



Dream Big, Aim High
& Make a Difference

Weekly Bulletin

2022-23 No:57 Friday 27th January 2023

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Dear Parents and Carers,

The achievements of pupils related to the School Values always takes place during our Celebration Assembly on a Friday and creativity was particularly highlighted this week, especially in relation to writing. Whether it was writing a version of a Greek myth or warning stories similar to 'The Wolves in the Walls,' there has been lots of creative writing taking place at school this week so please make sure to read these stories in pupil's books when you visit for Parents Evening in a few weeks.

With the election for Parent Governors now closed, I am pleased to announce that Mark Lovejoy and Steph Reid will be joining the school governors as your representatives. I am sure you will join me in congratulating them on their election to their new posts and wishing them all the very best during their term of office.

The focus of this week's online safety leaflet relates to cyber resilience both in terms of children but also how you can further protect yourself online and through device management. For more information please click [here](#).

And finally, a big well done to the Year 6 pupils who acquitted themselves well in the Annual Maths Challenge at Eagle House and also to the boys Football Team who got their season underway yesterday, (but we won't talk about the result although the only way is up)!

Kind regards

Mr B Ellis - Head Teacher

Diary Dates

February

Wednesday 1st February – NEU Strike Action

~~Wednesday 1st – Flamingo Class Assembly (Postponed)~~

Wednesday 1st – Library Renovation

Thursday 2nd – Y2 @ Marwell Zoo

Friday 3rd & 10th – Years R, 1 & 2 Yateley Library visits

Tuesday 7th – Parents Evening 3.30 – 6.00

Thursday 9th – Parents Evening 4.30 – 7.00

Monday 6th, Wednesday 8th & Friday 10th – Nurture group bus trips to Café 46

Monday 13th – Friday 17th Half-term

Celebration

The following pupils have been chosen to be celebrated this week by their class teacher.

Class	Lead Learner	Star of the Week	Weekly Attendance*
Butterfly	Ophelia T	Julius D	97.33%
Flamingo	Miles H	Abigail P	94.81%
Penguin	Emily L	Max VB	98.33%
Turtle	Emma B	Robbie B	95.16%
Dolphin	Davut Y	Lara M	98.51%
Panther	Cleo L	Samuel W	98.52%
Leopard	Penny L	Anabella NB	96.92%
Lion	Alana L	Jonathan H	92.65%

*Highest weekly class attendance in bold print

Potley Point Totals

Blue - 106 Yellow - 178
Red - 160 Green - 104

Timetable Rockstars

Most Active Class – Turtle

SCHOOL MEALS - £2.85

Week 1	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
W/c 31 st Oct, 21 st Nov, 12 th Dec, 16 th Jan, 6 th Feb, 1 st & 27 th March	Nacho bites and diced potato and sweetcorn	Roasted vegetable pasta and peas	Margherita pizza, crinkle cut wedges, sweetcorn and green beans	Quorn chicken and gravy in a Yorkshire pudding, roast potatoes and vegetables	Macaroni cheese and peas
	Pork sausages and mashed potato, gravy and carrots	Chicken katsu curry with rice and peas	Bubble salmon, crinkle cut wedges, sweetcorn and green beans	Roast chicken and gravy, Yorkshire pudding, roast potatoes and vegetables	Baked fish fingers, tomato ketchup, chips and baked beans
	Ice cream with fruit selection	Lemon drizzle cake	Shortbread	Brownie	Mixed desserts
Week 2 W/c 7 th & 28 th Nov, 2 nd & 23 rd Jan, 20 th Feb, 13 th March	Vegetarian bolognese, carrots and green beans	Mexican bean burrito and sweetcorn	Margherita pizza, diced potato and peas	Quorn chicken and mushroom pasty, roast potatoes, gravy and vegetables	Baked bean and cheese quesadilla with chips and peas
	Sausage roll, diced potato, carrots and green beans	Chicken nuggets, crinkle cut wedges and baked beans	Italian pork meatball, marinara pasta and peas	Roast beef, Yorkshire pudding, roast potatoes, gravy and vegetables	Baked battered fish, chips and peas
	Ice cream with fruit selection	Victoria sponge	Shortbread	Apple sponge and custard	Mixed desserts
Week 3 W/c 14 th Nov, 5 th Dec, 9 th & 30 th Jan, 27 th Feb, 20 th March	Cheese and onion slice with crinkle cut wedges and peas	Tomato pasta with green beans	Margherita pizza, crinkle cut wedges and green beans	Vegetable goujons	Sweet potato and lentil curry, white and brown rice and peas
	Beef burger in a bun, crinkle cut wedges and peas	BBQ chicken meatballs with diced potatoes, broccoli and sweetcorn	Salmon fishcake and sweet potato wedges and green beans	Roast pork, Yorkshire pudding, mash potato, gravy and vegetables	Baked fish fingers, tomato ketchup, chips and baked beans
	Ice cream with fruit selection	Iced vanilla sponge	Shortbread	Fruit crumble and custard	Mixed desserts

NEU Industrial Action Wednesday 1st February 2023

Following a piece in the 'Bulletin' last week relating to the planned industrial action, I want to share with you key details regarding the strike day on Wednesday 1st February 2023.

The strike is happening because of a national dispute between the unions and the government over concerns about funding of schools, the erosion of educators' pay and the subsequent difficulties this causes, and not because of any issues at our school. As Headteacher, there are clear guidelines that I am expected to follow regarding managing employees during planned industrial action. Firstly, all employees who are members of the NEU have the option to strike on Wednesday 1st February 2023. Any employee who strikes will not receive payment for that day's work. I am able to ask an employee to inform me in advance if they are intending to strike but the employee is under no obligation to do so before the morning of the strike. Staff who are striking are not expected to set work for their class and staff who are not striking are not expected to cover for teachers who are.

The school reviews all of the information available and has completed a dynamic risk assessment to look at what provision we can safely offer and I can confirm that **the school cannot fully open on Wednesday 1st February 2023.**

When making this decision we look at a range of factors including; teacher capacity, the legal requirements for appropriate pupil/teacher ratios, requirements from our insurance company together with the necessary health and safety arrangements. The reason we are able to make an informed decision before the day itself is due to the courtesy of the teachers at Potley Hill who have given forewarning of their intention to strike. Whilst there are still a number of unknowns about staffing capacity for the day, the significant majority of teachers are choosing to strike and therefore **the school cannot fully open on Wednesday 1st February 2023.**

The school will have the capacity to offer a very small number of places to those children who are identified as vulnerable, (in line with DfE guidance). This will include any pupils with an allocated social worker, any pupils who are or ever have been identified as being a 'looked after child' and any pupil who has an Education Health Care Plan. If your child falls into one of these categories you will be contacted directly by a member of the School Office by the end of the day Monday to confirm you need your child to attend. It is also recommended by the DfE that schools prioritise places for the children of critical workers but as a result of the high percentage of teachers striking, we are currently unable to offer this on 1st February 2023.

Due to teachers not being expected to set work for their class on the day of the strike, I recommend that pupils complete reading activities at home together with any relevant homework that has been set via Seesaw and where relevant, TimesTable Rockstars. In addition to this, you might find it useful to access the [Oak Academy](#) which is a free online resource that contains a huge number of lessons and activities linked to all areas of the curriculum across the primary age-range.

Pupils who are in receipt of a free school meal but are not part of the vulnerable group attending school will be informed via ParentMail next week of the arrangements for how they can receive access to a meal on 1st February whilst not at school if they need to do so.

I want to stress to all members of the school community that the decision to close the school for the vast majority of pupils on Wednesday 1st February 2023 has not been taken lightly and I understand it will create difficulties for families. During my time at the school, I have needed to make many decisions that impact on pupils and families but this has been one of the most difficult and also one over which I do not feel I have a huge amount of control. However, central to any decision making will always be ensuring that we can operate safely for pupils and within the boundaries that are set out in employment law, and I wanted to inform everyone of the decision as soon as possible so that alternative childcare arrangements can be made.

Following the 1st February, we will conduct a full review of the provision we offered and use this to make plans for the additional strike days that are planned by the NEU for Thursday 2nd, Wednesday 15th & Thursday 16th March should the current negotiations between the unions and the government not reach a settlement.

I will ensure that I communicate with parents and carers in a timely manner but I want to thank you in advance for your patience and understanding.

Mr. B Ellis - Headteacher