



Weekly Update: 18th February 2022

Dear Parents/Carers,

Dates for your diary

21st-25th February: Half term

Wednesday 2nd March: Ash Wednesday Service

Thursday 3rd March: World Book Day (See below for details)

Friday 4th March: 'Book swap'

Friday 4th March: World Thinking Day for Guide and Scout Movement (Moved to avoid clash with World Book Day)

Thursday 10th March: PTA meeting at Firehouse (All welcome)

14th/15th March: Clive Pig Master Storyteller to visit our school

Friday 18th March: Comic Relief Non-Uniform Day

Friday 25th March: PTA Mothers' Day Shop

25th March- 1st April: Book Fair

W/B 28th March: Assessment Week

Friday 1st April: Red Card to Racism Day (Wear Red Day)

Saturday 2nd April: Parent/Carer Volunteers day working on school grounds (Tea and cake included- info to follow)

Friday 8th April: Easter Service

4th/7th April: Parents' Evenings

Friday 8th April: Last day of Spring Term

w/b 9th May: Year 6 SATS tests

Friday 13th May: Pjamarama

Monday 6th June: Additional Day for the Queen's Jubilee

Monday 25th July: INSET Day

Tuesday 26th July: INSET Day

What a surprising end to Spring 1! I hope that you all keeping safe during the storms. It is half term and I hope that you will be able to use the week as a real break for much needed rest and restoration- many of you will still be working, but I hope you can have some precious family time. Thank you for your incredible support this half term, through supporting PTA events, encouraging your children with homework and reading and keeping abreast of events and news through these weekly updates and other communications. You have continued to support our approach to COVID, and we know that when you have had queries or worries you have communicated with us so that we have been able to help. There has been an enormous challenge of staff absence as Covid variants have spread rapidly and staff colleagues across all roles and responsibilities have been forced to isolate. Staff and governors have gone above and beyond once again to support our school, and the children and families has been phenomenal. It is such a privilege to work with so many people who give so much of themselves, heart and soul, that others might flourish.



Cross Country

A huge well done to all the children in Years 3, 4, 5 and 6 who attended the Cross Country competition at Somerton on Thursday. Joseph (Camelot) finished first in the Year 3/4 boys' race, Alfie (Blenheim) won the Year 5/6 boys' race and Lexi (Blenheim) came 2nd in the Year 5/6 girls' race. Mr Bridgeman reports that the attitude and enthusiasm from all was superb, with each child representing Curry Rivel with pride. Thank you to the whole team: Paige, Brooke, Harrison, Freddie, Jasper, Joseph, Harry, Arthur, Summer, Mia, Grace, Meg, George, Oscar and Alfie.

Nursery Garden

The nursery garden has previously been levelled (and shored up with gabions) and now the second phase is to begin. This includes resurfacing of the garden and building of a new canopy and fence. This is very exciting, but will mean 2 weeks of disruption. Works start on the 21st February and the works compound will be on the front playground, allowing access through the front single gate to all entrances except the Pippin outside space. Pippin access will be via our front door- all other class access remains the same.

I will ensure that a member of staff opens the gate and holds it open to allow as much flow as possible. Please can Gala parents follow the Maigold one-way system and exit via the Maigold gate. The 'flow' will not be as good as usual, and I am sorry for any inconvenience that this may cause. Whilst you are waiting along the pavement, please can I remind you to wait in single file so that families can get past without having to step onto the road.

Message from Mr Bridgeman: Times Tables Rockstars

Times Tables are a vital aspect of a child's Maths learning, underpinning so many aspects of the subject. We feel it is important for the children to practise these on a regular basis, to improve their recall speed and aid them with further Maths learning. After half-term, we will be re-launching Times Table Rockstars as a compulsory part of the children's homework for all classes from Gala up to Blenheim. The children will be assigned the tables that their teacher feels are most important for them to practise; this will be based on learning in class as well as performance on TTRS itself. Progress will be checked on a Friday and Dojos awarded to those who have completed the task.

World Book Day: Thursday 3rd March

Miss Tucker has been working hard to plan an exciting Word Book Day. Events will include:

- Staff and pupils to dress up as a book character.
- Literature being promoted through 'Book trailers' in a 'cinema' atmosphere.
- Raising the profile of reading in our classrooms with children recommending books they've enjoyed with book reviews and new book displays in every classroom.

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- On Friday 4th March, children are being encouraged to bring in second hand books to swap in their classes (We will divide the number of books by the number of children in a class and allocate book vouchers equally to each child so everyone goes home with a new book- that's the plan anyway!)
- During the following weeks, we will have Clive Pig (Storyteller) visiting and a school book fair too!

Pupil Ideas Needed for New Park at Westfield

Lydia, who is Clerk to the Parish Council, phoned us to ask for the children's designs and ideas for a new park at Westfield. Please submit your design for the new park on a sheet of A4 paper and return to school by Friday 4th March.

COVID Update

After half-term, the schools' Governing Board have agreed for the school to continue with a precautionary approach to minimise the spread of COVID by retaining: Hand hygiene; extra cleaning; masks at beginning end of school day- staff and parents; staff mask wearing in communal areas; class clubs and staff LFT testing. We will be lifting some restrictions:

- Whole school Collective Worship to resume and church services
- One parent per award-winning pupil at celebration assembly (Masks please)
- Some mixing at playtimes as per Autumn 1 (ie two classes mixing at playtimes)
- Play leaders able to mix with younger children E.g. Year 6 sports leaders with younger children

We await further guidance next week, but staff testing positive for COVID will be expected to isolate. A decision regarding the format of parents' evenings has not yet been decided.

Graceful Badger Forest School Afterschool Club

Wednesdays 2nd March-6th April (6 session). Arrive 3.45pm for a 4.00pm start. Collect at 6.00pm, Drayton Woods. Discover the woodland, lots of outdoor fun and forest crafts and learn about plants and animals. Outdoor cooking over our open fire; food and drink included. £60.

Contact: gracefulbadgerforestschool@gmail.com

Swimming at Huish

Swim lessons 50 weeks of the year. Parent and baby through to competitive club level. Parent portal access to track your child's progress REGISTER YOUR INTEREST FOR SWIM LESSONS, TODAY! 01458 251055 www.lifestylefitness.co.uk/langport. Also, Rookie Lifeguards for 8-12 Year olds. Fridays 4-5pm- £6 a session.

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Bikes

We encourage children to cycle to school with their parents or, if parents are confident, older children cycling independently. Please inform the school office if you give permission for your child to cycle- also we can reserve you a bike rack space! (We have new bike racks on the school site).

Curry Rivel PTA

Challenge you to raise £20.22 in 2022

Some ideas for fundraising:

- Make 22 cakes / cupcakes/ biscuits
- Do 22 chores
- Dance for 22 minutes
- Do the most star jumps in 22 seconds
- How far can you run in 22 seconds
- Eat 22 different fruit or veg
- Recycle 22 items
- Read 22 books or read for 22 minutes
- Do a sponsored silence for 22 minutes
- Or surprise us with your own fundraising ideas!

☺ Every child who participates will win: A key ring

☺ The class who raise the most money will receive an engraved class cup

☺ The children in the winning class will each receive a certificate

We ask all children to return their sponsorship form and funds on Monday 28th Feb.

There is no need to worry if you don't raise the full amount, we just want you to have fun and raise as much as you can!

We would love to see what you have been doing, so send us your photos and we will post them on our Facebook page and website. Email: CurryRivelPTA@outlook.com

Or check out our website: curryrivelprimarypta.co.uk

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Parent Workshops at Huish Academy

Dyslexia Awareness

With Mark Long, SCC Lead Advisory Teacher

Monday, 28th February 2022

Starting at 6:30pm, estimated end time 8pm

To book a place to attend this session please visit: <https://forms.gle/ewtp83j8RhP53MLU7>

Online Safety & Social Media

With Amy Brittan, SCC Education Technology Advisor

14th March 2022 at 6:30pm, estimated end time 8pm

To book a place to attend this session please visit: <https://forms.gle/Q+4Dxmbjb4KVME377>

Awards will be announced on the 4th March. I wish you a wonderful half-term

Ali Pook

Head Teacher

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