



Diary

19th February-23rd February



Monday 19 th	Swimming	
Tuesday 20 th	Messy Church in Community Room	

Book Week reminder

Thursday 1st March is World Book Day – we are asking that children (and staff!) dress up as a book character.

Reports

You can expect the main report of the year on Friday 2nd March. This will allow you time to read it before the Parent/Teacher Consultations 2 weeks later (13th and 15th March). We will send an email to let you know when sign-up sheets for these meetings are going up. The Otter Class and Fox Class trip to Chichester Planetarium is also on the 13th but the children will be back well before the first appointments.

Communications

All correspondence will now be going out via email. Consent forms are not required for most trips but you will always be kept informed about when and why these trips are taking place.

Reminders of trips/events will be written on the whiteboard by the entrance to the playground and will also go out in the Newsletter diary section each Friday one week in advance.

Please check the dates for the academic year at the bottom of the newsletter regularly as these can sometimes change.

Newsletters and letters can also be found on our website.

“Roasting battles”

I have discovered this week that some of our older pupils have adopted a game that seems to have originated on the ‘Roast Me’ thread on Reddit. The original thread involves people inviting others to ‘roast’ or insult them. I’m sure you don’t need me to explain the consequences of such a ‘game’, particularly with young children. Please could you support the school by reminding them that what may be intended as a game can have very real and upsetting consequences. I have explained to the children that such games are not welcome in school (or out of school) and will be monitoring to ensure that they do not re-appear.

Supply teachers

We are aware that we have had an increase in the number of supply teachers covering classes over the last 2 weeks. This has been unavoidable due to both staff illness and pre-arranged training. While we are very careful with regard to the teachers we use, we know it can be unsettling for some children. I will continue to monitor the amount of supply we use after half term to ensure that any disruption be kept to a minimum.

Adviser feedback

This week we had our termly visit from our independent adviser. The focus on the visit was on teaching and learning in the school. We spent time visiting classrooms and looking at students' work as well as sharing the outcomes of our internal monitoring work. Her report includes the following observations:

- "Tasks appropriate, focussed learning, ownership of environment by pupils"
- "Learning environment is well organised with good prompts and 'scaffolds' [for learning, not to keep the ceiling up!] to support pupils that reflect their current learning"
- "Pupils were confident and able to explain their learning task"
- "Pupils said the level of challenge was 'about right'"
- "Good use of additional adults to provide support"

She also noted that our teaching and learning policy (available from our website) is "a very comprehensive document with sound pedagogy".

Pupil feedback

As part of our preparation for the visit we spoke to pupils from a number of year groups. Here are some of their general responses.

- "[School] is actually fun"
- "You learn skills at school that will help you get a job when you are older"
- "I like English because I like to use my imagination and be creative"
- "I used to hate Maths but now I can literally do all [the teacher] asks me to do!"
- "I'm proud of making progress at school" (all the children asked could explain what progress was)

Star of the Week – (w/e 2/2/18)



I hope you have a great half term and I look forward to seeing the children back in school on Monday 19th February.

Simon Simmons

Headteacher

Diary dates

Diary dates Spring Term

February 12th – Half Term

February 20th – Messy Church

February 26th – PTA

February 26th-March 2nd – Book Week

March 1st – World Book Day – Dress as a Book character

March 6th – Brian Moses author visit

w/c 12th March – Book Fair

March 13th – Otter & Fox trip to Chichester Planetarium

March 13th – Parent Teacher Consultation – 5:30 – 7:30

March 15th – Parent Teacher Consultation – 3:45-5:00

March 19th – Hedgehog Class Assembly – 2:55

March 20th – Messy Church

March 21st – Class photos

March 22nd – Dormouse & Hedgehog trip to Amberley Museum

March 28th – Easter Egg hunt

March 29th – Break up at 1:30