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Dear Parents and Carers,

We start with a strange request for any old pots, pans, lids or metal trays that you would be able to donate to our new ‘Rumble in the Jungle’ music sessions. Mrs Steele would like to create an outdoor music room so that the children can create music to accompany our playtimes! Please send in anything that may be suitable for this.

**School Closed on Monday 14th March**

Please remember that there will be no school on Monday 14th March.

**Covid Update**

At the time of writing, we have no current cases amongst the children or staff.

**Please see the statement below from Dorset Council:**

*There is no longer a legal requirement to self-isolate following a positive test. However, the public health advice remains the same and anyone who has symptoms of COVID-19 or a positive test result should stay at home and avoid contact with other people to avoid spreading the virus to others.*

*Children and young people with COVID-19 should not attend their education setting while they are infectious. They should take an LFD test from 5 days after their symptoms started (or the day their test was taken if they did not have symptoms) followed by another one the next day. If both these tests results are negative, they should return to their educational setting if they normally attend one, as long as they feel well enough to do so and do not have a temperature. They should follow the guidance for their educational setting.*

*In most cases, parents and carers will agree that a pupil with the key symptoms of COVID-19 should not attend school. However, if a parent or carer is insisting on a pupil attending your setting where they have a confirmed or suspected case of COVID-19, you can take the decision to refuse the pupil if, in your reasonable judgement, it is necessary to protect other pupils and staff from possible infection with COVID-19.*

**Parents Evenings – Thursday 17th March 3.30-5.30pm, Monday 21st March 3.30-5.30pm and Thursday 24th March 4.30-6.30pm**

Please book your slots with the teachers using the eSchools App and the login details sent to you just before half term.

**Appeal for Ukrainian refugees**

We had a staggering response to this appeal, filling up the room by my office in two days. The collection point in Shaftesbury Town Hall was inundated with donations. We are very proud to be part of such a caring community. We are looking at ways to further support the people of Ukraine in the coming weeks.

**Reduction in emails**

Since we asked for restraint in the number of emails sent to individual teachers during evenings and weekends, we have been pleased to see a significant reduction. Thank you for looking after the well-being of our staff (including me), by avoiding unnecessary emails.

**PTFA fundraiser**

Please take part in the current fundraiser that challenges the children to raise £22.22 for PTFA funds between the 22nd February (22.02.22) and Easter. Congratulations to James in Y3 who has already completed the challenge!

**Music afternoons**

The next musical afternoon will be for Year 5 with Mrs Pugh this Friday.

**Comic Relief – Friday 18th March, Wear something Red for a £1 donation.**

In preparation for Comic Relief/Red Nose Day, we will be selling Red Noses at £1.50 each from Tuesday 8th March. For the first two days we will have them in the classrooms to give every child the chance to buy one nose, then from Thursday onwards we’ll have them at the front of the school on general sale to everyone.

**Dance Taster Days – Wednesday 9th March (Years 3, 4, 5, 6) and Wednesday 23rd March (Years R, 1 and 2).**

We are delighted to be working with TLW Dance to give all our children the chance to have a dance session with one of their staff during the school day. Please send children in PE kit on their taster day.

**Forest School sessions**

Forest School sessions continue this Wednesday. The first class doing a three -week course in the afternoons are Year 4, followed by Year 3. Then Year 2 after Easter followed by Year 1. Reception children also have sessions on Wednesdays, they go in half-class groups with some of our staff to Fontmell Down in the mornings.

Michael Salisbury, Head teacher

**September 2021 to August 2022**

**Spring Term**

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| INSET DAY | Tuesday 4 January 2022 |
| Children start back | Wednesday 5 January 2022 |
| Spring half term  INSET DAY | Monday 21 February 2022 to Friday 25 February 2022  Monday 14th March 2022 |
| Spring term ends  INSET DAY | Thursday 7 April 2022  Friday 8th April 2022 |
| Easter holidays | Monday 11 April 2022 to Friday 22 April 2022 |

**Summer Term**

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| Children start back | Monday 25 April 2022 |
| Bank Holiday | Monday 2 May 2022 (May Day Bank Holiday) |
| Summer half term | Monday 30 May 2022 to Friday 3 June 2022 |
| INSET DAY | Monday 6 June 2022 |
| Summer term ends | Friday 22 July 2022 |
| Summer holidays | Monday 25 July 2022 to Wednesday 31 August 2022 |

**TERM DATES 2022 – 2023**

Autumn Term

Inset Day Thursday 1st September 2022

Inset Day Friday 2nd September 2022

Children start back Monday 5th September 2022

Autumn Half Term Monday 24 October – Friday 28 October 2022

Autumn term ends Friday 16th December 2022

Christmas Holidays Monday 19th December – Monday 2nd January 2023

Spring Term

Inset Day Tuesday 3rd January 2023

Children start back Wednesday 4th January 2023

Spring half term Monday 13th February to Friday 17th February 2023

Spring Term ends Friday 31st March 2023

Summer Term

Summer term starts Monday 17th April 2023

Summer half term Monday 29th May to Friday 2nd June 2023

Summer term ends Friday 21st July 2023

Summer holidays Monday 24th July to Thursday 31st August 2023