



Diary Dates:

- 30/1/16 **Big Sing – Choir at Saffron Walden**
- 2/2/17 **Y7 Parents' Evening Eng/Maths/Sci only 3:45pm-6:45pm**
- 7/2/17 **Y7 Parents' Evening Eng/Maths/Sci only 3:45pm-6:45pm**
- 20/2/17 **Year 6 Preparation for SATs event**
- 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**
- 14/3/17 **Y6 Parents' Feedback Meeting - Eng & Maths 12:15pm-4:30pm**
- 21/3/17 **Y6 Parents' Feedback Meeting - Eng & Maths 12:15pm-4:30pm**
- 27-30/3/17 **Normandy Visit**

Buntingford Film Festival – Bringing the Cinema back to Buntingford 15th to 19th February 2017, for further details please see details attached.

Normandy Visit 2018

Please can you ensure that all reply slips are returned as soon as possible (whether students want to go or not) so that we can commence discussions with the travel company to negotiate a better estimate of price. Pupils will travel on a collective passport, however if your child was born outside of the UK, please contact the school office as an additional form will need to be completed. If you have any further queries, please contact Miss Bustard.

LA Review

Next week the school will undergo, by request, a mini inspection with the support the Local Authority. This is a mock inspection not Ofsted. It has been arranged in order to chart our progress and return to "good". On Tuesday 31/1/17 a variety of observers will be visiting the school, considering lessons, speaking to students and staff, trawling books and considering our data with regard to progress. The results will be returned to the Governors the following week, and a summary report will be published by half term. The next Parent Ofsted Action Plan meeting will take place on Tuesday 21st February 2017 at 6pm.

In order to support this review, we would like to encourage you to return to 'Parent View' which is the Ofsted website for Parents to score your school on a variety of characteristics. The link to the website is: <https://parentview.ofsted.gov.uk/>

If you are willing to share your views, we would very much appreciate you spending 10 minutes accessing this site. As part of any inspection process, the Parent's voice is important and this is our opportunity

to hear yours. Thank you in advance for anyone who is able to take the time to do this.

Gaining trust and talking to the school

I have had a number of Parents apologise for coming into the school to share a concern and or issue about their child. Can I stress, as we begin to build your trust again, that the school is a caring school and will deal with all issues sensitively and effectively. I encourage you take the step of phoning, or coming in to school if you have any worry at all. It is our job to listen and support. A school that is aligned with parent and child is a successful school. Can I also stress that our one frustration is, if there is an issue and we don't know about it – we can't do anything about it.

I hope that our work is beginning to show that we are proactive and will listen and support. Please talk to us, even if you believe it only to be a small niggle.

World Book Day – Thursday 2nd March 2017

On World Book Day Edwinstree will be following the tradition where students come to school dressed as their favourite book characters, further details to follow.

Year 5 - How to support your child in the build up to their SAT exam.

We will be running an evening session to familiarise Year 5 Parents with the SAT exam, and to provide advice on how you can begin to prepare your child. The evening session will also include information on what we will be doing to support students and the learning that will take place. If you would like to attend an early bird introduction to the SATs. You can attend our Parent event on Tuesday 7th March 2017.

Year 6 Preparation for the SAT

We will be offering a further session for Parents on how to support your child with the SAT exams on Monday 20th February 2017. This is a follow up session and is differentiated into three sessions to focus on the particular needs of your child. You will be invited to the session most relevant to your child. In the meantime please continue to read five times a week with your child and to use the Key Stage 2 detective sheets to support your child by asking them questions about the text they are reading. Not only do they need to comprehend what they have read, they also need to infer – that is to think around the text, imagine what feelings and emotions are going on and what might happen next.

Reading for all students.

At the recent Homework Forum we discussed the importance of supporting your child to read all manner of articles and or information, not just their reading book. As Parents, we are lucky to be supported by you, as your help has provided us with confident readers. Next week we will be publishing a list of reading material relevant to your child, to give them a variety of different reading material, other than basic fiction. Once you have received the list, can we encourage you to take the time to investigate the list and to choose something to read from it with your child. Thank you for your support.

Changes to classes this term

Mrs Gant's History 6D class is now being taught by Mrs Sibley, the class had a formal hand over last week. 6G Geography and History class will now be taught by Mrs Sibley and Year 7 RE class will now be taught by Mrs Gant. All teachers have met, and discussed the children's progress.

Please be aware that we will be adding an additional Maths lesson to all Year 6 classes in the lead up to the SAT exams. Next week we will publish which classes change from February half term until May, which is likely to be one of our Humanities classes. The theory behind this is to ensure that they are not having a large gap between Thursday lesson and Monday in the lead up to the SAT exam.

Jo Gant**Headteacher**

Incl Buntingford Film Festival

Letter from Chair