Newsletter 23

Dear Parents and Carers,

The PTFA have decided not to run the Easter Bingo event at the Youth Club on Thursday 28th March. There will therefore be no request for prizes on the previous Friday, 22nd March. It will be a non- uniform day for £1 or 50p to fund prizes for the whole-school bingo which the Rotakids will be running that afternoon. We ran this event successfully last year, but with only Years 2-6. This year we are going to try to include all the children with older ones helping younger ones.

**Forest School equipment appeal from Mrs Beveridge**

We are looking at improving our forest school area so we are sending a list of equipment/resources out to see if you would be happy to donate any of the items before we look into purchasing them.

Logs, for a bug finding area and some larger ones for seating

Items for bug hotel: bamboo canes, straw, old tiles, material cut offs etc.

Woodland animals (soft or plastic toys)

Rope

Any waterproofs for children

Bark chippings.

Bowls, pans, spoons (for mud kitchen) and buckets

Any old timber

Hazel branches

Bird feeders

Small tarpaulins

Wheel barrow/trolley

Fencing to separate our Forest School area from the main play areas.

Many thanks for any contributions, please email the office to pass on offers to Mrs Beveridge.

**Parents Evenings – Bookings still open for today - Monday 4th March, and Thursday 14th March, 3.30-6pm**

You can book your parents evening appointment by logging in to the school website or the eSchools App which you can download onto your phone. The link to the school website is: [https://shaftesburyabbeycofe.eschools.co.uk](https://shaftesburyabbeycofe.eschools.co.uk/)

If you are struggling to book slots yourself, please ring the school office.

**Cinderella by Years 3 and 4 – Performances on 25th March at 2pm and 26th March at 6pm**

Tickets on sale from today (£1 each) from the school office, with an initial allocation of two per performance per family.

**World Book Day – Thursday 7th March**

We don’t want anyone to feel under pressure to dress as a book character, but encourage all children to either dress as a character or wear home clothes and bring a favourite book. As a guide, we’d like children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 to dress as characters from fairy tales or bring a book with a favourite fairy tale in it. They are also welcome to come as other book characters if you have already planned their costume! Older children can choose a character from any book.

There will be a Bedtime Story event back in school from 5-6pm, **please see info attached**. Children to be dropped off in their WBD clothes, or in PJs, onesies, slippers and dressing gowns ready for bed, with a teddy if they want to bring one. Please take children from Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 to their classrooms, older children to the office entrance. All the children are invited to come and listen to stories told by staff in the classrooms around the Hall and Reception. Please drop them at 5pm and pick up at 6pm from the same places unless you have arranged to help the PTFA with refreshments.

Also on World Book Day, we will open our Book Exchange, based by the school office. It will be a place where you can come and find new books for home use, and leave others at the exchange. You don’t have to bring in books to take books, and we ask that any donated books are for primary aged children only, in good condition, and only left if there is space for them on the shelves.

**Reading the Land Festival – 15th -17th March**

There are still lots of tickets for the free events for children.

There are not so many tickets available now for the adult events so they'd recommend buying them soon rather than leaving it too late. There are concessions for students, under 18s and those on low incomes.[www.shaftesburybookfestival.com](http://www.shaftesburybookfestival.com/)

**Rotary fun run – Sunday 7th April**

Our Rotakids will be helping with this event for adults and children who can run 5 or 10km

<https://shaftesburyrotaryclub.org/events/>

**Sports Day Dates**

In the summer term, we will have our Sports Days for Key Stage One and Key Stage Two as follows:

KS1 – (Years R, 1 and 2) – Monday 17th June 1pm-3pm (reserve date 24th June)

KS2 – (Years 3, 4, 5 and 6) – Tuesday 18th June 1pm-3pm (reserve date 25th June)

The KS2 children also have their Field events in the morning, but these are not open to spectators.

**Forest School – Wednesday afternoons**

Year 3 have their first session of Forest School this Wednesday, for two weeks, then Year 4 for the following two weeks (from 20th March) taking us up to Easter.

Children need to have trousers and long sleeved tops, wellies and a waterproof coat (with overtrousers if they have them). The Forest School philosophy is to wear the right clothing to go out in all weathers.

Michael Salisbury, Head teacher

**TERM DATES 2023 – 2024**

Autumn Term

Inset Day                                                        Friday 1st September 2023

Inset Day                                                        Monday 4th September 2023

Children start back                                       Tuesday 5th September 2023

Autumn Half Term                                        Monday 23 October – Friday 27 October 2023

Autumn term ends                                       Friday 15th December 2023 (1pm pick up if you can)

Christmas Holidays                                       Monday 18th December – Tuesday 2nd January 2024

Spring Term

Inset Day                                                        Tuesday 2nd January 2024

Children start back                                       Wednesday 3rd January 2024

Spring half term                                            Monday 12th February to Friday 16th February 2024

Spring Term ends                                          Thursday 28th March 2024

Summer Term

Summer term starts                                       Monday 15th April 2024

May Day Bank Holiday                                  Monday 6th May 2024

Summer half term                                          Monday 27th May to Friday 31st May 2024

Summer term ends                                        Friday 19th July 2024

Inset Day                                                          Monday 22nd July 2024

Inset Day                                                          Tuesday 23rd July 2024