



Newsletter 14

15 December 2023

Dear Parents

This will be the last newsletter of the school term and of 2023! I can't believe we are here already and a huge 'Thank You' to the whole school community for all their hard work over a very busy term! A special 'Thank You' to all the children for their continued enthusiasm for learning and for always being positive.

Happy Hanukkah to all our families celebrating this week; we hope you have enjoyed your celebrations.

Finally, wishing all our families a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year; I hope you all enjoy a relaxing break and see you all in 2024!

END OF TERM

A reminder about the end of term; the final day for Nursery is Tuesday 19th December (usual timings) and Wednesday 20th December for the remainder of the school.

Please note the earlier finishing time of 1:15pm.

WEEKLY ATTENDANCE AWARD

Our target is to be at **96%** attendance throughout the year.

This week	93.4%
Week beg 04 December	92.2%
Best week to date	Week beginning 09 October ~ 98.65%



ATTENDANCE

Week beginning 11 December:

RED <95%	AMBER 95%	GREEN 96+%
Squirrel Rabbit Woodpecker Kingfisher Robin Badger Fox	Hedgehog	Heron Owl

Well done to **Heron Class** who had the highest attendance this week.

HOURS OF LEARNING LOST

This week: 11 December	313 minutes = 5 hours and 13 minutes
Last week: 04 December	492 minutes = 8 hours and 12 minutes



GOLDEN BOOK

This week the following children shared their learning with me:

<i>Jess</i>	<i>Kingfisher Class</i>	<i>Zayn</i>	<i>Kingfisher Class</i>	<i>Avani</i>	<i>Kingfisher Class</i>
<i>Hope</i>	<i>Kingfisher Class</i>	<i>Sofia</i>	<i>Hedgehog Class</i>	<i>Hari</i>	<i>Hedgehog Class</i>
<i>Cleo</i>	<i>Hedgehog Class</i>	<i>Finlay</i>	<i>Hedgehog Class</i>		

ACHIEVEMENTS OUTSIDE SCHOOL

We like to celebrate the achievements and awards of our children outside of school too! If your child has earned an award in an event, please send in a copy of the certificate and we can mention them in our weekly newsletters.

This week we celebrated the success of:

Pupil	Class	Achievement
<i>Zayn</i>	<i>Robin</i>	<i>Swim England ~ Level 2</i>
<i>Darcey Jean</i>	<i>Squirrel</i>	<i>Winter Term at Tennis Champs</i>
<i>Akyra</i>	<i>Fox</i>	<i>Swim England ~ Level 2</i>
<i>Thieran</i>	<i>Fox</i>	<i>Watford School of Music ~ taking part in the Beginners' First Concert. We Make Footballers ~ first level.</i>
<i>Amelia</i>	<i>Robin</i>	<i>Dance Star ~ Game On Dance</i>
<i>Anaya</i>	<i>Kingfisher</i>	<i>High Springers Gymnastics ~ Levels 4, 5 and 6!</i>

40 THINGS BINGO!

Well done to the following children who have achieved this half term challenge of all 4 in a row!

Pupil	Class
<i>Jack</i>	<i>Badger</i>
<i>Zakariya</i>	<i>Kingfisher</i>
<i>Thieran</i>	<i>Fox</i>

WEEKLY WELL-BEING

Each week we will share one idea to promote family well-being. Please let us know if you enjoy it and if you have any other ideas that we could share!

This week's well-being idea: **Take time to play a board game together!**

MY FIRST LIBRARY ADVENTURE

You may recall during September / October we promoted the 'My First Library Adventure' with our Reception pupils. I was delighted to learn that Arnau in Owl Class completed the adventure and has won a signed copy of 'I Did See a Mammoth' by author and illustrator Alex Willmore. Well done Arnau and happy reading!

NATIVITY COSTUMES

If you have finished with your child's nativity costume and are unlikely to use again in the future, we will happily accept donations to support with resources in the classroom or for children to borrow in future years. This also supports our sustainability drive. Please bring any donations to the school office.

NON UNIFORM WEDNESDAY 20TH DECEMBER

The final day of term will be a non-uniform day; children may wear whichever clothes they like. This is a 'just for fun' event and no donations are necessary. However, should you wish to make a contribution, the teachers would welcome donations of boxes of tissues in class as we head into the cold and flu season. If you would like to contribute, please donate a box of tissues to your child's class teacher.

ECO COUNCIL UPDATE

Please see attached our Autumn II newsletter from the Eco Council.

UPDATE FROM THE GOVERNING BODY

The Full Governing Board met on Monday 11th December. During the meeting we covered the following:

- The Board welcomed 2 new governors who joined December 2023; Grace Bannon and Lucy Tierney
- The school continues to diversify with letting its facilities to external clubs with some clubs now starting at 4.30pm which our children can access
- Attendance in the school continues to be good, but marginally below the 96% target. Similarly, there is an increase in lateness. Governors will continue their monitoring next term
- There has also been an increase in pupils taking holidays during term-time. Parents are reminded that this will currently go down as unauthorised leave and teachers are unable to make up lost lesson time
- Looking ahead to September 2024 intake, we have seen a good deal of interest for CINS applications

FINAL CALL ~ 15th January deadline!

YEAR 2 ONLY ~ JUNIOR SCHOOL APPLICATION

You will have been sent information this week with regard to applying for a place at the junior school. You **MUST** ensure you complete the online form before the deadline. For more information and to apply follow this link: [Junior School Admissions Application](#)

RECEPTION 2024 PLACES ~ APPLICATION

If you have a child in our Nursery or another local nursery you will need to apply for a place to join our Reception classes in September 2024. The deadline for applying is 15th January. For more information and to apply follow this link: [Reception September 2024 Application](#)

REMINDERS

CHRISTMAS PARTIES

These will be taking place in the last week of term, children may come dressed to impress on their party day:

Monday 18th ~ Year 2 and Nursery

Tuesday 19th ~ Year 1

Wednesday 20th ~ Reception

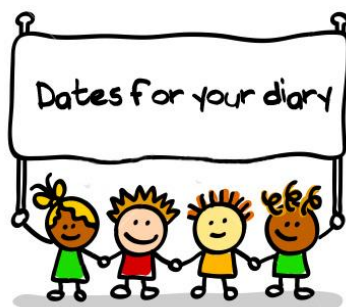
THIS WEEK'S FLYERS

1. Eco Council Newsletter
2. Beezee Bodies Healthier Eating
3. Beezee Bodies Family Event
4. DSPL9 Family newsletter

Have a lovely weekend.

With best wishes

Charlotte Cooper
Headteacher



Autumn term 2023

Date	What's Happening?	Where?	Time?
Wk Beg 18 th Dec	Christmas Parties Week		
Tue 19 th Dec	Nursery Nativity	School Hall	9:15am
Tue 19 th Dec	End of term for Nursery pupils		
Wed 20 th Dec	Autumn Term ends 1:15pm		

Spring term 2024

Date	What's Happening?	Where?	Time?
4 th Jan	INSET Day ~ school closed to pupils		
5 th Jan	INSET Day ~ school closed to pupils		
8 th Jan	Return to school for all pupils		
Fri 26 th Jan	Badger Sharing Assembly	Hall	9am
Fri 26 th Jan	Coffee Morning (all parents)	Oak Room	9-10am
Wk Beg 29 th Jan	National Story Telling Week		
Wed 31 Jan	Y2 St Luke's Workshops		
Wed 31 st Jan	Book at Bedtime	KS1 Classrooms	4:20-5:30 pm
Tue 6 th Feb	Internet Safety Day		
Fri 9 th Feb	Hedgehog Sharing Assembly	Hall	9am
Wk Beg 12 th Feb	Well-Being Week		
Fri 16 th Feb	Learning together morning	Classrooms	9am
Tue 27 th Feb	World Thinking Day ~ Scout / Brownies Uniform Day		
Wk Beg 4 th Mar	Waste Awareness Week		
Thu 7 th Mar	World Book Day		
Wk Beg 11 th Mar	STEM Focus Week		
Tue 12 th Mar	World Maths Day		
Fri 15 th Mar	Open Afternoon	Classrooms	2:45pm
Tue 19 th Mar	World Poetry Day		
Wed 20 th Mar	EYFS Parent Consultation	Virtual	Appointments
Thu 21 st Mar	EYFS Parent Consultation	Virtual	Appointments
Fri 22 nd Mar	Fox Sharing Assembly	Hall	9am
Mon 25 th Mar	KS1 Annual Report Home to Parents		
Tue 26 th Mar	Year 1 Spring Extravaganza	Hall	9:15am
Wed 27 th Mar	Year 1 Spring Extravaganza	Hall	9:15am
Wed 27 th Mar	End of term for Nursery pupils		
Thu 28 th Mar	Spring Term ends 1:15pm		



PLEASE NOTE THESE ARE THE DATES FOR THE_ACADEMIC YEAR **2023/24**
These dates are the same as the junior school.

AUTUMN 2023

Tuesday 19 th December	Nursery end of Autumn Term ~ usual time
Wednesday 20 th December	Autumn term ends 1:15pm

SPRING 2024

Thursday 4 January	INSET ~ School closed to pupils
Friday 5 January	INSET ~ School closed to pupils
Monday 8 January	Spring term starts
Mon 19 Feb – Fri 23 Feb	Half term
Wednesday 27 th March	Nursery end of Spring Term ~ usual time
Thursday 28 March	Spring term ends 1:15pm

SUMMER 2024

Monday 15 April	Summer term starts
Mon 27 May – 31 May	Half term
Thursday 18 th July	Nursery end of Summer Term ~ usual time
Friday 19 July	End of summer term 1:15pm
Monday 22 July	INSET ~ School closed to pupils
Tuesday 23 July	INSET ~ School closed to pupils



PLEASE NOTE THESE ARE THE DATES FOR THE_ACADEMIC YEAR **2024/25**
These dates are the same as the junior school.

AUTUMN 2024

Monday 2 September	INSET ~ School closed to pupils
Tuesday 3 September	Autumn term starts
Mon 28 Oct – Fri 1 Nov	Half term

Friday 29 November	INSET ~ School closed to pupils
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Friday 20 December	Autumn term ends 1:15pm
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SPRING 2025

Monday 6 January	INSET ~ School closed to pupils
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Tuesday 7 January	Spring term starts
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Mon 17 Feb – Fri 21 Feb	Half term
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Friday 4 April	Spring term ends 1:15pm
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SUMMER 2025

Tuesday 22 April	Summer term starts
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Mon 26 May – 30 May	Half term
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Friday 18 July	End of summer term 1:15pm
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Monday 21 July	INSET ~ School closed to pupils
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Tuesday 22 July	INSET ~ School closed to pupils
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Wednesday 23 July	Occasional Day ~ School closed to pupils
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