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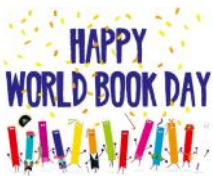
Be Adventurous Be Ambitious Be Curious Be Kind

Date: 1st March 2024

Newsletter

Dear Families,

It has been another busy and productive week where children have managed to remain cheerful despite such wet weather at lunch and break time! Next week we celebrate World Book day on Thursday—more information can be found on page 4 —there is a parent meeting regarding the Phonic check for those with children in Year 1 on Wednesday 6th March at 2:30pm, and Friends of Badbury Park will be holding a gift event next Friday (see page 7).



I am aware that there is some concern among parents regarding a proposed special needs unit on the Badbury Park Primary school site, news of which has been released to the media before The Blue Kite Trust and the school have any substantial information. As I have already shared, discussions are still at a **very early stage** and there are still many stages to go through before final decisions are made and the process begins. I have shared with you everything I know to date, i.e. that the council have agreed in principle to fund the project. Once more information is available I will pass this on. Special needs units are stand alone provisions, they are separate to the mainstream school with their own admissions policies and staff.

Please can I request that hair accessories are in school colours and that all jewellery (apart from analogue watches) is left at home. Children should be wearing **black, white or grey socks only**. We have also noticed a large amount of oversized key rings on book bags. These are causing distraction and taking up unnecessary space in class boxes and lockers.



Please don't forget the school safe zone will be launched in **April**. Rainscombe Road will no longer be accessible before and after school. If you have to drive, please park and walk using the parking bays on Homington Avenue or the pub car park.

Have a lovely weekend

Mrs Dance

Headteacher



Nursery

Apple Tree have made a fantastic start to term 4. We are learning about helping nature to grow and have been planting seeds on our outdoor area.

We are excited to see them begin to bloom and have been learning about roots and shoots. We have started our Forest School sessions and have been very adventurous in our outdoor learning. We have all enjoyed being outside - especially in the mud! We found lots of worms and observed what we could see around us and how our environment is beginning to change as we move into Spring.



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Reception : Ash and Oak Tree class have been very adventurous! Some of the children flew on a 'broom' to try and find some magic beans. The children worked as a team and eventually found 8 magic beans which we have planted in soil, sand, cotton wool and tissue paper to see which one will grow the most. We have started 'Drawing Club', where we read a story as a class and then draw characters and the setting from the story, then using our own ideas to make the story even better! We even had a go at making our own mini books. The children have been very ambitious and have been learning some new big words, such as victorious, clambering, colossal and booming. In maths, Ash and Oak have been focusing on subtraction within 10 and what patterns we can notice. As it was National Science Day, both classes have begun an experiment with red and green apples to see what happens when we cut them in

half or slices and each day we will take pictures to compare and talk about what we think might be happening.

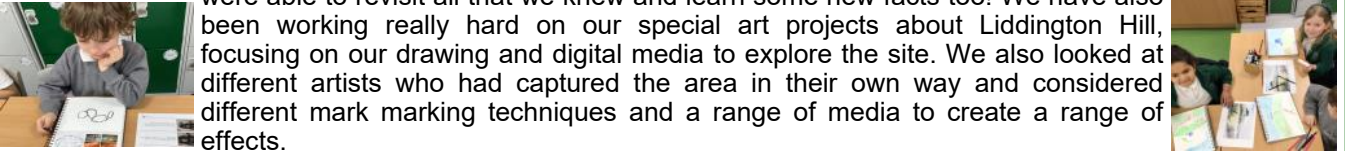
Please can you ensure your child has their P.E kit in school and brings their reading book to school every day and brings their homework folder in by Thursday each week



KS1 We have been very busy in Year 1. Last week we discovered part of a space rocket that had landed in our playground. When we opened it up, we were amazed to find 'Beegu' who is an alien and will be staying with year 1 this term. We enjoyed a fabulous visit to the library, where we explored a selection of books, listened to a story and borrowed a book to stay in the class. In maths we have been looking at numbers 0-50 and ordering them on number lines. We have also started our Easter topic in RE and created a beautiful Easter garden.



Year 2 have been having a wonderful time learning about the Stone Age and recently, we all went on a virtual visit to Stonehenge in the immersive room. We were able to revisit all that we knew and learn some new facts too! We have also been working really hard on our special art projects about Liddington Hill, focusing on our drawing and digital media to explore the site. We also looked at different artists who had captured the area in their own way and considered different mark making techniques and a range of media to create a range of effects.



KS2 In Year 3, we have been enjoying National Science Week's theme of 'time' and have been taking part in investigations, experiments and designing our own posters for a competition!

We have also been looking at scientists that are 'smashing stereotypes.' In maths, we have been enjoying our shape topic, looking for vertical, horizontal, parallel and perpendicular lines in the world around us as well as making 3D shapes.



Year 4 have been on an adventure in geography this term and after having some time to find out about one biome through researching information texts, we made a brief trip to the immersive room and surrounded ourselves in rainforests, grasslands and polar regions. We all enjoyed being able to find out more about these special places and found out a little about what has put these under threat. This will come in useful as we begin writing our own discussion texts about the environment. In maths we have been finding the perimeter of rectangles on a grid and in computing we have started to use a software called FMSLOGO (free to download) to programme a turtle and move it around the screen. Take a look at this with your child. It is a lot of fun!



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Notices and reminders



📌 **Breakfast club:** Mr Sims will be joining our Breakfast Club team from 1st March which means we are able to increase the number of places available. Please book on My Child at School app as usual.

📌 **Uniform:** we are still seeing children wearing items of clothing which are not part of the school uniform (e.g coloured leggings, red socks, green cardigans) as well as unnatural hair colours and large colourful hair accessories. Children should **only** wear **black** trousers or black skirt/pinafore dress with a white polo shirt (with or without a logo), and a **grey** school sweatshirt with logo. Socks, tights and shoes should be also be black. We have a stock of second hand uniform which Friends of Badbury Park are happy to pass on for a small donation.

📌 **Attendance:** School attendance is more important than ever, and every day matters. Our current school attendance is **96%** which just meets the national attendance target. Despite this overall good pattern of attendance across school, we receive multiple requests for leave of absence in term time due to holidays or trips to see family; holidays in term time will not be authorised in accordance with government policy. If you have a family bereavement for a relative abroad, we would advise keeping children in school as the majority of the trip will be unauthorised. We appreciate your support in getting your children into school every day!



📌 **Parking:** a reminder that the first two parking spaces at the front of the school are reserved for **Blue Badge holders only**. Please be respectful to those members of our community who need to park as close to the school as possible and leave these spaces free.

📌 **Free School meals and Pupil Premium:** There are two types of free school meals. **Universal Free School Meals** for all children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 and **Benefit Related Free School Meals** for Reception to Year 4 children whose parents access any of the benefits listed here:

If you think you might be eligible we would encourage you to apply via the Swindon Borough Council website : <https://education.swindon.gov.uk/Synergy/SynergyWeb/Enquiries/Citizen/FreeSchoolMeals.aspx> .The school will receive extra funding called 'pupil premium' which can support your child in many ways, such as funding school trips, educational provision/resources, academic interventions, wellbeing and self-esteem building interventions. The extra money we receive could make a real difference to the quality of education we offer and **as a parent, you will receive free supermarket and holiday club vouchers.**

You can apply for this benefit even if your child is receiving Universal Free School Meals in YR, Y1 and Y2.

Please note that if you have older children, who are entitled to free school meals, this does not automatically register younger children onto free school meals register, you will need to apply separately for them.

Free School meals

Please ask even if your child is of Infant school age.

Do you receive any of the following?

- Income support
- Employment Support Allowance (Income Related)
- Income based Job Seekers Allowance
- Guaranteed Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit and your income (as calculated by the Inland Revenue) is less than £16,190
- Universal Credit
- Receiving support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act of 1999
- In the Armed Forces

If you can answer **yes** to any of the above you may qualify for free school meals/Pupil Premium

Want to apply? Not sure?

Ask at the office

The school office will help with your application. If your application is successful not only will your child receive free school meals, but our school will receive £1,300 additional funding (per child). This is called Pupil Premium.

All applications are confidential.

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World Book Day—Thursday 7th March

We have organised lots of exciting activities for World Book Day 2024. Children are welcome to come to school dressed as a book character and bring the book in to share with their friends. As always, there is no expectation to buy an outfit or anything new, please use what you have at home.

The Roving Book Shop

We welcome back the Roving Book Shop on **Wednesday 13th March**. The children will have the opportunity to visit the book shop and spend their book day voucher. Children may bring money to spend in the envelopes provided (we will send these home on the week of the book shop). The book shop will also be open before and after school for parents/carers to shop. The school will receive commission in book vouchers from the books sold, so hopefully, we will be able to purchase more fantastic reads for the library and classrooms.



Red Nose Day will be returning on **Friday 15th of March**. This year, the event will focus on supporting those in need during the current living crisis, focusing on issues like lack of food and homelessness.

Children should wear school uniform as normal but may wear a red nose to school. Children in Apple, Ash and Oak tree classes will be spending the day telling their adults jokes to see if they can 'make them laugh' and the rest of the school will be bursting into funny dances throughout the day when a dance alarm sounds! Please donate what you can this Red Nose Day via the Comic Relief Just Giving page [here](#). It could help to put food on plates and roofs over heads, keep little ones safe and help



School Council

Next week we will be choosing our new school councillors in our classes. School councillors this year have helped taste menus, checked the school is a safe place to learn and play, shown important visitors around and been respectful and kind on the playground with our new equipment.

Our current school councillors have comprised a list of what makes a good school councillor.

- ✓ Be kind and help people
- ✓ Be truthful and honest in meetings
- ✓ Listen to your classmates and help make a difference in school.
- ✓ Promote healthy eating and good table manners at lunchtime.
- ✓ Show respect to the equipment and demonstrate positive play
- ✓ Be calm and approachable.
- ✓ Help make the school a better place.
- ✓ Be welcoming to everybody in school.



Anyone interested should speak to their class teacher and prepare a short speech or presentation to win over their classmates. They will need to talk in front of their class for 1-2 minutes on why they should be a school councillor and what they can bring to the role. Presentations and voting will take place on Friday 8th March

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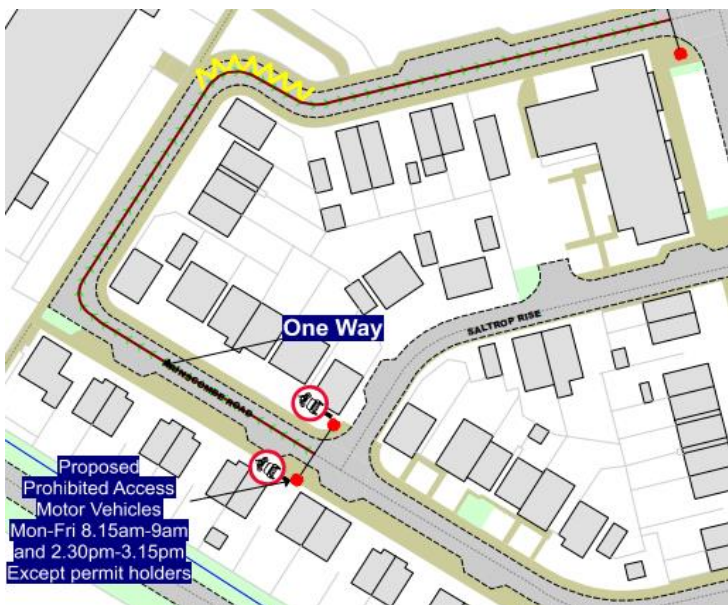
School safe environment zone (SSEZ) - UPDATE

Letters have now been sent out to all residents asking them to apply for their permits, and SBC are looking to implement the SSEZ during the Easter School holidays. All road lining and school street markings will be operational from Monday 15 April. 2024. Please see below for a reminder of the scheme

As a result of this work, the Council are proposing to introduce a school street initiative and parking restrictions on a section of Rainscombe Road. Information on the proposed scheme can be seen by visiting the Councils School Safe Environment Zone web page schemes for inclusion onto the year 4 program. <https://www.swindon.gov.uk/info/20135/traffic-management/1147/school-safe-environment-zones-ssez>.

More information regarding the School Street scheme is included in the leaflet which we are attaching with this newsletter and also by visiting the following school streets initiative web link ; <https://www.swindon.gov.uk/info/20135/traffic-management/1156/school-streets-initiative>.

SBC will introduce an experimental traffic regulation order (ETRO) just after Easter which will be in place for 18 months. A consultation with parents, staff and residents will start once it is introduced on the street and run for 6 months during which time feedback will be collated by SBC. The ETRO will be reviewed after the first 6 months in light of the feedback and decision will be made by SBC as to whether to create a permanent traffic regulation order.



What does this mean for parents?

- Pupils, parents and local residents will experience a safer environment for walking and cycling to school
- Rainscombe road will be closed to all vehicles (apart from residents and blue badge holders) from 08.15am-09.00am and 2.30pm-3.15pm
- The area will be patrolled by SBC and school staff who will check permits
- Anyone who drives into the School Street during the restricted times, who does not have a permit will be in contravention of the Traffic Regulation Order and may be subject to a Fixed Penalty Notice issued by the Police.
- Parking will no longer be available at the front of the school during drop off and pick up times unless you are a blue badge holder. If you still need to drive to school, we ask that you park a short distance away and walk the rest of your journey

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Happy Homes 4 Week Course

25th April and 2nd, 9th and 16th May.

A welcoming, fun and supportive group to help you achieve more harmony at home with easy to use ideas!

We will cover areas including how to manage tricky behaviours, introducing consistent boundaries and family rules, using positive discipline plus reducing conflict and parental stress.

Thursdays- 5:30-7:30pm
Colebrook Infants School,
Towcester Road, SN3 4AS

Run by Gayle and Becky from Lighthouse. Parents from all Blue Kite Trust Schools are welcome. A maximum of 12 spaces so please contact to book a place to avoid disappointment.

If you would like to attend please contact us on gwollen@bluekitetrust.org or bbradley@bluekitetrust.org



LIGHTHOUSE_BLUEKITETRUST

Follow
Lighthouse
on Instagram!

Follow our Lighthouse team for helpful parenting advice and tips

Please follow at [lighthouse_bluekitetrust](https://www.instagram.com/lighthouse_bluekitetrust) or scan the QR code



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Friends of Badbury Park Primary School

FRIENDS OF BADBURY PARK PRIMARY SCHOOL

Pocket Money Gift Event

FRIDAY 8TH MARCH 2024

Children bring a shopping list to school with the names of the special females they'd like to buy for (Mum, Carer, Grandparent, Cousin etc) and £1 per gift - maximum £5

During the morning, each class will visit the pop-up shop to choose and purchase their gifts.

Each gift will be packaged, labelled and taken back to the classroom, ready for the children to take home at the end of the school day.

We hope that your children will enjoy the experience of shopping for the special women in their lives.

Gift Event: On the morning of Friday 8th March we will be hosting another gift event.

In the lead up to Mothering Sunday, Friends of Badbury Park Primary School will set up a pop-up shop in school with a variety of gifts to choose and buy for children's special females in their lives. Each gift costs £1 and families will be asked to send in a shopping list with the names of the people their child will be buying for up to a maximum of £5.

If your child would like to take part in the event, please ensure that they bring money to school at the start of the day. **We are unable to accept money in the office.**



NHS Healthy Start Scheme

This scheme helps young families and those who are more than 10 weeks pregnant to access healthy food, milk and vitamins. Eligibility for the scheme is income related but once accepted, people will get:

£4.25 each week of their pregnancy (from the 10th week)

£8.50 each week for children from birth to one year old

£4.25 each week for children between one and four years old (payments will stop on the child's 4th birthday or if they no longer receive the qualifying benefits).

NHS Healthy Start beneficiaries can buy:

- plain liquid cow's milk, including long-life, pasteurised or ultra heat treated (UHT) varieties
- fresh, frozen and tinned fruit and vegetables
- cow's milk-based infant formula milk.
- fresh, dried and tinned pulses, including but not limited to lentils, beans, peas and chickpeas

Beneficiaries of the scheme can also get vitamins for those who are pregnant or have a child up to one year old and Children's vitamin drops for children up to four years old.

Click [here](#) for more information and to apply

NHS

If you're pregnant or have a child under the age of 4, you could be eligible for the NHS Healthy Start Scheme

To check if you're eligible for Healthy Start, visit: www.healthystart.nhs.uk

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Online Safety

Top Tips for Supporting Children Who Are EXPERIENCING BULLYING

In a DE survey, 36% of parents said that their child had been bullied in the past year, while 29% of secondary school headteachers reported bullying among students. Public Health England states that young people who maintain positive communication with their family were less likely to experience bullying - so it's important that parents, carers and educators know how to talk to children about bullying.

- WATCH FOR BEHAVIOURAL CHANGES**
Children who are experiencing bullying may become quiet, withdrawn, or anxious. However, they may also act out in anger and argue that they're feeling. A shift in attitude towards their existing friends (or not mentioning them any more) or an unwillingness to have telephone contact seem notably different could also be warning signs. It's important to be open to such changes and talk to your child about them if they occur.
- THINK THINGS THROUGH**
Before acting, ask yourself if this is the right time and place to address concerns about bullying. Night-time worries trigger strong feelings, perhaps these are best experienced. This could discourage your child from opening up to you. Think about discussing what you've noticed with another trusted adult who knows your child well.
- BE OPEN AND UNDERSTANDING**
Try to define to your child the changes that you've noticed in their body language, appearance, behaviour, or sense of self - and do so without passing judgement. Help them to describe what they're feeling - the changes, sadness, fear or something else - as accurately as possible. If they say they're "happy" or "okay" they may be "covering" or "numbing" - this will help them to understand how they're feeling and why.
- LET THEM SPEAK FREELY**
Use open questions and welcoming tones to encourage your child to talk. Listen calmly and non-judgmentally about what they've said or experienced. Parents/carers who respond by demonstrating that you're understanding clearly bullying may have understood your child's sense of control, and they may fear that you'll judge them, investment or impose consequences. In this conversation you may have been honest with you was the right decision.
- CALL A TIME OUT**
A conversation about bullying could leave both you and your child feeling drained. It's important to recognise this and pause at suitable moments to calm down. Take deep breaths, enjoy a hot drink or listen to music. This can reinforce trust, while also helping you both feel that you have control over the situation and the emotions that you're feeling.
- STAY INFORMED**
Make sure you know your child's school's definition of responses to and relevant contacts for bullying. This information is available in their anti-bullying policy, which ought to be available on the school's website. Cross borders or term-layers are causing the first point of contact, though there may be dedicated support teams or key workers to help your child, depending on the specific situation.
- PREP YOUR CHILD FOR THE RESPONSE**
Schools' responses to bullying vary depending on whether they're responding to aggressive child arguments, or addressing unprovoked verbal or physical harm and so on. It's important to talk with your child whether any fears and insecurities, how much control they had over the situation and how often such incidents have occurred. Reporting may not always be the best outcome for your child more widely.
- SUMMARISE YOUR CHILD'S EXPERIENCE**
When you discuss this with them, make sure you've precisely described what your child experienced, what happened, when, where, and who was involved. This will help the school to investigate further, identifying any witnesses, as well as those who were directly involved. It can also help the school to know how your child is feeling and how they'd like the matter to be resolved.
- LIAISE WITH THE SCHOOL**
Any school has a duty to ensure that the wellbeing of its community has not been impacted. It's important for children to learn their role in this. The school must determine how best to resolve these feelings of safety and respect. It's often best for schools to bring parents and carers informed of any actions taken - and for families to avoid taking matters into their own hands.
- CHECK IN FREQUENTLY**
Once the issue has been resolved and the bullying behaviour has stopped, your child may still feel anxious and might find it difficult to return to normal life or develop new friends. Parents, carers and the school should all keep an eye on how the child is feeling and acting over the following months. Any renewed information should be shared, so that further support can be provided if necessary.

The latest bullying research revealed that almost half (40%) of school children in the UK have been bullied within the past 12 months – with 21% of them experiencing negative changes to their behaviour, including avoiding going to school.

Understanding and honest conversation can be an immense benefit to children who have become the target of bullying – but it's such a delicate subject that it can often be hard for trusted adults to know where (or how) to start. The guide above contains ten practical tips for supporting a child who is experiencing bullying.

Fake News All news isn't always good news. We need to be mindful that as young people spend much more time online, they will come across many types of news to include, fake, real, biased, exaggerated and AI generated impersonation. They are then only a few clicks away to exploring more and vulnerable to being dragged into things. Factors such as being easily impressionable young people especially at risk.

See below for more information or scan the QR code for parent guides of how to keep children safe online

Skips Safety Net Keeping children safe online

A Parent's Guide to Fake News

IT'S ON THE INTERNET SO IT MUST BE TRUE!

Don't believe everything you see online!
 Young people can very easily be dragged into things without parental guidance and support.

Online safety is when young people know who they can tell if they feel upset by something that has happened online.

Parents please contact your school to enquire attending their next e-safety workshop or have any concerns.

Working with Home Office 'PREVENT', The Police and Crime Commissioner and Children's Safeguarding Partnerships to help keep children safe online.

Skips Educational Email: info@skipsed.com Tel: +44 121 227 1941

Developed in partnership with Home Office, West Midlands Police, and West Midlands Police and Crime Commissioner.

www.skipssafetynet.org

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School Diary

January 2024

4th: Children return to school
8th: Curriculum meetings for all year groups except Nursery—5pm
12th: "Donation station" - donate any new unwanted Christmas gifts to PTA
23rd: Parent Support drop in from 9am

February 2024

2nd: Number day
6th & 7th: Parent/Teacher consultation evenings
6/7/8th Online Safety week
8th: Author visit with Parent/Carer workshop at 2.30pm
9th: Doughnut Day from 3pm
12th-16th—half term holiday (school closed)
19th: Children return to school for term 4
24th Table top sale in the hall - 1pm-3.30pm

March 2024

4th: Author study week
6th: Phonics meeting for Year 1 parents
7th: World Book Day
8th: FOBPPS Gift event
11th: Year 1 to Holy Cross Church
12th, 13th, 14th : Y2/Y3 to Avebury
13th: Roving Book shop in school
14th : Year 1 Spring show
17th: Comic Relief day
22nd: Reports out to parents
28th: "Open house" parents are welcome to come in to see class and books from 2.30pm or 11.30/3.00 for Nursery)
28th: Last day of Term 4
29th—12th April : Easter Holidays (school closed)

April 2024

15th: Children return to school for term 5
22nd: Curriculum meetings for Reception—Year 4

Teacher Training Days 2023/2024

- ✦ Monday 3rd June 2024
- ✦ Monday 8th July 2024