



## Weekly Update: 15th December 2023

Dear Parents/Carers,

### Dates for your diary

<b>Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> January</b>	First day of the spring term (Tuesday 2 <sup>nd</sup> January is an INSET Day)
<b>Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> January</b>	Day of European Languages (Spanish Day)
<b>Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> January</b>	PTA meeting 7.00pm Firehouse
<b>Friday 12<sup>th</sup> January</b>	Short pupil reports out to parents/carers
<b>7<sup>th</sup>/8<sup>th</sup>/9<sup>th</sup> February</b>	Book Fair
<b>8<sup>th</sup>-17<sup>th</sup> March</b>	Science Week
<b>Spring term</b>	2 January- 28 March 2024
<b>Spring INSET Days</b>	2 January and 9 February 2024
<b>Spring Half Term</b>	10 February-18 February 2024
<b>Summer term</b>	15 April- 24 July 2024
<b>Summer INSET Day</b>	15 April 2024
<b>Summer Half Term</b>	25 May- 2 June 2023

It has been wonderful to enjoy all our Christmas traditions and celebrations over the past week. The Reception, Year 1 and 2 parents enjoyed their children's Nativity production 'It's a miracle'; Christmas dinner was enjoyed in the hall over three sittings, with Christmas music and a lot of fun and laughter (Exemplary behaviour from all the children) and we have enjoyed a Carol Service with Rev Scott today. We can't forget the panto of course, followed by ice-creams- what a treat! After a busy period of assessments across all subjects, the children have had lots to enjoy.

Thank you to the hardworking PTA who have added so much to this special time by serving teas and coffees, organising the Panto & icecreams and so much more!

Finally, a big thank you to you all at home for all the support you give your children and the school staff- the positive partnership between parents/carers and school is vital- you will know that we are always here to help with questions, queries and issues. We always aim to keep you informed about what is happening in school, and urge you to contact us if you or your child have any problems.

### Staff Update

We wish Mrs Donna Ingham the best as she goes on her maternity leave today- we look forward to hearing some exciting news over the Christmas break.

### Writing

In November, the children in Maigold class entered a writing competition where they had to plan and write their own 'super-pets' story. There are thousands of schools in the UK which apply for this, and we are really lucky because some children in the class have been chosen to have their work published into a book.

Headteacher  
Mrs Ali Pook

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## Thank you from the Royal British Legion

During Remembrance in November, the school raised a record of £262- thank you for your generosity.

## Spring Term Clubs

You can start to discuss club plans for next term- they are listed below, and are setup on SchoolMoney, ready for you to book.

Day	Activity/Club	Location	Staff	Year group(s)	Dates
Wednesday	Biscuit	Blenheim	Mr Bridgeman Mrs Pook Mrs Shaw	6	10, 17, 24, 31 Jan 7,21,28 Feb 6,13,29,27 Mar 17, 24 Apr 1 May
Wednesday	Coding	Maigold	Miss Carnie	4/5	24 Jan 31 Jan 7 Feb 21 Feb 28 Feb 6 Mar
Tuesday	Science	Gala	Mrs van Cole Mrs Samuel	2/3	23 Jan 30 Jan 6 Feb 20 Feb 27 Feb 5 Mar
Tuesday	Baking	Pippin	Miss Bullen	R/1	23 Jan 30 Jan 6 Feb 20 Feb 27 Feb 5 Mar
Thursday	Choir	Camelot	Miss Tucker	3-6	25 Jan 1 Feb 8 Feb 22 Feb 29 Feb 7 Mar

## Message from Mrs Dance, Kitchen Manager

I have sent reminder emails & text messages via school money to the named responsible adults reminding them that they needed to order their meals by yesterday (Wednesday 13th December). If you have not ordered a meal for the first week of school then you will need to provide a packed lunch for your child. Also, please can you order meals for the second week of school by midnight Tuesday 2nd January as I will need to place the meal order on Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> January.

## Flower arranging

Thank you to Mr Silver and the group of children who worked with the Flower Arranging Guild to decorate the church for today's carol service. The creative pupils were:

Pippin - Florence  
Maigold - Lily T  
Gala - Henry  
Discovery - Riley and Lily S  
Camelot - Miila and Elcie  
Blenheim - Connie and Tiana

## Lates

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

Class	Number of last week	Number of lates this week
Pippin	1	4
Maigold	0	2
Gala	5	3
Discovery	1	2
Camelot	4	5
Blenheim	5	4
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>20</b>

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

## Attendance

**Overall school attendance:** (Target 96%)

**Class attendance award:**

**Most improved class attendance:**

## Celebration

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

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### **Class Cup Awards**

Pippin: Wilf  
Maigold: Frazer  
Gala: Thomas  
Discovery: Arya  
Camelot: Harrison  
Blenheim: Taylor

### **Lunchtime stars**

Pippin: Jacob  
Gala: Izabelle

### **50 Merit (Dojo) Certificates:**

Pippin: Kirree, Paige, Amelia

Maigold: Elliot, Finlo, Ethan, Willow, Trixie, Brody-Luca, Louis, Frazer, Jake, Oscar, Lily HB, Mabel, Molly, Arthur, Phoebe, Elly-May, Millie, Ava-Mai, Evie-Jane, Lily T, Eddie

Gala: Luca, Noah, George

Discovery: George, Millie, Arya, Daisy, Freddie

Camelot: James, Barney, Sienna, Olivia, Finley, Elcie, Belle

### **Merits/Dojos**

1st: Polden and Mendip- 48 dojos per child average

2nd- Blackdown and Quantock- 47 dojos per child average

### **Reindeer PE Challenge**

Blackdown- 206 points

Mendip- 224 points

Polden- 216 points

Quantock- 241 points- well done Quantock House

### **Wellington Maths Challenge Competitors**

Joseph, William, Casper and Harry

### **Appointed Digital Leaders**

Gala: Dot and Henry

Camelot: Miila and Annmiya

Blenheim: Holly and Mia

### **Achievements outside of school:**

Winner of a Christmas Card design competition: Jason (Gala)

Recorder playing: Annabelle (Gala)

### **PTA Message:**

What an incredible term it's been! Together, we've raised over £3000. Our efforts have already revitalized the library, brought back the Panto, and added festive touches to the Christmas lunch. A big thank you to our dedicated staff and the amazing PTA squad who tirelessly organise events, bringing extra fun and energy for the kids. Your input is valuable to us too. If you have feedback or want to join the PTA, contact us at [curryrivelppta@outlook.com](mailto:curryrivelppta@outlook.com). Keep an eye on our Facebook page for the next PTA meeting.

Yet again the kids have been brilliant this term. We have awarded PTA helpful certificates in class for those that have really stood out and the PTA Outstanding Award to a person who has gone above and beyond.

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**Pippin:** Daisy, Wilf, Elsie

**Maigold:** Ethan, Honor, Trixie

**Gala:** Luca, Oliver, Eli M

**Discovery:** Dylan, Freddie

**Camelot:** Brooke-Bailey, Harrison, Olivia, Beth

**Blenheim:** Molly, Harry, Sophie, Poppy, Connie, Joseph, Jasper

### **PTA Outstanding Award**

Noah G: Noah played a vital role at the fancy dress disco, setting up the hall and running games. At the Christmas fair, he single-handedly managed the nerf gun stall with enthusiasm and efficiency by himself. We're proud to have you in our squad Noah!



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## **Well-being tip for the week**

Each day this week give yourself time to 'ponder', to stop and to think. Make 15 minutes a day your own time to stop, with a cuppa or advent treat, and reflect on what Christmas means to you.

Have a good rest, at some point! (And if you have managed to get to the end of this newsletter, you may deserve a little fizz!)

Ali Pook

Head Teacher

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