

HEADTEACHER'S UPDATE

10 February 2023



Dear Parents,

Gosh, this half term seems to have passed very quickly! It was lovely to hold our first post COVID curriculum evening, focusing on maths, last week. Thank you to all the parents who attended and for the positive responses we have received from you since. We are very pleased that you found it such a useful evening.

SIAMS - We have just received our SIAMS report following the inspection last week. The inspector was very impressed with all she saw in the school and has clearly articulated this in her findings. All schools are given development points which they are required to work on prior to their next inspection which should take place in five years time. I have attached the report for you to read and it has also been posted on our website. Once again I would like to thank you for your ongoing support.

Staffing update - Today we said farewell to Miss Claire Wilks who is the classroom assistant in class 2H. Claire has worked with us for a number of years in both year R and year 2 but has now decided that she would like to spend more time with her family and explore pastures new. We are very sad to see her leave the school but wish her all the best in the future.

We will be pleased to welcome two new members of staff to the school after the half term holiday. Miss Millie Jones will be joining us from St Denys Primary School. She will be working in class 2H alongside Mrs Holding. Mrs Natasha Simpson, who has been working at Brookfield School, will be joining our junior support staff team and will be working with children in years 3 to 6.

Sponsored Spell – We will be holding our annual sponsored spell event straight after half term, during the week beginning **Monday 20th February**. Every child in the school has been given words to learn (posted on Seesaw today), all of which are of an appropriate standard for their level. There is a sponsor form attached to this email and a hard copy should have come home with your child today. Further hard-copies will be available from the school office after the half term break if you need them.

Pupil E-safety Sessions – week beginning 20 February – During this week we will be focusing on e-safety with children throughout the school. Lessons in each year group will be age appropriate. Children in year 5 and 6 will undertake workshops in the hall with a subject specialist. Letters have been sent to the upper year groups requesting a small voluntary contribution to help us cover the cost of these sessions.

Parents' E-safety Awareness Sessions – Tuesday 21 February - We are holding an e-safety awareness session for parents on Tuesday 21 February at 5.30pm. In a world of constantly changing technology we would highly recommend that parents attend this. If you are planning to attend please can you let us know by completing the form accessed via the following link <https://forms.office.com/e/bSbbbznG5E>.

Dorset Residential September 2023 – Information Evening for current Year 4 parents

We will be holding an Information Evening on **Wednesday 22 February at 3:45pm** in class 4S. We would like to invite current Year 4 parents to join us so that we can explain what happens on this residential and tell you about where we stay.

World Book Day - World Book Day this year is on **Thursday 2nd March**, but we have decided to go one step further, and have a Book Week! We have lots of amazing activities planned, including our visiting authors for KS2 on Monday 27th February and KS1 on Tuesday 28th February. Here are a few of the exciting activities: there will be a 'Book Buddies' session where children read books with others from different year groups; teacher swaps will be taking place, where they read their favourite book to a different class; and children will have a chance to design a new cover for their favourite story or book. **On Thursday 2nd we would like the children to dress up as their favourite book character.** This is always a very popular occasion in school and there will be a chance for the children to parade around school and show off their amazing creations.

Open Evening – On **Tuesday 7 March** between 3.30pm and 5.00pm we would like to invite parents in with their children to look at their children's books. This is not a formal parents' evening but teachers will be in the classrooms throughout the session. We hope you will be able to come along so that the children can share all of their hard work with you.

Y6 SATs Parent Evening

We will be holding a SATs information evening for year 6 parents on **Wednesday 8th March at 3.45pm** in class 6R. At this session we will explain the different types of papers that the children will encounter and the procedures schools are required to implement during the testing week.

Reports and Online Parent Evenings- Annual reports will be sent home on **Friday 10 March** for years 1-6. Online parents Evenings will take place on **Monday 13 and Tuesday 14 March** for all year groups. We will be using the SchoolCloud online booking system for video appointments and information regarding these will be sent home after half term.

Easter Services - I would like to give you advance notice that the Easter Services will be held on the following dates. We will be having one service for the Infant part of the school and two for the juniors.

KS1 Tuesday 28th March 09:30

KS2 Wednesday 29th March 09:30 3S; 4S; Year 5; Year 6 10:45 3H; 4HJ; Year 5; Year 6

Easter Hat Parade - Friday 31st March

Our Easter Hat Parade will be held on the last day of this term, **Friday 31st March**. We would like to challenge the children to design and create a hat on an Easter or new life theme at home. All hats should be the children's own work and be brought into school on 31st March. The children will parade on the junior playground, after registration at 9.00am, weather permitting. The parade enables children and adults to celebrate the amazing creations that the children produce and we would encourage you to stay and watch if you are able to. Please ensure you stand in the centre of the junior playground while the children parade around the edge before going back in to their classes. We will no longer be awarding prizes as we want to place the emphasis of valuing every child's contribution and the effort they have put into them.

Talking to your children about difficult subjects:

Following the devastating events in Turkey this week, we have had to deal with some difficult questions from some pupils. A number of parents have also contacted us asking for advice on how to approach matters such as these with their children. We are therefore attaching a guidance sheet to this Update which we hope you will find helpful when navigating conversations about frightening events with your youngsters.

Production – Reminder that the Waypoint Church auditorium, in Hunts Pond Road, has once again been booked for this year's School Production. This will take place in the week commencing **Monday 10 July 2023** with performances on the Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday. Further details including the title of the show will be released after half term.

PTFA save the date!

Quiz night - 24th Feb. If you have booked a table don't forget to order your food online: <https://www.pta-events.co.uk/hwwwschoolptfa/index.cfm?event=event&eventId=58004#.Y7yOKC2l3Uo>

Food can be ordered separately by individual team members, after booking the table, but please ensure all team mates know the Team Name when booking food to ensure food is delivered to the right table on the night!

If you have any raffle prizes you could donate please bring to the office. The tickets will be for sale at the quiz and a draw will be done during the evening.

Mothers Day sale - 17th March - more information to follow nearer the time. The sale will take place as usual during the school day and each child will get the opportunity to purchase a gift if they wish.

Infant and Junior Disco night - 21st April - more information to follow nearer the time.

Planetarium at Fareham Shopping Centre Fareham Shopping Centre is planning to set up a Planetarium to entertain youngsters during the half term holidays on Feb 16th, 17th and 18th. It will provide a free galaxy show every half hour from 11am to 2:30pm. There will also be a colouring competition at the centre with a chance to win a £100 gift card. Any child who attends the Planetarium will also get a voucher for free child's meal at "Three Joes" with the purchase of an adult meal.

And finally...

We wish you all a very happy week's holiday and look forward to a straight forward second half of the spring term.

Yours sincerely

Sara Willoughby

Sara Willoughby (Headteacher)

Attachments: SIAMS Report
"Talking to Children"
Hook News – Spring 1

Dates for your diary

Mon 13 – Fri 17 Feb Half Term			
Mon	20 Feb	Sponsored Spell begins HMS Music – Guitar (am)	Y4 Football - Lunchtime
Tue	21 Feb	Pancake Day HMS Music – Drums (pm) Parents Internet E-Safety 5:30/6:30pm	Spanish – Lunchtime
Wed	22 Feb	HMS Music – Brass & Woodwind (am) Scratch Club 5RE 3:30/4:30pm Dorset Residential Parents Talk 4S 3:30pm	Y3/4 Netball 8:05am Y3-6 Running Club - Lunchtime Y1/2 Football Judo 3:30pm
Thurs	23 Feb	Rock2theBeat (pm)	French – Lunchtime Y5/6 Football 3:30/4:30pm
Fri	24 Feb	HMS Music – Piano (am) Swimming Y4 starts PTFA Quiz Night	Y5 Netball 8:05am Y6 Netball 3:30/4:40pm IDPE Multisports 3:30/4:30pm

Mon 27 Feb	Polly Ho-Yen Author Visit
Tue 28 Feb	Paul Stickland Author Visit
Thurs 2 Mar	World Book Day (Dress Up)
Tue 7 Mar	Open Evening
Wed 8 Mar	Y6 SATs Parents Meeting 3:45pm
Thurs 9 Mar	Collaborative Concert (Brookfield)
Fri 10 Mar	Reports home Y1-6 Collaborative Concert (Brookfield)
Mon 13 Mar	Online Parents Evening (All years)
Tue 14 Mar	Online Parents Evening (All years)
Fri 17 Mar	Mothers' Day Sale
Tue 28 Mar	9:30am Infant Easter Service
Wed 29 Mar	9:30am / 10:45am Junior Easter Services
Fri 31 Mar	Easter Hat Parade
Mon 03 Apr – Fri 14 Apr	Easter Holidays