

Newsletter – Friday, 10 May 2019

Dear Parents / Carers,

Year 6 pupils Good Luck!

We all wish the Year 6 pupils the best of luck next week with their SATs. The children have worked very hard, made great progress and should be feeling confident and ready to show what they have learned.

Year 6 SAT timetable

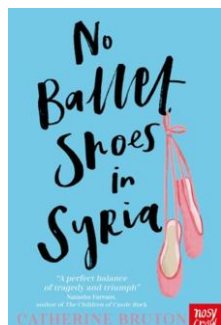
Mon 13 th May	Tues 14 th May	Weds 15 th May	Thurs 16 th May
SPAG Spelling	Reading	Arithmetic 1 Maths Reasoning 2	Maths Reasoning 3

Year 2 Parents Meeting

On **Wednesday 15th May, 8:50 – 9:30**, there will be a meeting for Year 2 parents in the Year 2 classroom in order to talk about Year 2 SATs. It is an opportunity for you to find out what is involved with the SAT tests and to ask any questions.

Year 6 Visit to the Life Skills Centre

Today, the Year 6 pupils visited the 'Life Skills Centre' in Bristol. The children learn about how to keep safe in a range of 'everyday' situations e.g. safety near train lines, on busy streets, how to respond to medical emergencies or fire. The children are introduced, by expert guides, to a range of 'scenarios' and get a chance to work out how to stay safe in these simulated situations. I hope that the children are able to tell you all about their experiences and what they have learned when they get home.



Catherin Bruton Author Visit

I am delighted to announce that on Friday 24th May we will be receiving a visit from Catherine Bruton, a children's author. She will be talking to children in Year 5 and Year 6 about her amazing new book 'There Are No Ballet Shoes in Syria'; it is the story of a young refugee making a new life for herself. It is a very touching story and has messages for all of us who find ourselves in unfamiliar places. Catherine will also be running a workshop with our children. We hope that the visit will inspire the children with their reading and writing. The book will be available for sale and the children will have a chance to get their book signed by Catherine.

Handfuls of Harmony Choir

Ashton Vale pupils will be performing in the Handfuls of Harmony concert on Saturday. It is a wonderful experience for the children to perform in a Community Choir; there is a huge amount of learning that goes on as they learn to listen to each other, work as a team, follow instructions and develop their musical knowledge. It is also a great confidence boost for the children to perform in front of an audience. A special thank you to Miss Green, who has inspired and led the choir leading up to the show.



Arts Week

Week beginning 3rd of June is 'Arts Week'. This year's topic for Arts Week is going to be 'This is me!' Teachers are planning a range of exciting art experiences for their classes. On Thursday 6th of June (am), we will be holding the annual 'Ashton Vale's Got Talent' event. It is a fun opportunity for children to show off their special talents if they wish to; this might be a song or a dance or a magic trick etc. Class teachers will be giving the children further details nearer the time.



Easy Fundraiser

Thank you to all parents who use easy fundraising to raise much needed monies for the school. If you would like to start using easyfundraising, it is quick and easy to sign up and you can start collecting free donations for us every time you buy something online. Amazon is one of the many online companies involved. It won't cost you a penny extra so please help us to raise extra funds.

<https://www.easyfundraising.org.uk/causes/ashtonvaleprimary/>

School Uniform Reminder

I am happy to say that the vast majority of children come to school wearing the correct school uniform (please see uniform policy attached): however, it has come to our attention that small number of children are wearing jewellery which is not in line with the policy – only stud earrings are allowed. There are also some children not wearing acceptable trousers. Children are not allowed false nails or nail varnish in school. Many thanks for your support with this.

Fire Drill

A number of parents have asked for clarification regarding the fire drill that took place this week. We scheduled a fire drill to happen in lunch time as it is important for lunch staff to be familiar with how to evacuate the school safely in the event of a fire. Both Mr Jones (the site manager) and I checked the weather outside before we activated the alarm and it was not raining. When I left the building with children from the dinner hall, it was not raining. However, during the course of the drill, while the children were gathering on the field to be registered, an unexpected and sudden, heavy downpour of hail began. We very quickly finished the register to ensure everyone was safe and then went directly back into the school. As we were doing this, there was a loud thunderclap which unnerved the children. The whole evacuation was timed as usual and everything was complete within 5 minutes, for the first part of the 5 minutes there was no rain. Because the downpour was very heavy and sudden the children did get wet, so we allowed them to change into dry clothes and we put the school heating on. It was very unfortunate that this happened right in the middle of the fire drill. It was not something that any of us could have predicted. The children were superb throughout, they followed instructions and evacuated quickly and safely.

Attendance League Table

Position	Class	Attendance
1	Crow	96.6%
2	Kingfisher	96.5%
3	Penguin	93.5%
4	Flamingo	92%
5	Robin	89.4%
6	Blue Jay	88.3%
7	Falcon	86.6%
Average		91.8%

Absence Tel: 0117 9030383

Dates for the diary

13th May

14th May

15th May

15th May

16th May

Week beginning 20th May

Monday 20th May

Friday 10th May

Saturday 11th May

Sunday 12th May

Thursday 23rd May

Friday 24th May

Friday 24th May

Week beginning 03rd June

Thursday 06th June

Year 6 SATs – SPAG, Spelling

Year 6 SATs – Reading

Year 6 SATs week – Arithmetic 1, Maths Reasoning 2

Year 2 Parents Meeting – 8.50 – 9.30am. SATS talk

Year 6 SATs week – Maths Reasoning 3

Year 2 SATs week

School closes at 1.15pm for Mrs Thomas's Funeral

Year 6 Visit to the 'Life Skills Centre'

Handful of Harmonies Choir Performance at St Paul's Church 4.45pm

Year 6 Picnic 12-3pm

PTA Movie Night

Author Visit - Catherine Bruton Year 5 and Year 6

Last day of term

Arts Week

'Ashton Vale's Got Talent' Event

Yours sincerely,
James Hollis,
Head Teacher

