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Heather Herald

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Dear Parents/Carers of «Name»

«Class»

Many thanks to those of you who have now joined up to our Weduc messaging system. Some parents are mentioning to me that they do not get some of the messages - please check with the School Office that we have the right contact details and that you are listed as number one as the point of contact because, as mentioned previously, the messages are primarily sent to the **primary** carer. You will also be pleased to know that we are currently working with a local company to redesign the school website. We are hoping it will be online by February Half term and will also be a useful source of information to you.

Special thanks to Mr Johnson for giving up some of his Christmas holiday to paint our Library - all of you that have seen it have commented on what a fantastic job he has done and we are now eagerly awaiting a new carpet and some new library furniture.

Please see attached school holiday for 2019/20 and 2020/21 - please note INSET days for 2020/21 have yet to be decided.

If you have any concerns, please do not hesitate, in the first instance, to contact your child's class.
Maxine Michalowski

Wintery weather!

Much excitement in school on Tuesday as the first flutters of snow descended from the sky means that it is that time of year where we need to make sure all of our families are aware of the adverse weather procedures. As a head teacher, not only do I have to take into consideration the safety of the school site but also that enough staff are also able to make it into school safely to be able to teach the children. The aim is, as always, to inform the parents as soon as possible. Messages will be sent out via WEDUC (thanks to those of you who have registered the app) and Radio Leicester will also be contacted regarding the closure.

If there is snow and school is open, please send your child into school with appropriate footwear (wellies). As long as it is safe, the children will still spend time outside at playtimes and lunch times. Therefore a change of warm clothes - tracksuit bottoms, hats, gloves and a warm coat are essential - as are a few pairs of spare socks. Even if we don't have snow, it is important to remember that the children are playing outside for up to 40/50 minutes at a time during the school day so the children require a warm winter coat. We don't use the cold as an excuse for not going outside - after all it is not about the wrong weather it is about the right clothing!

Staffing update

I am sure you will have noticed that Mrs Goode is blooming nicely and it won't be long before she begins her maternity leave to prepare for the arrival of the new Baby Goode! Last week we appointed Mrs Catherine Kyte to join our team and join Mrs Thornley in teaching in Adventurers. Mrs Kyte will be teaching the class on Thursdays and Fridays and will be joining us in school over the next couple of weeks to get to know the children and to spend time with both Mrs Goode and Mrs Thornley. Mrs Kyte is a very experienced teacher and we are all very much looking forwards to working with her.

STEM Week - 4th February

On Monday 4th February we will be launching our STEM week (Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths). Staff are busy planning lots of exciting activities for the children to take part in. If you have an expertise in one of these fields, and would like to come and talk to the children about your job, we would love to hear from you. As part of this week, we will also be recognising Internet Safety day on February 5th where the children will be completing activities linked to online safety. We will also be holding an open afternoon on Thursday 8th of February inviting parents and carers into school to visit their child's class to share the learning they have been doing through the week. The open afternoon will begin at 1:30pm. Leicestershire Police have also offered to come in to do an E-Safety chat for parents. I am hoping that this 'chat' will be well attended. I know as a parent myself, it is really hard to keep up to date with current trends online and how to make sure my children have the right privacy settings etc on the new latest app/game - they always seem to be at least ten steps ahead of me with their technical knowhow and I know I am certainly looking forward to this informative session. I really hope that you will be able to join us, not only to celebrate the children's learning, but also to do some learning yourselves regarding e-safety.

Dates for the Diary

Thursday 24 th January	Healthy Child Programme Nurse Drop In 14:30pm-15:30pm
Monday 28 th January	Year 6 and Foundation Height and Weight
Monday 4 th February	Year 5/6 Football tournament 4pm start at Hood Park
Mon 4 th -Thurs 7 th February	STEM theme week
Wednesday 6 th February	Kingswood Meeting 3:30pm
Wednesday 6 th February	KS2 SATs Meeting 6:00pm
Thursday 7 th February	Pioneers Waste Workshop
Thursday 7 th February	Open Afternoon 1:30pm start - all parents and carers welcome
Thursday 7 th February	E-safety Parents meeting for parents and carers 2pm start
Monday 11 th February	Parents' Evening 3:30pm - 6:50pm
Tuesday 12 th February	New Library Furniture being installed!
Thursday 14 th February	Discover's Sharing Assembly @14:30pm
Thursday 14 th February	Parents' Evening 3:30pm-5:00pm
Friday 15 th February	School closes for half term
	Monday 18th February - Friday 22nd February Half Term
Monday 25 th February	Back to school
Tuesday 26 th February	NSPCC in school to do some assemblies
Wednesday 27 th February	Leicester Riders after school session for 30 Discoverer and Pioneer Children
Thursday 11 th March	Healthy Child Programme Nurse Drop in 2:30pm
Saturday 16 th March	Cross Country at Snaresstone 10:30 flyer sent out closer to the date
Monday 25 th March (Provisional)	Author Neil Griffiths in school to work with children and meet with parents - more details awaiting to be confirmed
Friday 12 th April	School closes for Easter
	Monday 15th April - Friday 26th April - Easter Holidays
Monday 29 th April	Back to school for staff and children
Monday 6 th May	May Day Bank Holiday
Saturday 18 th May	*****Griffydram Cross Country - PLEASE NOTE CHANGE OF DATE*****
Friday 24 th May	SCHOOL CLOSED FOR PUPILS - INSET DAY
Monday 3 rd June	Monday 27th May to Friday 31st May - Half Term
Friday 12 th July	School open for children and staff
	School Closes for Summer Holidays