

Friday 31 January 2020

Co-Headteachers:

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This year we are looking closely at our pupils' attendance and punctuality. A child's attendance is vital to support them socially and academically. We are committed to assisting all pupils to achieve excellent levels of attendance and punctuality and would like to work with families to support this. Our aim is for pupils to reach 98% attendance and strive for 100%. We celebrate this with attendance certificates at the end of each term.

Attendance

Please see our new Attendance page under the Statutory Information tab on the school website. We hope this highlights not only the importance of attending school but also being on time - this includes picking up on time at the end of the day. Pupil lateness also generates a report from the Attendance Officer who may arrange to meet with those families concerned if it is persistent.

Parking Reminder

This is a polite reminder **to not stop or part on the double yellow lines opposite the school gates**. It is UNSAFE and ILLEGAL. The safety of the children of South Hill is paramount to us so please find a safe and legal place to park when dropping off and picking up your children.

Reading Morning

It was lovely to see so many parents at our Reading Morning on Wednesday. We shared the journey of learning phonics in EYFS and Year 1, our Guided Reading carousels and our whole class reading across the whole school. We hope you enjoyed visiting your child's class.

SMART Watches

Please do not allow your child to wear a SMART watch to school.

Year 5 Art Day with Abbot's Hill School

Last Friday, both Year 5 classes spent the day working with Art teachers from Abbot's Hill School. They worked in inks and acrylics to create beautiful abstract tree paintings. These paintings will create an exterior mural for the school. We would like to thank the staff from Abbot's Hill for a wonderful day.



Sycamore Class Assembly

Sycamore class shared a wonderful assembly on Wednesday showcasing their work from their creative curriculum. We were impressed with their brilliant descriptive writing, poetry, a breaking news story and wonderful artwork, all inspired by the Spiderwick Chronicles. We found out about their current fossils work in Science and even had a visit from the Scientist Mary Anning. Everyone enjoyed their ukulele playing too. Well done Sycamore!

News from Beech

Beech, this week, have been continuing to explore the text, 'Ulf, the Finger Eater' by Dick King-Smith and have enjoyed acting out scenes and predicting what might happen next. They have been coming up with plans of their own to trick people just like the troll in the story! They have looked at ways of protecting their eyes from the dangerous rays of the sun in Science and have made posters to inform others of these as part of their topic on light. In Maths, they have been learning about lines and angles in shapes and have used different triangles to make other shapes and explore their properties. The class has also loved singing their pirate shanties with the ukuleles in music with Mrs Toms.

Water Safety

On Monday, we were treated to a visit by Mike Wakeford from the Canal Trust. He talked about being safe around water and how we can spot any potential dangers for both wildlife and ourselves. The over-riding message of the day was to 'stay safe' and 'stay away from the edge'.



Gadebridge Park Run

Does everyone know about our local Park Run? Please ask your child to let Mr Brathwaite or Mrs Howard know if they attend this free event each week as they would love to hear about how you stay active outside of school.

Gadebridge Park run is a FREE weekly 5K event for runners of all standards and takes place at 9.00am every Saturday in Gadebridge Park (Leighton Buzzard Road, HP1 3QA). It is not a race against other runners but a 5K timed run and it can be for fun or part of a training plan. It offers an opportunity for all the local community, male, female, young or old, to come together on a regular basis to enjoy this beautiful park and get physically active into the bargain. Taking part is easy - just register online before your first ever park fun. The great thing is that you only ever need to do this once! Then all you have to do is set your alarm for Saturday morning and get there!

Eco-School News

The children have completed an eco-review of the school. We are doing quite well but there is still more we can do! Keep following our tips each week and we will be heading in the right direction.



Stars of the Week

Wrens	Saviour
Robins	Kyra
Goldfinches	Ettie
Sparrows	Dougie
Owls	Isabella T
Kingfishers	Leila
Ash	Rose
Beech	Corina
Holly	Spencer
Maple	Abdul
Oak	Isa
Silver Birch	Archie
Sycamore	Whole Class
Yew	Albert

Eco-Warrior Tips

Do you buy individually wrapped biscuits for packed lunches? Why not buy a large pack and send in a couple of biscuits in a reusable container instead? Not only is it better for the environment, it might save you money too.

Choir - South Hill Centre

Next Thursday, 6 February, choir members are going to sing at the South Hill Centre in the afternoon. Please let Mrs Toms or the school office know if you are able to help escort the children there and back. You would need to be at school by 1.30pm. Thank you.

Royal Albert Hall - Choir Rehearsals

Reminder that there are **two** rehearsal dates next week; Tuesday 4 and Thursday 6 February, 3.30-4.20pm.

Year 5 and 6 Dodgeball Tournaments

On Wednesday, it was the turn of Year 5 at Laureate Academy. The team played very well in every game winning five and drawing two. This sadly wasn't enough to go progress. Year 6 team played yesterday at Ashlyn's School and progressed all the way to the semi-finals where they lost narrowly in a tight game against Hobletts Manor School. In the 3rd/4th playoff they faced Yew Tree and managed to beat them and achieved 3rd place. Well done to both teams!

Yours sincerely



Miss Wellbelove and Miss Wren
Co-Headteachers

The following items can be found on the newsletter page of the school website:

- HM Holiday Camp - Half Term (musical theatre, arts & crafts and games)
- Mad Science Half Term Camps

SEN and Wellbeing pages of the school website

Please check out the SEN and Wellbeing pages of the school website where you will find information on different parenting groups, workshops and activities.

Dates for your Diaries

February

Tuesday 4	RAH Choir Rehearsal 3.30-4.20pm
Wednesday 5	Oak Class Assembly 2.50pm
Thursday 6	RAH Choir Rehearsal 3.30-4.20pm
w/c 10	E-Safety week
Monday 10	Happiness Mindset Assembly (pm)
Tuesday 11	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • E-safety workshops KS2 • Fire brigade to visit Y2 • Parent/Teacher Consultation 5.00 - 8.00pm
Wednesday 12	RAH Choir Rehearsal 3.30-4.20pm
Thursday 13	Parent/Teacher Consultation 3.30 - 6.00pm
Half Term Holiday 17-21 February	
w/c 24	Cycle Training Y5- all week
Tuesday 25	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • SEND Friends Coffee Morning 8.40-10.00am • RAH Choir Rehearsal 3.30-4.20pm
Wednesday 26	Beech Class Assembly 2.50pm
Thursday 27	RAH Choir Rehearsal 3.30-4.20pm