



Diary Dates:

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| 13-17/2/17 | Half Term |
| 20/7/17 | Pupils return to school |
| 21/2/17 | Action Plan Meeting 6pm |
| 24/2/17 | BBC 'Any Questions' at Edwinstree |
| 27/2/17 | Y8 Visit National Gallery |
| 2/3/17 | World Book Day |
| 2/3/17 | Y8 Parents' Evening 3:45pm-6:45pm |
| 6/3/17 | Y6 – Crucial Crew Visit |
| 7/3/17 | Year 5 SAT Information Evening |
| 7/3/17 | Y8 Parents' Evening 3:45pm-6:45pm |
| 9/3/17 | Choir Festival- Freman College 7pm-9pm |
| 14/3/17 | Y6 Parents' Feedback Meeting - Eng & Maths 12:15pm-4:30pm |
| 20/3/17 | Year 6 Preparation for SATs event |
| 21/3/17 | Y6 Parents' Feedback Meeting - Eng & Maths 12:15pm-4:30pm |
| 27-30/3/17 | Normandy Visit |
| 3-17/4/17 | Easter Holidays |
| 19/4/17 | Y6 NHS Measure Height & Weight |
| 29/5-2/6/17 | Half Term |
| 21/7/17 | End of Term – School finishes 2:30pm |

Reminder – No Year 7 Saturday intervention lessons until 25/2/17 after half term

Changes to Year 6 Timetable

The Y6 timetables are being adapted in the run up to SATs, to add one extra hour of maths on a Friday; there is currently no maths on a Friday for Y6. The extra lesson will be with their regular maths teacher. For many pupils, the 3-day gap between Thursday and Monday maths lesson is making it harder for them to retain new learning and skills. The new timetable will begin after half term and run until SATs week. This is an opportunity to ensure full coverage of the curriculum and an additional opportunity to improve their skills and understanding. One of the Y6 humanities lessons will be postponed in order to facilitate this; Y6 will continue to have their other humanities lessons at the usual times - coverage of the full humanities timetable will recommence after SATs week. Thank you to all parents for your feedback at parents' evening. Please continue to encourage your child to choose useful tasks for 'Pick and Mix' home learning in order to support their transition into independent learners who know what they need to work on next.

LA Review

The LA Review will be published after half term, apologies for the delay. The next Ofsted Action plan meeting for Parents will be held on Tuesday 21st February 2017. You will be able to see the full report, hear the Action Plan and what is being implemented to continue our improvements.

Parent View

Have you taken the time to complete this survey? As well as completing the questionnaires at Parents' evening, please also complete the online survey to give us a clear overview of how you are feeling about the school. Results will be published in the newsletter after half term. Can we please encourage you to complete the Ofsted survey on 'Parent View'? We have 151 comments, but many of these were made prior to September. The link to the website is: <https://parentview.ofsted.gov.uk/>

Preparation for Lent and Charity Fundraising

The children voted for Cancer Research UK Kids Teens – specifically the charity supporting teenagers and young children with Cancer.

Pokemon cards

After half term, we have asked students to refrain from bringing in Pokemon cards to school. While the majority have managed the cards well, too many students are now bringing in whole sets of cards, worth a significant amount of money. As we move into spring, there are more opportunities to play outdoors (we hope). Please support us, by making sure your child leaves these cards at home. If we do see cards in school after half term, they will be confiscated and parents will be contacted to come and collect them from the Office at your convenience.

Supporting the campaign to eradicate Bullying.

Our Anti bullying team will be back in Collective Worship next half term, reminding students how they can get help and support if someone is being mean to them. Can we please ask that you are also vigilant in making sure that if your child is telling you they have a problem, this is reported to a member of staff? Our biggest frustration is when a child does not tell us what is happening - how can we help if we don't know? So please report in to your child's tutor and or Head of Year, we will act immediately.

Reading over half term:

Please make sure your child continues to read for a minimum of twenty minutes, five times a week during half term. Thank you for your support.

ABSENCES

Please note that any lates or absences must be accounted for by **letter** the day your child returns to school. We are sorry that e-mails are not acceptable for this purpose. If your child has been absent due to sickness and or diarrhoea, please make sure your child is 48 hours clear of symptoms before returning to school.

Jo Gant
Headteacher