



# NEWSLETTER

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## MESSAGE FROM THE HEADTEACHER

Welcome back to everyone! It seems strange to say this midway through a half term but that is how things are.

It was so lovely to see all the children back yesterday. I am sure there were some nerves from everyone, children, parents and staff but these were replaced with smiles and it was a really positive start. However, it is only the beginning and we know that we have to keep moving forward with tiny steps.

Thank you for all your support and efforts with home learning. We will build on all that you have done and push forward with every child in all aspects of the curriculum.

There are always issues that arise in school, possibly more so as we return to full opening, but please speak to either the staff, Mrs Lowe or myself if you have any queries or concerns, however minor. Please do not wait until Parent Consultations to come to us as the sooner we know about any issue the quicker we can resolve it.

## CORONAVIRUS UPDATE

Just to remind you that we still have to be extremely cautious.

Please try to keep to the times set for dropping off to reduce numbers in and around school – we appreciate this is not being helped by the ongoing roadworks.

Thank you to all the children who have taken themselves off to class in the morning saying their goodbyes at the gate. This has really helped speed up dropping off and reduced markedly the numbers of people moving through and in and out of school.

Please can we remind you about the link sent last week about obtaining lateral flow test kits. The more preventative measures we can take will hopefully limit the impact in both school and the community. The last thing any of us want to happen is for any class to have to self-isolate.

## WORLD BOOK DAY

Thank you so much for all your support with this day. During such a strange time, it was wonderful to see the children engaging in the book challenges and dressing up both at home and in school.

All of the children in school will now have received their £1 book token. These can be redeemed at any participating booksellers to either purchase one of the exclusive, new World Book Day books or used to get £1 off any full price book or audiobook.

The book tokens are valid until Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> March; however, participating booksellers will honour the tokens beyond the 28<sup>th</sup> March while stocks last. Please check with the bookseller to see if they are able to offer the £1 off other books after this date.

Thank you very much for the time and effort you put in to supporting our school initiatives.

## PARENTAL CONSULTATIONS

These will take place via telephone conversations during the weeks beginning April 26<sup>th</sup> and May 3<sup>rd</sup>. Further details and arrangements will follow. As explained previously, the conversations will be about moving forward and supporting all our pupils in achieving their potential.

By carrying out these consultations just after Easter we believe that the children will have had time to settle fully back into school and for assessments to have been carried out to

gain a full and clear picture of where each child is, allowing staff to set clear targets for progression.

### BEFORE AND AFTERNOON PROVISION

Since the closure of the previous club, we have actively worked on securing a solution moving forward. Clearly, it has not been feasible for anyone to open anything up with the current arrangements and lockdowns but we have been acutely aware that this provision supports many of you.

We are very excited to announce that we have hopefully found a provider to run a before and after school provision at our school. Further details will follow straight after Easter and we will then be enquiring about who may potentially use the provision. We are hopefully going to put in place taster sessions during the second part of the Summer term with a full opening from September 2021.

### AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS

Should the proposed road map continue, we hope to be able to offer some school clubs after Easter. We are monitoring the situation carefully.

### VALUE OF THE MONTH March 2021 - Compassion



Our value for March is Compassion.

We will help the children to understand that compassion is about 'standing in someone else's shoes' when they are having a hard time. In other words, trying to understand how they might be feeling and doing our best to try to help.

The Bible teaches us all about compassion

#### ***Ephesians 4:32***

*'Be kind and compassionate to one another, forgiving each other, just as in Christ God forgave you.'*

The staff will be working with the children to understand what this looks like in their

everyday lives. Please support us with this where you can and ask the children about what they understand about this value.

### OUTDOOR CLASSROOM

Many of you may have noticed a significant change in the green area: the overgrown sections of our old maze have now been removed leaving behind a large learning area, a few 'tunnels' of trees/hedges and a smaller reflection area.

The area under the trees has been cleared and we now have benches in a horseshoe formation to allow a class to sit and learn together outdoors.

Once we have completed all of the necessary health and safety checks and risk assessments (and the weather improves!) we will be able to use this wonderful outdoor area.

As always, a huge thank you to our wonderful PTA who have put in hours of work to push this project forward and to all of you, without whom we would not be able to raise enough money to put all of these plans into action.



### COMIC RELIEF

At Richard Wakefield, we are excited to be once again taking part in Comic Relief 2021! As one of the UK's biggest fundraising events, our children benefit enormously from the insight that this day gives them of the wider world.

The date this year is Friday March 19<sup>th</sup> and clearly in the restrictions we are currently under, we cannot do as much as we would like.



As we did for Children in Need back in November, we are allowing all the children to have a 'Wear anything day' – (please note if your child has PE on this day that they need to be dressed suitably to take part in this lesson.)

We will not be collecting any money and ask that if you wish to donate to this cause, you action this yourselves. Thank you.

During part of the day the children will be completing activities linked to Red Nose Day and the Comic Relief charity.

### Message from Rev. P Bainbridge

## Moments for Memories and Thanksgiving



*The Priory Church of St Mary Tutbury will be open on Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> March from 10am - 12noon.*

**A time to reflect and to remember...** *those we love who have died, those we love but are unable to see because of Covid lockdown, those we care for, and to thank God for those who care for us either now or in the past.*

*There will be the opportunity to light a candle, eat a heart chocolate, pray in silence, think about Lent and Easter, receive flowers as a gift and listen to Organ Music. Our Organist, Roger Sharp will be playing from 10.15am – 10.30 and 11.15 - 11.30.*

*Everyone, (children and adults), is invited to come to our beautiful Church Building. Covid guidelines of Track and trace, social distancing, use of hand sanitisers and wearing masks are in place.*

*We look forward to seeing you on Saturday morning.*

### DIARY DATES REMINDER!

Friday 19 <sup>th</sup> March	Comic Relief – Wear Anything Day
Friday 2 <sup>nd</sup> April	Good Friday
Monday 5 <sup>th</sup> April to Friday 16 <sup>th</sup> April Easter Holiday – School Closed	
WB 26 <sup>th</sup> April WB 3 <sup>rd</sup> May	Parent Consultations. Further details to be sent soon
Monday 3 <sup>rd</sup> May	Bank Holiday – School closed
Friday 28 <sup>th</sup> May	Inset Day 5 – School Closed
Monday 31 <sup>st</sup> May to Friday 4 <sup>th</sup> June Half Term – School Closed	

### REMINDERS!

#### MEDICAL APPOINTMENTS

Please make every effort to arrange medical appointments for your child out of school hours. If an appointment has to be during the school day, please provide the school office with a copy of the appointment form. We appreciate that many doctors/dentists now send appointment reminders by text and sight of these by the school office will be acceptable. Thank you.

