



A very warm welcome back to all our children and families at the start of this final term of the school year (where does the time go?!) This is a particularly special time for our Year 6 children who are embarking on their final term in primary school before flying the nest.

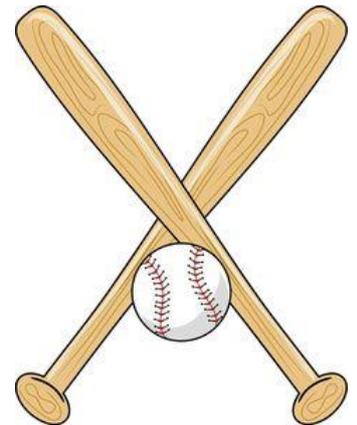
The summer term is traditionally packed with lots of exciting events and activities including school trips, sports day, the KS2 summer production and of course our residential School Journey and Y6 Leavers events. Hopefully everything will be able to go ahead as normally as possible. This newsletter includes all the latest diary dates but please be aware that some things will be added as the term progresses such as class trips.

Yesterday we sent a letter home regarding the latest guidance on managing Covid cases in school this term. Please make sure you have seen this letter; it was sent via email and is also on the school website.

AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS

The letter to sign up for summer term clubs was sent home yesterday. Please return the form by next Wednesday 27th April so that clubs can be allocated. Clubs will start the following week, w/c 2nd May.

As most of the clubs are outdoors, please ensure your child has summer PE kit, a sun hat and water bottle with them.



Y3 & Y4 parents: Swimming

Before Christmas, Y3 and Y4 missed some of their swimming lessons when we had our Covid outbreak.

A reminder that these lessons were rescheduled and will take place on the next three Tuesdays: **26th April, 3rd May & 10th May.**

IMPORTANT: ATTENDANCE

Understandably, children's attendance has been hampered significantly over the last couple of years because of Covid-related absences. However, now that things are returning to normal, the expectation for high standards of attendance is returning.

The minimum expectation for a child's attendance is 95%. Anything falling below this is flagged, with children below 90% as a significant concern.

Currently we have a large number of children whose attendance is well below expectations. In many cases this is Covid related, but not always. It could be that your child regularly has late nights leading to tiredness, headaches or tummy aches and has a day off most weeks, or it could be that they have had a very specific reason such as an operation.

Some children are being removed from school for holidays in term time. **Holiday absences are not authorised. If your child has 15 sessions (half days) or more unauthorised absences, parents are likely to receive a fixed penalty notice.** These are issued per parent per child:

If payment is received within 21 days the cost is £60, rising to £120 if paid after 21 days but within 28 days. Penalty notices are issued to each parent for each child. For example if notices were issued to a mother and father in respect of 2 children the total payable would be £120 each parent if paid within 21 days and £240 each parent if paid within 28 days.

Shortly I will be writing to parents of children whose attendance is running below 90%. I expect in many cases parents may not even realise that their child's absences have had such an impact. These letters are not to alarm anyone, but to alert you to the fact that your child's attendance may be a cause for concern. If you do not receive a letter, you can safely assume that your child's attendance is currently satisfactory or better.

Descriptor	Threshold attendance	Actual attendance	Whole days absence	Learning hours lost
EXCELLENT	100%	190 days	0	0
	99%	188 days	2	10
GOOD	98%	186 days	4	20
	97%	184 days	6	30
	96%	182.5 days	7.5	37.5
SATISFACTORY	95%	180.5 days	9.5	47.5
CAUSE FOR CONCERN	90%	171 days	19	95
	89%	169 days	21	105
	88%	167 days	23	115
	87%	165 days	25	125
UNSATISFACTORY	86%	163 days	27	135
SERIOUS CAUSE FOR CONCERN	85%	161.5 days	28.5	142.5
	84%	159.5 days	30.5	152.5
	83%	158 days	32	160
	82%	156 days	34	170
	81%	154 days	36	180
CRITICAL	80%	152 days	38	190



SATS and other assessments this term

All formal assessments set by the government will take place as usual this term, like they used to before the pandemic.

Important dates:

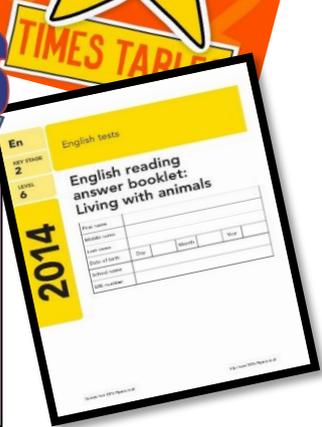
Y1 phonics screening check: w/c 6th June

Y2 Assessments: during the month of May

Y4 Multiplication Check: during the three weeks from 6th June

Y6 SATs: w/c 9th May

Phonics
ee ur ow
wh y au



Mr Smith

You might have spotted this week that Mr Smith is looking very smart and not wearing his usual sports kit. This is because as well as being our fantastic sports coach, he is also at university training to become a fully qualified primary teacher. This term Mr Smith is completing a teaching placement in Class 4 alongside Miss Walker. He will be teaching all subjects and we know he is going to be fantastic! Mr Smith will still be doing some of our clubs and sports activities but will mainly be based in Class 4.

SAVE THE DATE!

Bag2School collection

Wednesday 25th May



VALUES

This half term our value is COURAGE. In Collective Worship yesterday we thought about different situations when we might need to show courage, such as trying new things, standing up for others and being fully truthful, even if we have done wrong.





Sun Safety

- There are plenty of shaded areas under the trees and by the gazebo and children are encouraged to **play in the shade** on hot sunny days.
- All children should have a **sun hat or cap** to wear when playing out. St Ippolyts School caps can be bought from the school office. Please ensure all are NAMED clearly. *(On very hot/sunny days, children without a hat will not be able to go out to play)*
- You may wish to apply **sunscreen** to your child at the start of the day; however, children should not bring bottles of cream into school for reapplication. There are many brands which offer long-lasting/all-day protection and a liberal application in the morning would see them through the school day.
- Children should have a bottle of water with them in school each day which should be named. These must have a '**sports cap**' and **not an open bottle neck** to prevent spillages on children's work. Bottles of water must **not be frozen** (although specially designed water bottles where the centre section can be frozen to keep the water chilled are permitted).
- Children should have **summer PE kit** for outdoor sports every day (not long trousers).

HATS FOR SUNNY DAYS

We will be spending a lot of time outdoors this term and all children need a sun hat or cap for playtimes and PE. Although it is only April, the sun has been very strong recently. In the same way we wouldn't let children play out without a coat in the depths of winter, children without hats will need to miss outdoor time. This is to keep them safe from the sun, especially when using the field where shade is much more limited. It's a good idea for children to have a named hat or cap that is left in school all the time so that they are never without one when the weather is good. Thank you for your cooperation.

JEWELLERY & WATCHES

A reminder that children can wear a simple watch for school, but not a smart watch or fitbit. For safety reasons, **HOOPED EARRINGS are not allowed**; if your child has pierced ears, only studs are permitted. Thank you.

SUMMER

Please note that some dates are yet to be confirmed - please keep an eye on the newsletters for details of class trips and sports events

Date	Event	Additional Information
APRIL		
19 th	INSET Day	No school for children
26 th	Y3/4 Swimming	(Tuesdays for 3 weeks)
MAY		
2 nd	BANK HOLIDAY	School closed
3 rd	Y3/4 swimming	
w/c 9 th	Y6 SATs WEEK	SATs breakfast for Y6 in hall Monday – Thursday
10 th	Y3/4 swimming	
18 th	PGL Parents meeting 6pm	In the hall
20 th	Class 2 Assembly	Parents at 9.15am
23 rd	Class and team photos	
24 th	SPORTS DAY pm	At the school field
25 th	BAGS 2 SCHOOL	Bags on the village green by 9am
26 th	Reserve sports day	Date will be used if the weather is poor on the 24 th
27 th	JUBILEE STREET PARTY Finish for half term 3.15pm	
JUNE		
6 th	Back to school	Assessment week for Y1,3,4,5 Phonics check Y1, Multiplication check Y4
10 th	PGL Osmington Bay	Coach departs around 10am
13 th	PGL trip returns 5pm ish	
14 th	Y5/6 & PGL staff not in	
17 th	Class 1 Assembly	Parents at 9.15am
23 rd	PGL Assembly	Parents at 9.15am
24 th	PTA Sundown Cinema	
JULY		
1 st	PTA Summer Fair	Arrangements TBC
6 th	Dance Festival	Miss Gale's Dance Club
8 th	PTA Disco 5.30-7pm	
11 th	Production Dress Rehearsal	
12 th	Production	matinee
13 th	Production	evening
14 th	TRANSITION DAY	Y6 to secondary schools, new Reception intake visit
18 th	Y6 Leavers Service 2.15pm	Refreshments afterwards in the hall for Y6 & parents
19 th	END OF TERM 2pm	
20 th & 21 st	INSET Days	No school for children