



Dear Parents and Carers,

What a start to the new term! The snow certainly made things interesting, but a huge thank you to all our staff and families for making the effort to get in and for providing packed lunches at short notice. Every day counts in education, and your commitment ensures our children don't miss out. It was lovely to see the children working together in teams to build snowmen – a great reminder that learning happens everywhere! And yes, we all learned something important: snow = cold, so coats, gloves and hats are essential!

I've included key dates for this term below and shared them on Class Dojo for easy reference. Please note that class assemblies have now been moved. These events are highly valued by parents, but the end of term is always a very busy time. We can't schedule them earlier because the children are still completing their learning. Therefore, Class Assemblies will now take place at the start of the following term, giving us the chance to share the fantastic learning from the previous term. The next assemblies will be early in the summer term to showcase spring work.

Curriculum overviews will be coming out shortly so you'll know what your children are learning through the spring term and how you can support them at home. Please help us by getting back into the habit of daily reading, spelling practice and times tables. Just a few minutes each day makes a huge difference to progress. Please refresh your memory about our Parent / Home School Learning Expectations from our Home Learning Policy.

Once again, thank you for your patience and understanding during the snowy weather. Here's to a successful and exciting term ahead!

Helen Reynolds
Headteacher



CELEBRATION

Happy Birthday to:

Archie C, Mrs Leighton, Alyssa, Evelyn and Hettie who had their birthdays this week!



AWARD WINNERS



Congratulations to this week's **Award winners**, who are:

Robin, Mary, Archie S,

UPCOMING EVENTS



- 26th January: Art Week (KS1 and KS2)
- 2nd February: Story Telling Week
- 9th February: Prees Sports and Social Club Lower Heath Bingo Fundraiser (6pm)
- 10th February: Skylark Trip to British Ironworks Centre
- 12th February: Saltmine Theatre Company whole school performance
- 12th February: Parents' Evening 1
- 13th February: Break up for Half Term
- 23rd February: PD Day – school closed for children
- 24th February: Collaboration Day – school closed for children
- 25th February: Back to school
- 26th February: Parents' Evening 2
- 3rd March: Colour Run for the Community
- 26th March: Whole school Easter Service
- 27th March: Break up for Easter

Parent / School Home Learning Expectations

| | HOME LEARNING ACTIVITIES | TIMING AND FREQUENCY | SCHOOL ACTIVITIES |
|-------------|---|--|---|
| EYFS | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Read schoolbook - record in reading diary • Letters and graphemes practice • Numberwork – Numbots, number recognition, counting objects, more/less than etc | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 5-10 minutes daily (or at least 5 times a week) • 5-10 minutes daily • 5-10 minutes daily | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Check reading diaries weekly • Class 'reward' system to encourage regular home learning • Offer support if home learning expectations are not being achieved • Ensure children are given regular opportunities to choose age-appropriate reading books from school • Class system to keep a record of what books children are reading, reviewing regularly • Weekly and termly class prizes for child who reads most/has improved their reading and maths at home • KS2 spelling and times tables tests - results sent home weekly • KS1 spelling and number bonds tests - results sent home weekly • Support for families in how to use school systems • Guidance resources accessible on our website |
| KS1 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Read schoolbook - record in reading diary • Spelling / grapheme practice • Number bonds / times tables practice | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 10 minutes daily (or at least 5 times a week) • 5-10 minutes daily • 5-10 minutes daily | |
| LKS2 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Read schoolbook - record in reading diary • Spelling practice • Number bonds / times tables practice • English and Maths workbook activity | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 10-15 minutes daily (or at least 5 times a week) • 5-10 minutes daily • 5-10 minutes daily • 15-20 minutes weekly | |
| UKS2 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Read schoolbook - record in reading diary • Spelling practice • Times tables practice • English and Maths workbook activity | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 15-20 minutes daily (or at least 5 times a week) • 5-10 minutes daily • 5-10 minutes daily • 15-20 minutes weekly | |

WORSHIP



This half term, our Christian value is RESPECT, inspired by the Bible story of Moses and the Burning Bush. In this story, Moses learns to approach God with reverence, reminding us that respect begins with recognising the worth and dignity of others.

We'll be encouraging children to listen carefully, treat people kindly and value differences, helping them build a community where everyone feels valued and cared for.

