



Well here we are at the end of January. I love the build up to Christmas in school but I equally love coming back in January to a clean, tidy school with children all ready to work again.

### Teachers across school attend IT training

Teachers in every year group were out of school for one day at some point during the first two weeks of term, attending IT training with a man called Mr P. Training was aimed at increasing teachers' knowledge around apps and programmes available to schools to support and enhance teaching and learning in the classroom. Hopefully as teachers put this training into action, your children will let you know about new ways in which they are using IPADs in school to help them learn.



### Parents Information Sessions

Last week, parents of children in **year 6** attended an information session around SATS testing in May. I have received positive feedback from parents as to the usefulness of this meeting.

During Parents meetings this term (WB March 2<sup>nd</sup>) parents of children in year 1 will receive information about the phonics screening test scheduled for June. This will be followed up with an information session for all parents. In the meantime if individual parents would like any clarification regarding phonics then please ask your child's class teacher.

Teachers in year 2 also submit statutory assessments for children at the end of year 2. These assessments are based on on-going performance in class as well as more formal assessments marked by teachers in school. Teachers will let parents know more information

about this process on a 1-1 basis during parents meetings this term (WB March 2<sup>nd</sup>)

### Fundraising to support wildlife caught up in the Australian bushfires.

Our assembly on Monday this week was led by four children from year 5; Isabel, Megan, Sophie and Gracie. These four girls came to see me in December wanting to hold a non-uniform day during the spring term to help raise money for a rainforest charity. They had been learning in class about the effects of rainforest destruction and wanted to do something to help. On return to school in January, they came to see me again but having seen on the news about the destruction of animal habitats by the wildfires in Australia they wanted to change the focus of their fundraising. So – after some discussion and research, we are going to hold a 'Wear something red to show you love the planet' day on the last day of this half term (February 14<sup>th</sup>). All we ask for is a donation (suggested £1.00) and we will make sure that all money raised will go to the World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF) Australian Wildfire Appeal. I am constantly overwhelmed by our children's desire to help others, especially when it is based on current events and news.



### Bright Futures Week

The week beginning 10<sup>th</sup> February is our annual 'Bright Futures Week'.



This is when we focus on the aspirations and hopes for the future of all our children across the whole school. You may have been approached by your child's class teacher about coming into class to talk to the children about your job. If this is the case or if you would like to be part of the week then please contact one of our class teachers. This is such a great week and it is so good for our children to hear about all the different sorts of opportunities that are out there for them and it is never too early for them to start thinking

about their hopes and dreams for their future. My favourite last year was someone in reception who wanted to be a princess or a ninja!

### Spring Term Parents Meetings

Letters will go out to parents just before half term regarding parents meetings for this term. However, if you want to pencil the dates in your diary then please note that this term we will be offering parent interview times on Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> and Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> March.

### How you can help school get extra money through Service Pupil Premium!

Parents involved or previously involved with the regular armed forces please read the information below as your entitlement may also entitle the school to extra money to further support your child.

### What is the Service Pupil Premium?

The Department for Education introduced the Service Pupil Premium (SPP) in April 2011 in recognition of the specific challenges children from service families face and as part of the commitment to delivering the armed forces covenant.

State schools, academies and free schools in England, which have children of service families in school years Reception to Year 11, can receive the SPP funding. It is designed to assist the school in providing the additional support that these children may need and is currently worth £300 per service child who meets the eligibility criteria.

### Eligibility criteria

**Pupils attract the SPP if they meet the following criteria:**

- one of their parents is serving in the regular armed forces
- they have been registered as a 'service child' on the January school census at any point since 2015, see footnote [1](#)
- one of their parents died whilst serving in the armed forces and the pupil receives a pension under the Armed Forces Compensation Scheme or the War Pensions Scheme
- pupils with a parent who is on full commitment as part of the full time reserve service are classed as service children

If you think your child may be eligible, please contact Mrs Measor in the school office.

### Diary Dates

Friday 7 <sup>th</sup> February	Scotland (3GW) class assembly. Parents invited at 9.45am.
WB Mon 10 <sup>th</sup> February	Whole school Bright Futures Week
Friday 14 <sup>th</sup> February	Non-uniform day. Wear Red for donation of £1.00 (suggested) Money raised to go to the WWF Australian Wildfire Appeal
Friday 14 <sup>th</sup> February	USA (6SF) class assembly. Parents invited at 9.45am.
Monday 24 <sup>th</sup> February	Children return to school after half term
Friday 28 <sup>th</sup> February	India (5RH) class assembly. Parents invited at 9.45am.
WB 2 <sup>nd</sup> March	Parent Meetings
Friday 6 <sup>th</sup> March	Cardiff (2LC) class assembly. Parents invited at 9.45am.
Friday 13 <sup>th</sup> March	Darlington (1NR) class assembly. Parents invited at 9.45am.
Friday 20 <sup>th</sup> March	London (2AB) class assembly. Parents invited at 9.45am.
WB 30 <sup>th</sup> March	Year 3/4 concert performance of 'Joseph and the amazing Technicolour Dream Coat' Letters and more information to follow.
Friday 3 <sup>rd</sup> April	Last day of the Spring Term

### TERM DATES 2019/20

#### Spring

Half term	Close	Fri 14 <sup>th</sup> Feb 2020
	Re-open	Mon 24 <sup>th</sup> Feb 2020
Easter	Close	Fri 3 <sup>rd</sup> April 2020

#### Summer

Term starts		Mon 20 <sup>th</sup> April 2020
May Day		<u>Fri 8<sup>th</sup> May</u>
Half term	Close	Fri 22 <sup>nd</sup> May 2020
	Re-open	Mon 1 <sup>st</sup> June
2020		
Easter	Close	Fri 17 <sup>th</sup> July 2020

Professional Development Days remaining for 2019/20  
Monday 20<sup>th</sup> July 2020

Year 6 SATS Test week  
WB 11<sup>th</sup> May 2020