

# WHAT'S ON

24<sup>th</sup> November 2017

## DIARY DATES 27<sup>th</sup> NOVEMBER – 1<sup>st</sup> DECEMBER

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
3.15 – 4.10pm Mini Tennis club	No clubs today	3.15 - 4pm 3D Art club Maths Games/Bug Club Mindfulness club	8 – 8.45am Yoga club  3.15 – 4.15pm Basketball club	8 – 8.45am Running club  3.15 -4pm Dance club  3.15 – 4.15pm Football club

### SHOOTING STARS!

-  **Simba** for wonderful writing and describing the scene during the Great Fire of London!
-  **Kefira** for marvellous Maths work - showing both confidence and accuracy when dividing by 5 and 10!
-  **Logan** for trying hard with his Phonics and persevering throughout the week!
-  **Harry** for always helping adults to tidy up the classroom!
-  **Dougie** for lovely reading in Phonics!
-  **Alex** for brilliant pirate writing!
-  **Holly** for trying hard to use capital letters & full stops!
-  **Flora** for asking & answering questions during guided reading!
-  **Austen** for great tidying in the role play area & excellent number work!
-  **Joey & Oliver L** for doing brilliant drawings of people on their whiteboards!
-  **Vinnie** for trying so hard to write his name this week!
-  **Jacob** for brilliant phonics & writing this week!

### BEST ATTENDANCE

	
<b>WHOLE SCHOOL</b>	<b>95.7%</b>
<b>TARGET 2017-18</b>	<b>97%</b>
	
<b>97.9%</b>	<b>94.3%</b>
	
<b>97.9%</b>	<b>94.5%</b>
	
<b>95.1%</b>	<b>94.7%</b>

### LETTERS HOME

- Ofsted report
- Phonics Meeting/Family Learning Time sign up form (ParentMail)
- Headlice notification
- Basketball taster session letter

### BEST BEHAVIOUR

Unfortunately everyone was too noisy this week so there is no best class. We are working to improve the noise levels in the hall at lunchtime!

### FAB FOUR!

	<b>George &amp; Edward</b>
	<b>Anne-Marie &amp; Logan</b>
	<b>Margie &amp; Alexa</b>
	<b>Cezar &amp; Isla</b>
	<b>Eduarda &amp; Grace</b>
	<b>Albie &amp; Asaph</b>

### MESSAGE FROM MRS CASTELL

Happy New Year! The children started back in earnest and it was lovely to see them rested and with us. Our EYFS children were

very excited to go onto the large playground at lunchtimes. I was delighted to be able to share our OFSTED report with you at last and we are all very pleased with the end result. Your lovely



"A special place where everyone feels included and valued and achieves their best."

comments are much appreciated by us all – thank you for being so supportive.

On Tuesday 2nd January staff trained with other staff from our cluster of schools, looking at different approaches to teaching and interactions with children.

We already have a number of events this term, please see our website or the list sent out previously for the dates. Please sign up via ParentMail to let us know if you can attend Family Learning Time and our Phonics meeting on Tuesday 30th January. Parent Forum will follow the next Family Learning Time on 13th March and Foxes class assembly next term will be on 1st May at 9.15am. A reminder that the dates for having school dinner with your child are as follows:

- 21st Feb – Foxes class at 11.45
- 28th Feb – Squirrels class at 11.45
- 7th March – Turtles class at 12.10
- 14th March – Parrots class at 12.10
- 21st March – Sharks class at 12.10
- 28th March – Dolphins class at 12.10

Some of you may be aware there was a serious incident involving one of our children before Christmas along the road by the village green. Following concerns raised from parents Mr Taylor and I met with a representative from 3PR – the School Parking initiative from the South East Essex Parking Partnership – on the last day of term. 3PR stands for three parking rules, to park with care, consideration and caution. There will be a further meeting to meet with our school councils to plan further what we are going to do and where we are going to designate as a no-parking zone. The plan is to work towards a whole cross-school reward later in the year. We all know the frustration of how the roads around the school get clogged up and impassable and I urge parents to consider parking around the green or in the parish car park and then it is just a short walk down to the school. We did talk to the Parish council about the buses but the timetable will not be changed.

A reminder that we love to share medals, certificates, trophies etc. from the children to celebrate their achievements outside of school. The items should be brought to the office on a Friday.

Please also remember to use our new email address [parents@writtle-inf.essex.sch.uk](mailto:parents@writtle-inf.essex.sch.uk).

Have a good weekend.

Regards  
Helen Castell

## ATTENDANCE

We are committed to ensuring all children are safe and part of that commitment is that we know the reasons why children are absent. Mrs Duff has to ring and try to contact parents that have



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not let us know why their children are absent. This seems to be becoming a longer job on some mornings, where parents have not called in by 9.15. This has even included parents who have brought siblings to school that day and could have let the office know as they walked past. Please call by 9.15 – we have an answering machine to take messages before the office is manned at 8am. You could also send an email which will be read first thing. Our attendance policy has a clause that we may even have to visit if we do not get a reason for absence and I don't think you would want me appearing at your door!! A reminder that we appreciate the honesty of holiday requests but I am only allowed to authorise leave in exceptional circumstances.

We have also had a high level of lateness this week. We understand that hold-ups happen and are supportive when there is a valid reason, but the number of children coming in after the 8.55 bell is concerning and it is often the same children. The children start their learning from 8.45 and even ten minutes late a day is nearly an hour of learning lost per week. Lateness after 9.15 can be recorded as unauthorised absence and could lead to further action if ten such absences occur.

## PICK UP ARRANGEMENTS

We are still experiencing situations where parents have not let the office or the ladies on the door in the morning know that someone else is picking them up. With safeguarding expectations we cannot let your children go with an adult unless you have given us clear permission. Someone else telling us that they are taking your child home does not count – we need your permission. We are also having a number of children picked up late. While we appreciate that parents get held up on occasions and we want to help out, it is not fair to expect our office staff to look after sometimes as many as 5 children and teachers to be delayed to get to their many after school commitments, such as clubs, meetings with parents and other meetings.

## SAFEGUARDING

We are obliged to make you aware of the school's duty to safeguard the children in our care. If the school suspects or knows that a child is at risk of significant harm we will make a referral to Social Care. The school does not investigate any disclosures, it is a referring agency. New procedures on safeguarding from the government make it clear that all staff should operate with an "it could happen here" approach to any concerns they may have. If you have any concerns about a child please telephone the Children and Families Operations Hub on 0345 6037627.