



Weekly Update: 31st March 2023

Dear Parents/Carers,

Dates for your diary

3rd-14th April

Monday 17th April

Saturday 22nd April

Wednesday 19th/Monday 24th April

Wednesday 19th April

19th-24th April

Thursday 20th April

Thursday 27th April

Monday 1st May

Friday 5th May

Monday 8th May

Tuesday 9th May

Tuesday 16th May

Tuesday 23rd May

29th May- 2nd June

Friday 9th June

Thursday 15th June

Friday 16th June

27th-30th June

Easter holiday. PTA Village Easter Trail

INSET training day- school closed

Volunteer day in school to tidy up the grounds- please sign up at the school office- any amount of time gifted will be appreciated!

Parents' Evenings (Years R-5)

Pippin Class Trip to The Octagon Theatre

Book Fair

No Outsiders workshop for all classes

PTA Meeting @ The Firehouse- All welcome

Bank Holiday

Coronation at St Andrew's Church followed by cream teas at school

Additional Bank Holiday: Coronation of King Charles III

Year 6 SATs week begins

Camelot Class Trip to Magdalene Farm

Healthy eating workshop for all classes, and after school workshop for parents

Half term

PTA Disco

Gala Class Trip to Vivary Park

Discovery Class Trip to Magdalene Farm

Year 6 Blenheim residential

We enjoyed an uplifting Easter service today, with wonderful singing, readings and a Pippin presentation about hot cross buns. A special well-done to the children who stood at the lectern to read in front of a large congregation: Hugo, Ronnie, Lexi, Sophie, Sienna, Lilly May, Evie, Finley M and Bella. Easter is such an important time to be reminded of new life and hope, and especially of the power of forgiveness as we remember Jesus on the cross and his resurrection.

Mrs Ali Pook

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Summer Term Clubs

You may want to start thinking about our exciting summer term club offer with your child/ren- details to follow after the break:

Activity/Club	Year group(s)
Gardening	R, 1 and 2
Athletics	R, 1 and 2
Gardening	Years 3-6
Athletics	Years 3-6
Spanish	Years 3-6
Cooking	Year 5
Choir	Years 3-6
Netball (Training for squad)	Years 5/6

Chrome books

We are delighted to share with you some wonderful news- the PTA have helped source and fund 40 New Chrome Books. We have also purchased new charging trolleys. There will be one device per child for Camelot and Blenheim, with 10 Chrome books in Discovery. Our iPads will move to Gala, Maigold and Pippin. Where computing lessons require one device per pupil, we are able to move devices around.

Sports Results

On Monday, our Football and netball teams travelled to Huish Academy to play Charlton Mackerell school. Our Football team drew 2-2, and the netball team won 17-7.

Extravaganza

4th place: 318 points - Mendip
 3rd place: 346 points - Quantock
 2nd place: 383 points - Polden
 1st place: 406 points - Blackdown!

Staffing News

I am delighted to share with you the news that Mrs Hannah van Cole had been appointed as our substantive senior teacher- Mrs van Cole has extensive experience of leadership in schools in London and we have benefitted from her expertise as she has held the role temporarily over the last year. We have also appointed a substantive 3 days a week SENDCo from September- Mrs Charlotte Monk. Mrs Lisa Waller will continue being our SENDCo for the rest of this academic year, supported by Mrs van Cole.

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Shin pads

We are now using the field for playtimes, so our lunchtime football rota is back, where each class has a turn in the week to play. Pupils in Year 3-6 will need shinpads in order to play. Our Sports Captains are supporting the children and refereeing, and lunch staff also supervise this opportunity for sporting activity on our wonderful grounds.

No Outsiders

We are improving our teaching and learning around issues of diversity and discrimination with the use of 'No Outsiders' resources. What is No Outsiders? The Vision is inclusive education, promoting community cohesion to prepare young people and adults for life as global citizens. Andrew Moffatt, an experienced educator, and creator of the 'No Outsiders' resources will be leading workshops with pupils and staff after Easter. It is paramount that future generations are able to accept differences, accept the views of others and treat each other with respect, even if they disagree. We expect the children to express their views with kindness and consideration for the feelings of others. Our key message is that we are all equal and we all belong, we are all insiders, there are no outsiders in our school.

Clive Pig: Poetry Promenade Next Week!

Clive PiG is poet and storyteller who has performed in over 30 countries, and will be joining us again this year as we are fortunate to have been gifted this wonderful opportunity by the PTA. With his pen and notebook in hand, this intrepid explorer searches for the poetry in daily life. A former Bard of Exeter, he combines rhythm and rhyme to paint lyrical short stories and poeticomedies. In his engaging, educational, and inspirational poetry presentation, he performs poems from his book *Jurassic Cove* ISBN 978-0-9933000-8-0, published by Caboodle Books Ltd. During the workshops, Clive explores the writing process - inspiration, first drafts, shaping, editing, and completion - through the stories of his own creations. His mission is to spark your children's imaginations by showing them that poetry is all around them, and to foster confidence to play with words to create poems from everyday experiences. What a wonderful time the children had this week, with some wonderful poetry outcomes.

Message from the PTA

Easter Holiday Village Trail.

Following on from the pumpkin trail last October half term we have gone bigger this Easter holidays with not one but two trails! Like last time it will be completely free to download the materials but if you would like to enter the prize draw it will be £2 with the prize being a family ticket to Curry Rivel Live which is happening in its usual spot on Westfields on the 22nd July. The PTA have secured our pitch within the children's area again this year so do come down and support us.

Headteacher:
Mrs Ali Pook

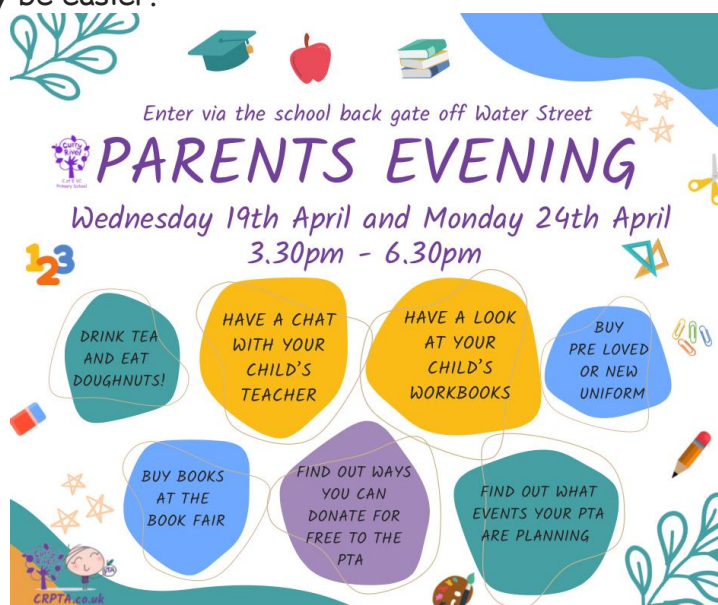
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Parents' Evening - 19th and 24th April

The PTA will be offering refreshments and doughnuts at parents evening again this year. Our focus this year will be to encourage as many of you to join Easy Fundraising. It is a website with a plug in which donates to the PTA every time you buy something online. With no extra cost to you. We will be on hand to help you login and if you do sign up with us or already have a login you may have a drink and doughnut for free. We also will have our pre loved uniform and some new uniform which the school has in stock for sale. The book fair will also be available during the evening for you to buy books. We are hoping to have a card reader for the book fair this year so purchases will hopefully be easier.



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Volunteer day - 22nd April

Last spring the school organised a very successful volunteering day where parents, children and staff joined forces to spruce up the grounds. We planted, swept, cut hedged, painted and ate cake! We have decided to do this again on Earth Day 22nd April. Please let the office know if you can come and help out any amount of time even half and an hour will benefit the school.



SEND News

Please find out the latest news in regard to children with special needs and disabilities here:

<https://beta.somerset.gov.uk/news/>

Lates

We are aiming to reduce the number of pupils who arrive late. We are improving!

Class	Number of lates last week	Number of lates this week
Pippin	3	1
Maigold	2	2
Gala	1	1
Discovery	4	1
Camelot	2	4
Blenheim	0	1
TOTAL	12	11

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Please remember that being late can lead to your child:

- Feeling embarrassed in front of their friends
- Missing the beginning of vital lessons making them fall behind
- Missing important instructions for the rest of the school day
- Learning bad habits which could affect their employability in the future

The impact of being just a little late can accumulate to a loss of learning time.

Minutes late per day during the school year	Equals days worth of teaching lost in a year
5 mins	3.4 days
10 mins	6.9 days
15 mins	10.3 days
20 mins	13.8 days
30 mins	20.7 days

Celebration

We were able to welcome parents/carers to our celebration assembly today. Well done to the following pupils:

Class Cup Awards

Pippin: Evie-Jane
 Maigold: Eliath
 Gala: Daisy
 Discovery: Noah
 Camelot: Taylor
 Blenheim: Sophia

Lunchtime stars

Pippin: Lily
 Maigold: Liam
 Discovery: Toby W
 Camelot: Clemmie
 Blenheim: Zach

50 merits

Pippin: Oscar
 Gala: Seth

100 merits

Maigold: George, Ailsa, Izabelle, Archie T
 Gala: Arya
 Camelot: William

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Achievements outside of school

Gymnastic participation: Rebecca (Maigold)

Trampolining Level 7: Alex (Blenheim)

Overall attendance this week: Blenheim 96.9% (Target 96%)

Merits this term

1st Blackdown- 93 dojos per child average

2nd Mendip- 91 dojos per child average

3rd Quantock- 90 dojos per child average

4th Polden- 89 dojos per child average

PTA Awards

PTA Special Recognition Award - Jasper W - Camelot

PTA Fundraising Award - Isabelle C - Maigold

Thoughts

Our thoughts and prayers continue with the family, school community and friends of Reading Head Teacher Ruth Perry, and also Jane Rosser, Headteacher of High Ham Primary School.

I hope you have a restful Easter

Ali Pook

Head Teacher

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