year which does effect our attendance significantly. However, if in doubt, please do send children into school - we will always send the children home if we feel they're too ill to be in school and we can give them Calpol if you give us written permission.**

**Please also remember, our registration points for attendance are 8:45-8:50am and 1-1:15pm.**



**Other Polite Reminders:**

- **Breakfast Club** - please do not park on the school grounds (including visitor bays) when dropping off your children. It is not safe with so many cars coming in and out and children walking into the club.
- Please follow the payment plans for school trips. If you're struggling financially to keep up with these, please do communicate with us so we can stop chasing these and make arrangements with you on an individual basis.
- **Please avoid parking on School Close (private road) and on the yellow lines out the front of school.**
- We have a number of children and staff with nut allergies in school. We do not allow any nuts in school so please avoid these in snacks and lunch boxes.
- **Please avoid using mobile phones when on the school site e.g. when dropping off and collecting children - this is for safeguarding our pupils.**
- Please support us by stopping your children use the play equipment before and after school at drop off and pick up times.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M Tingey', is positioned below the 'Yours sincerely,' text.

Michael Tingey