

Newsletter

Newsletter Date: 24 March 2023



We are resilient We are responsible We are caring We are confident We are inspired We are aspirational

Headteacher's Message:

Dear Parents/Carers

We have an HMI Inspector in school today carrying out a monitoring visit. We welcome this visit as it gives us the chance to celebrate all the great things our children achieve in school. I would like to remind you again that you can share your views about our school by logging in to the Ofsted Parent View link below.

<https://parentview.ofsted.gov.uk/>

You should have received a letter from the Chair of Governors on Wednesday this week. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to come and chat with either Ms Evans or myself. We are both available at the parents evenings next week.

It was lovely to see some of you on Friday morning. I hope that you enjoyed looking at their autumn/spring term topic books. Next week is the last formal Parents Evenings for this academic year. If you haven't already done so, don't forget to book your teacher/parent slot.

I was so proud of our 'Look who's talking' entries. I was fortunate to see the Year 5 and Year 6 entries from the Tewkesbury area. See below for more information

On the last page of this newsletter there are some helpful tips to support reading at home.

Kind Regards
Maria Budd

Deputy Headteacher's Message:

Dear Parents/Carers

Wow! What an amazing week of sports' achievement this week. We entered two teams into the Tewkesbury Primary Schools' Netball Tournament and came away with some more silverware for our trophy cabinet. Team B won all their games and were overall winners. Team A



won two games and drew one. There was a nail-biting penalty shoot-out and they just missed out on a place in the final but won the 3rd/4th play-off and picked up bronze medals. It was a privilege to watch and we are so proud of them all!

Kind Regards
Tris Evans

PTFA: What's coming up!

27/03/23 - Great Egg Challenge. This year the entries need to be in school on **Monday 27 March (NOT BEFORE PLEASE AND EGGS MUST BE HARD BOILED)** for the winners to be announced in assembly on **Tuesday 28 March**.

29/03/23 - Easter Egg Hunt. We will be scattering pictures of eggs around the school grounds. Every child who finds one will bring it to the hall and exchange **£1.50** for an Easter egg! This will be held at school pick up.



Rugby: On Wednesday, twelve children took part in the Newlands Tag Rugby Festival. Everyone had a good time with some great rugby on show. Having only lost once, the children showed some real improvement on previous years. Thank you to all parents for your continued support. *Mr Evans*



Look who's talking! This week two of our pupils took part in the second round of the 'Look who's talking!' Gloucestershire speaking and listening competition. Pupils had to talk for two minutes on a topic of their choice in front of a live audience.

Oscar

Oscar was one of thirteen Year 3 & 4 children from schools across the Tewkesbury district, who competed at Highnam C of E Primary Academy on Monday. Oscar engaged the audience, was confident, humorous and very passionate about his chosen topic, 'My Family'. He was extremely unlucky not to get through to the final but was totally awesome!

Freya

Freya spoke about Anne Boleyn. She was one of 14 children to enter and spoke clearly and with expression. Again, unfortunately she did not win but we are very proud of her.



Together We Learn and Grow

Commendations: Congratulations to our Golden Book Award winners. Congratulations also to Ash class who won this week's attendance with 98.9%



Easter Holiday Courses
Tewkesbury School Sports Centre
 Monday 3 April - Thursday 6 April /
 Tuesday 11 April - Friday 14 April

Tewkesbury School Sports Centre have lots of exciting holiday courses on offer throughout the Easter holidays.

Courses run from 9am to 4pm but are open from 8.30am onwards. All children are required to be collected at 4pm. Please be aware that they are unable to accept any children under the age of 5 years on our courses. Please click

[HERE](#) to book.

In School this week:



Year 5 have been learning how to create hyperlinks for a website.

In computing, **Year 4** have been learning about blogging. Pupils brainstormed topics and ideas for their own blog, whilst remembering the aspects of online safety.



In **Sycamore Class** we have been having lots of fun learning chords C and G on the ukulele.



Year 6 have been preparing for the residents of Magnolia House to visit and share in 'Afternoon Tea' with us next week. We followed a recipe and made scones (DT). The Open The Book team would like to invite all children and their families to Craft Sundays at St Nicholas Church, Ashchurch. They happen on the first Sunday of every month. Families can make things together, learn new songs and hear a short story. All are welcome.



Year 3 had a wonderful Easter experience at St Nicholas Church.

Reading Challenge:

Congratulations to pupils in Elm, Beech, Sycamore & Birch class this week who all came **1st with 100% of pupils** reading at least 4 times each week.

2nd - Willow 96% **3rd** - Ash 91%

Please can you support us in encouraging your child to read at least 4 times per week & ensure that they bring their signed Reading Records into school.
 Thank you.



Term Dates:

Term Four: Mon 27 Feb - Fri 31 March

Term Five: Mon 17 April - Fri 26 May

Term Six: Mon 5 Jun - Tues 25 Jul

INSET DAYS - children do not attend school

Friday 26 May

Monday 24th & Tuesday 25th July

BANK HOLIDAYS - children do not attend school

Monday 1 May

Monday 8 May

Dates for your Diary:

Monday 27 March - Parents Evening (3.30-5.30pm)

Thursday 30 March - Parents Evening (5.00-8.00pm)

Thursday 4 May - Year 3 swimming starts



House Points: Congratulations!

Which house is in the lead so far this term?

1st place - Emerald
 2nd place - Ruby
 3rd place - Sapphire



EMERALD are the winning house this term. All pupils in Emerald can wear non-uniform on Friday 31 March.



7 Top Tips to Support Reading at Home

Shared reading is a great way to develop children's language and communication and to boost their reading skills. Regular reading routines can offer lots of opportunities for learning during school closures.

- 1 Concentrate on reading quality (it isn't all about reading lots!)**



Don't worry too much about the 'what' and 'how' of reading each day. Books are great—but leaflets, comics, recipes and instructions on a webpage can all be great too. Following a recipe to make some cupcakes is valuable reading. Be on the lookout for reading, wherever it is!

- 2 Ask your child lots of questions**



All reading matters. Shared reading is about 'reading with', not just 'reading to' (even for older children). So, ask lots of 'Wh' questions, such as Who? What? When? Where? Why? Try them when talking about books: for example, 'what do you think Harry is feeling?'

- 3 Ask your child to make predictions about what they have read**



If it is a book, look at the front cover—or the last chapter—and talk about what might happen next. Look for clues in the book and be a reading detective! For example, 'can you see the bear on the front cover? Where do you think he will go?'

- 4 Ask your child to summarise what they have read**



When you've finished reading, talk about what happened. Acting out the things that happened in the story or describing the big idea of a chapter is really fun and maximises learning. For example, 'can you remember all the things that happened on the bear hunt?'

- 5 Ask your child to write about what they have read**



Write, or draw pictures, from anything you've read! Big writing and pictures are even more fun. For example, use an old roll of wallpaper to make a treasure map with clues from the stories you've read together.

- 6 Read and discuss reading with friends or family**



Make books a part of the family. Encourage your child to share them with a relative or friend, over a video call. Laugh about them when you are making meals together. For example, 'I hope the tiger doesn't come to tea today!'

- 7 Maintain the motivation to read**



Talk about the joy of reading whenever you can. Your child is on an amazing journey to becoming a reader. Put them in the driving seat and have fun on the way! For example, 'choose your favourite story for bedtime tonight.'

Education Endowment Foundation (2018). *Preparing for Literacy: Improving Communication, Language and Literacy in the Early Years*. Education Endowment Foundation: London. Available online: eef.org.uk/eef-literacy-early-years

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