

## Dear parents,

What a blustery weekend! I hope you and your homes have survived storm Ciara. At school we've had a great half term with lots of wider opportunities to learn. Enjoy reading about them.



## Skillzone

The children in KS enjoyed wonderful days at Skillzone in Gloucester. They learned about a wide range of safety issues including fire safety, road safety, safety in the home and online safety. The adults leading the activities commented on how well the children behaved and how well they actively participated in the session. Well done KS2.

The children said:

Chloe Mc: I liked going into the village, It looked like real life.

Hero/Scarlett: We liked the custody suite and prison cell. It was fascinating to see what it was like behind the desk and in the cell.

Emma: I enjoyed learning about internet safety through the 'Do You Know' computer games.

Matilda: I liked the danger house. We had to find lots of things which were dangerous like trailing leads, saucepans handles facing out. In one room an i-Pad was charging under a pillow. We learned it started a fire in 6 minutes.

Thank you to Mrs Birch and the teachers for organising the educational visits.

## Cyber –Safety

We are delighted our local BEAT Officer, PC Weedon came to run a session on cyber safety with Y6. The focus of the session was on what to share online—they had a great debate where PC Weedon helped them think through the implications of sharing different information. The children explored a mock facebook page where they identified information a child had shared in error. In addition they watched and discussed NSPCC clips, learned about the age ratings of apps and discussed safe phone use. The children said:

Imi & Toby: I enjoyed working with friends to sort out what was ok to share on line and what could lead to problems.

Max: It was interesting finding out about age limits on apps/sites.

Bella: I liked using one of our school values with my table friends—cooperation—to discuss and decide what was good to post on a social media site.

Nel: I learned to make up random names not real names when using apps/online games.

Finley: I learned billions of people use the internet everyday!

If you want to know more about internet safety the NSPCC is a useful place to start:

<https://www.nspcc.org.uk/keeping-children-safe/online-safety/>

The Think You Know website is useful for children: <https://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/>



## School Council

Following on from winning the local Christmas tree festival with their recycled tree, the School Council representatives are exploring single use plastic within classrooms. We look forward to finding ways to reduce our use when they have collated and discussed their findings. Thank you to Mrs Yorke, Mrs Lord and Mrs Bedwell for supporting the School Council with their project.

## Parent Evenings

Parent evenings will be held on March 3rd and 12th. We are moving to an online booking system this year to make the process easier for everyone involved. Mrs Birch will send further information this week.

## Popcorn Nights

Both popcorn nights proved popular again this year. The children were wonderful at both and showed good manners. They enjoyed the film and treats provided. A huge thank you to Mrs Hayward and Mrs Wood for leading the events again and all the helpers who contributed to the evenings. Also, our thanks go to Mrs Holloway who led an active and fun dance between films for KS1—I enjoyed joining in too!

## Cake and Hot Chocolate

Thank you to the parents in class 5 for contributing to the cake stall and hot chocolate sale. There were many sticky fingers and happy smiles by the end of the sale—it was lovely to start the weekend with a little treat. Thank you to Mrs Wheeler and Miss Collins for leading the sale so well. The next cake sale is to be led by Class 2 on February 28th.

## School Security

We have moved to a fobbing system to ensure the external doors of the school are closed. Though we are a low risk site due to location, we felt fobbing the doors increased the security of the school in a way which would support children, adults and property. We have asked the children not to open the external doors to non staff adults, even if known, and they are following this guidance well. We are in the early stages of implementing the system and the children and staff have taken to it brilliantly.

## Dates for your diary

We have listed below some of the key dates for your diary.

### Spring Term 1 : 2020

#### January

- Mon 6th - INSET — For staff
- Tues 7th - First day of Spring Term 3 for children**
- Fri 10th - C4 Creative Dance Day. Parents welcome for performance at 2.50pm
- Thurs 16th - Y3 and Y4 swimming weekly lessons commence
- Fri 24th - Popcorn Night KS1
- Tues 28th - Y3/4: Skillzone Educational Visit: Fire Safety—1.00pm-3.45pm
- Wed 29th - Y5/6: Skillzone Educational Visit: Fire Safety—1.00pm-3.45pm
- Fri 31st - PA Cake Sale (C5)

#### February

- Tues 4th - Y6 Internet Safety with Beat Officer PC Weedon
- Fri 7th - Popcorn Night
- Mon 10th - Tag Rugby match—children will be informed if selected for the squad
- Thurs 13th - Rec & KS1 Fire Safety - visit from local firefighter
- Y6 visit to Wick Court Farm
- Fri 14th - C1 Assembly 10am—parents welcome
- Fri 14th - Last day of Spring Term 3**
- Mon 24th - First day of Spring Term 4**
- Fri 28th - PA Cake Sale (C2)

#### March

- Mon 2nd - Tag Ruby Festival at Painswick
- Tues 3rd - Cyber Safety workshops: all classes
- Parent Evening
- Thurs 5th - World Book Day
- Y1 & Y2 Forest Ambassador sessions start
- Fri 6th - C3 Creative Dance Day. Parents welcome at 2.50pm for performance
- Thurs 12th - Parent Evening
- Fri 13th - C5 Assembly 10am—parents welcome
- Thurs 19th - Japanese Day—we will welcome 40 Japanese students to work with us for the morning. TBC
- Fri 20th - Y2 multiskills interschool competition at Stratford Park Leisure Centre
- Thurs 26th - Y1 & Y2 Forest Ambassadors session at Woodchester Woods
- Fri 27th - C2 Assembly 10am—parents welcome

#### April

- Thurs 2nd - Class Egg Hunts**
- Y5 and Y6 swimming weekly lessons commence
- Easter Egg Draw after school
- Last day of Spring Term 4**
- Fri 3rd - INSET— Staff only
- Sat 25th - PA & Playgroup Egg Hunt: 11-4pm—come and join the fun!



Thank you for your continued support,