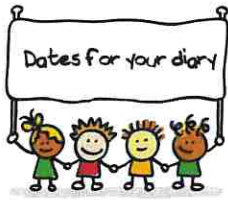


Moulsham Infant School



Motivate, Inspire, Succeed

February newsletter— 15th February 2024



Have a great half term holiday

Important Dates

Feb 28th—Science Day

Feb 29th - SMILE sponsored 'Leap Day'.

March 1st - Tulip Class Assembly & Open Morning.

March 5th—Y2 Open Afternoon.

March 6th—Y2 Open Afternoon.

March 7th—World Book Day.

March 8th—International Women's Day.

March 8th—Sycamore Class Parents lunch.

March 14th—SMILE Meeting.

March 15th—Comic Relief Day

March 15th—Hawthorn Class Parents lunch.

WB: March 25th—Book Fair.

March 26th —Y2 Rain Forest day.

March 27th—Year 1 assembly.

March 28th—Break up for Easter Holidays.

What a busy 6 weeks and 2 days we have all had. Once again the children have been amazing and regularly show how they demonstrate our core values in all they do in school.

This half term there doesn't seem to have been a normal week—we have had event weeks and event days—never a dull moment. Looking at the important dates for next half term it looks like it is going to be just as busy.

Two of our EYFS classes performed their very first class assemblies and what a show they were. The children spoke so confidently and showed a great love for their learning; well done Cherry and Oak class—we are now looking forward to Tulip class assembly at the end of the first week back after the half term holiday.

On the 15th March our Year 2 children will be taking part in the Chelmsford Music Festival. This is a joint schools performance and is an event that we have not participated in for many years—it is very exciting for us to be doing this again—a big thank you to Miss Bowyer for organising it along with the Year 2 team. The children will be performing in 'Eddy the Penguin saves the day'. More information for Y2 parents to follow

We look forward to seeing the children back on Monday 26th—have a great week everyone.



A message for the children— enjoy your week at home, stay safe and see you soon.

Chelade Ane



SCHOOL DINNER

After half term it will be week 2 of the menu. Please ensure your child brings a packed lunch if they have not ordered a hot meal. Please inform the office if there are any changes to your child's choices.



Please remember to name all your children's clothes – then we can return them.

School Closures

Any emergency school closures, for example due to heavy snow, will be notified by text and email to those parents who have signed up to ParentMail. It will also be posted on our website www.moulsham-inf.essex.sch.uk and Essex County Council website: <http://www.essex.gov.uk/Education-Schools/Schools/Dates/Pages/Emergency-School-Closures.aspx>.

Information will also be announced on local radio stations and be available on their websites. **PLEASE DO NOT RING THE SCHOOL OFFICE** as if the school is closed, staff will be unavailable to take calls.



THIS SCHOOL IS NUT FREE



This includes food products with nuts in them, such as Nutella and cereal bars.

Please ensure there are no nut products brought into school.

Important Dates cont..

April 15th—Non Pupil Day.

April 16th— Children return to school.

Comic Relief

Friday, 15th March is Comic Relief Day.

Watch out for a letter that is coming out shortly about this.



First Day Contact



If your child is unable to come to school because of illness, please ensure that you telephone the school office on the first day of absence, preferably before 9.05 a.m.

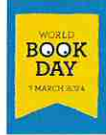
If you telephone outside school hours, there will be an answer phone switched on for you to leave a message. Please remember to leave child's name, class and reason for absence.

If no message is received, we will need to contact you.

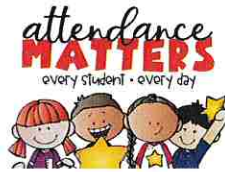
World Book Day

Thursday, 7th March is World Book Day.

We look forward to seeing the children dressed up as a book character or in their PJ's ready for a story.



Attendance — January



This winners of the best class attendance are as follows:

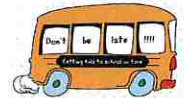
EYFS - Tulip class 97.7%

Year 1 - Chestnut class 96.7%

Year 2 – Willow class 93.5%

Well done to these 3 classes.

Children late to school



The number of children arriving late for school every day still continues to be very high (approximately 20+ children every day).

Please remember that the school day starts now at 8.45 am (door/gate opens at 8.35am). Children will be missing the start of their learning if they are not in school at this time.

Frequent lateness adds up to a considerable amount of lost learning.

5 mins late every day = 3.4 days in a year

10mins late every day = 6.9 days in a year

15 mins late every day = 10.3 days in a year

20 mins late every day = 13.8 days in a year

30 mins late every day = 20.7 days in a year

PE kit

Please make sure that children have the correct PE kit in school, for both indoor and outdoor lessons.

This information was on the letter that went out informing parents of the dates when PE lessons are for each class.

Children who do not have the correct kit in school will not be able to take part in the lesson and a letter will be sent home to inform you of this.



Textile Recycling

Is it time for a sort out? If you are looking through the wardrobes over the half term holiday please be aware that we are once again having a textile recycling collection on Wednesday 17th April.

Further details will follow nearer the time but we would appreciate you holding on to items until this time as it gives us some additional money for resources. Thank you.



Social Media groups

Whilst these groups are a useful way for parents to share reminders, any concerns regarding your child's education must be discussed directly with the school (via the school office or directly with your child's teacher /Headteacher) as per our complaints policy. Thank you for your co-operation.



Christmas Jumpers

If anyone has Christmas jumpers that their children have out grown we are collecting a stock to keep in school for when we celebrate Save the Children Christmas Jumper day. Any donations will be greatly appreciated



Mobile phones

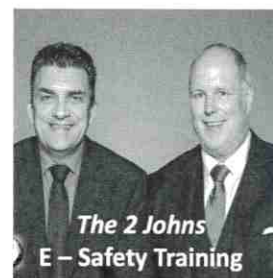
Please adhere to our policy in school that when visiting school for open mornings / afternoon and event days mobile phones must not be used whilst in the school building.

The only exception to this is that during a class assembly / school production we allow you to take photos / videos. As always stated at these events we ask you not to post anything that has other children in them. Thank you.

E-Safety on-line workshop

Evening of Tuesday 26th March —there is an on-line E-Safety workshop run by the 2 Johns. These workshops are always very up to date and have useful information and guidance about keeping your children safe on-line.

Further information will be circulated after half term.



Parents evening

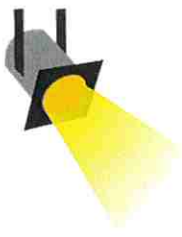
Thank you to all the parents who booked appointments and attended on Tuesday and Wednesday evenings. These times are extremely valuable for both school staff and for the parents.

Unfortunately there were 24 families who did not make an appointment and then another 19 who did not show up for their appointment. This is an important opportunity that has been missed.

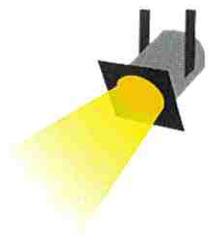
Update on the Sensory room

The building is now finished and ready for us to adapt into a sensory space. We have been in contact with several companies who are advising us on a variety of equipment.

We will keep you posted on the progress of this and hopefully there will be an opportunity for you to see the finished result, or we will send photos for you to see.



Spotlight on year groups



EYFS The children have been very busy this half term, learning lots of new things and taking part in a variety of activities. During World Religion Day, we had the opportunity to learn about Christianity, Islam, Hinduism and Judaism. The children enjoyed finding out about other people's beliefs and traditions, watching videos and handling artefacts. In the week beginning 5th February, we focused on our Mental Health. The children took part in a variety of activities and we had lots of discussions around our feelings and emotions. In addition, Cherry and Oak classes each had their Class Assembly and Open Morning. The children were amazing and it was fantastic that so many people were able to attend. Tulip Class Assembly and Open Morning will take place on Friday, 1st March. In the final week of term, we made pancakes and had a very exciting visit from the Planetarium. We had great fun learning about our solar system and launching rockets. The children have worked very hard this term and we hope you all have a lovely break.

Mrs Keogh

Year 1 Well what a busy half term we have had! At the beginning of the term we had our Year 1 open afternoons where we shared our phonics learning. At the end of the week it was World Religion Day. Each classroom had a focus on a different belief or religion and we were able to learn about how people worship and what they think, feel and believe. We even got to make and taste food related to specific religions such as Challah bread. The following week was 'International week' where we learnt about different countries and cultures. We tasted food, learnt dances, discovered interesting facts and so much more! On the Friday of that week we were able to travel around the world visiting all of the classes in school and seeing what everyone had been doing, we loved it! Last week was Children's Mental Health Week. Each day we focused on things to help us understand how and why we have certain feelings. We practised gratitude, breathing techniques and other strategies to help us understand and feel good about ourselves. We also had our Lego workshop! We learnt about animals and their environments and the importance of protecting our beautiful planet. We then made our own environments out of Lego including eco-friendly houses. Over the last few weeks we have continued to answer our enquiry question 'Is it our job to look after the environment?'. In particular we have focused on helping our friend Nicola find the penguins! In English we have written non-chronological reports about penguins which we will send to her they should help her in her quest! Next half term we will continue with our enquiry question, learn more about plants and how they grow. We will use the book 'The Storm Whale' to write our own finding story and also prepare for our end of Spring term production 'The Litter Muncher'.

Mrs Fagg

Year 2

This has been a fantastic term for Year 2 so far! We have taken part in lots of themed days and weeks, covering topics across the curriculum. We loved World Religion Day, where we went round each class to learn about different religions. We also made a version of Jewish Challah Bread which was extremely tasty. Each Year 2 class also learnt lots about a different country during International Week. The classes found out about Brazil, Costa Rica and India. We did food tasting, created fact files and played some traditional games from these countries. We recently took part in Children's Mental Health week, with mindfulness activities, 'stop and drops' and reflections each day. All of these activities helped us think about our enquiry question 'What's so great about the world anyway?' and consider how different countries and religions celebrate life. We also made links to this in English, creating fact files about one of the world's most beautiful habitats, rainforests. We are looking forward to next half-term, where we will continue to unpick this enquiry question. In English we will be writing a losing story and in Maths will cover multiplication, division and measurement. We also have the music festival to look forward to, more information to follow about this.

Miss Talbot