



### Parent Readers

Our parent readers are an amazing resource, and we would love to enlist some more! If you can manage just a couple of enjoyable hours each week reading with our children, you can really make a difference.



All volunteers will need to have a DBS check (criminal record check) and a child protection training session which we can provide. Volunteers usually work with children from classes other than their own child's cohort. If you are interested, able to give a weekly commitment, and happy to supply some personal details, please [fill out the register of interest here](#).

### Parent Phonics Workshop

We would like to invite families with children in Nursery, Reception and Year One to a phonics meeting on Friday 29<sup>th</sup> September at 9am in the School Hall. The meeting is to tell you more about our phonics scheme, explain our phonics system and discuss how you can help your child with their phonics and reading at home. It should last for approximately 30 minutes. We hope you are able to join us.

### School Attendance

We will continue to do our best this academic year to encourage high attendance at school.

In line with government guidance, we do send letters out to all families periodically when attendance drops, even when through genuine sickness. We know that this can frustrate families a little, and sincerely apologise in advance for this. We do this because, post-pandemic, **more than 1 in 5 children are frequently missing school** in England, double the amount in 2019, and we cannot sit back and do nothing. Data shows that those children who are regularly absent from school, and/or regularly late, do not achieve their potential and can fall behind. If your child has 10% absence within a year, then they have missed out on 4 weeks of learning (approx. 100 lessons).

### Anxiety

As a school, we are aware that there has been an increase in anxiety-based school absence, and have successfully supported a few families through this, and continue to do so. Professor Chris Whitty, England's Chief Medical Officer, wrote to schools this week advising that, *"Worry and mild or moderate anxiety, whilst sometimes difficult emotions, can be a normal part of growing up for many children and young people. Being in school can often help alleviate the underlying issues. A prolonged period of absence is likely to heighten a child's anxiety about attending in the future, rather than reduce it."*

If you do have worries about your child's absence, please do speak to school staff so that we can work together to support your child and improve attendance.

### Sickness

We absolutely do not want you to send your children to school if they are ill. We are aware that the COVID-19 pandemic may have caused some of us to feel less confident with assessing whether our children are well enough to be in school. Professor Chris Whitty wrote this week: *"It is usually appropriate for parents to send their children to school with mild respiratory illnesses. This would include general cold symptoms: a minor cough, runny nose or sore throat. However, children should not be sent to school if they have a temperature of 38°C or above. There is wide agreement among health professionals and educational professionals that school attendance is vital to the life chances of children and young people. Being in school improves health, wellbeing and socialisation throughout the life course. The greatest benefits come from children attending school regularly."*

Please have a look at the [NHS 'Is my child too ill for school?' guidance](#) for further information.

### Punctuality

Being on time is also vital. Arriving late at school can be very disruptive for you child, the teacher, and the other children in the class. If your child is just 15 minutes late every day, they will miss 2 weeks of learning each year.

### Term-time Holidays

Taking holidays in term time will affect your child's schooling as much as any other absence. Remember that any savings you think you may make by taking a holiday in school time are offset by the cost to your child's education. There is no automatic entitlement in law to time off in school time to go on holiday and as there are already thirteen weeks' school holiday, requests for term time holiday will be refused.

By law, all school-age children must be in full-time education, and as a parent, you are responsible for making sure this happens. Other than sickness and medical absence, the school can only authorise leave in 'exceptional circumstances.'

This year, we will continue to ask the County Attendance Team to issue Penalty Notices for unauthorised holiday. We will now do this on a case-by-case basis looking at current and historic attendance patterns to inform our decisions. Penalties are currently £60 (£120 if paid after 21 days). If penalties are unpaid after 28 days, a summons will be issued for prosecution in the Magistrates Court. This can result in a criminal record and a fine of up to £2,500, a Community Order, Parenting Order, or ultimately a custodial sentence.

Thank you for your understanding and cooperation.

## Times Table Rock Stars (TTRS)

Congratulations to the following students for their hard work on TTRS over the last 7 days.

Most minutes:

Gold	150pts	Erin, Year 3	ROBINS
Silver	100pt	Blai, Year 1	OWLS
Bronze	50pts	Alba, Year 1	ROBINS



Highest minutes by class: Year 6

Highest scores by class: Year 6

## Year 6 applications for Secondary School

The application process for secondary school places is now open and all applications must be submitted by 31 October 2023. If you live in Oxfordshire you must apply online using the [Oxfordshire portal](#); if you live in [Gloucestershire](#) or a different county, you need to use *their* portal. It does not matter which county the schools are based in, you must apply using the online application form for whichever county *you* reside in.

Parents seeking places for their child at an independent (fee-paying) school must apply directly to the relevant school(s).

When you apply using the County application portal, you can list up to four different schools in order of preference. We would advise you to use all four and to ensure that, even if it is not a first preference, that you enter your catchment (local) school as one of your preferences. This does not make it less likely that your child will be offered the school you most want (your first preference) but it does make it less likely that a place will be offered at a school you do not want.

We recommend that you read the school prospectuses and try to visit all the schools you are interested in to be sure that the school feels right for your child.

If you need any help or advice with the process (we cannot advise on schools), please do speak to Mr Prockter.

## PARENT MENTAL HEALTH GROUP

## TAKE PART

**TUESDAYS: 19 SEPT, 17 OCT, 28 NOV & 19 DEC AT CHIPPY THEATRE**

A MONTHLY COFFEE, CHAT AND MINDFUL CRAFT WORKSHOP FOR PARENTS WHOSE CHILDREN ARE STRUGGLING WITH MENTAL HEALTH.

COME, BE WITH FRIENDS & SUPPORT. SHARE OR JUST LISTEN. JOIN IN OUR MINDFUL CRAFT OR JUST CHAT.

WITH THE THEATRE OUTREACH TEAM & CHIPPY SCHOOL FAMILY SUPPORT WORKER CLAIRE BUDD.

ALL PLACES ARE FREE, BUT PLEASE **BOOK AT:**

[WWW.CHIPPINGNORTONTHEATRE.COM/EVENTS/PARENT-MENTAL-HEALTH-GROUP](http://WWW.CHIPPINGNORTONTHEATRE.COM/EVENTS/PARENT-MENTAL-HEALTH-GROUP)

## Infant/Early Years Drop-off

Just a gentle reminder for those parents with children in Reception to Year 2 that we would really appreciate it where possible if you could say goodbye to your child in the line rather than bringing them to the glass door. This allows teaching staff to focus on those children who do need a little extra support and means the door does not become too crowded and overwhelming for the children. Nursery parents should continue to use this entry as normal.

## Diary Dates

Weds 20 Sep	Year 4 at Chedworth Roman Villa
Tues 26 Sep	Year 6 at Mary Arden's Farm
Weds 27 Sep	CNPS U11s Football Tournament
Fri 29 Sep	Parent Phonics Workshop
Mon 2 Oct	Black History Week
Thurs 5 Oct	Individual/sibling photographs (am)
Fri 6 Oct	Year 5 Class Assembly (2:45pm)
Fri 6 Oct	KPSA Film Night
Tues 10 Oct	Year 2 at British Motor Museum
Weds 11 Oct	CNPS Bocca
Fri 13 Oct	Reception Class Assembly (2:45pm)
Fri 13 Oct	KS2 Halloween Disco
Tues 17 Oct	Parent Online Safety Workshop (2:45pm)
Weds 18 Oct	CNPS U9s / U11s Cross Country
Thurs 19 Oct	Year 5 at Gloucestershire Steam Railway
Fri 20 Oct	Last day of half term
Mon 30 Oct	INSET Day
Tues 31 Oct	First day back
Tues 31 Oct	Flu Vaccinations
Weds 1 Nov	Parents Evening (3:30 - 7pm)
Thurs 2 Nov	Parents Evening (3:30 - 6pm)
Thurs 9 Nov	KPSA Meeting 3:20pm
Fri 10 Nov	KPSA Quiz Night (Village Hall)
Mon 13 Nov	Anti-Bullying Week
Fri 17 Nov	Children in Need
Fri 17 Nov	Year 2 Class Assembly (2:45pm)
Weds 22 Nov	CNPS U11s Netball
Tues 28 Nov	Year 5 Space VR workshop
Weds 29 Nov	CNPS U11s Indoor Athletics
Thurs 30 Nov	CNPS U11s Literary Quiz
Fri 1 Dec	Year 6 Class Assembly (2:45pm)
Fri 1 Dec	KPSA Film Night
Weds 6 Dec	CNPS U9s Ball Festival
Fri 8 Dec	KS2 Disco
Weds 20 Dec	Last day of Autumn Term
Mon 8 Jan	INSET Day
Tues 9 Jan	First day back

## Value of the Month: Curiosity

Curiosity:

is asking questions about what I see, hear and read,  
is being keen to learn and find out about the world,  
is listening to all points of view and developing my own views and solutions