Dear Parents and Carers,

This week we have our little Remembrance event on the playground at 11am on Friday. We are pleased to have Daisy’s Dad, Matt, playing the Last Post for us, marking the start of our period of silent reflection. Poppies and other items will be available all week at the top of school before and at the end of the school day.

**Bookfair – During Parents Evenings on Monday and Thursday**

Please go along to the school Library during the parents evenings to buy a book or two for your children. There will be a card reader for payments. We all know that books are an absolutely vital part of our children’s education, and a fabulous way for them to enjoy stories and find out information. Buying books from the bookfair also enables the school to buy more lovely new books for all the children to enjoy.

**Foundation Governor Role – Your help is needed**

As a Church of England primary school, we need to have some regular, communicant,  members of a Church of England church on our Governing Body. We currently have two vacancies for people who fit this criteria. Being on our Governing Board involves attending one meeting a month and occasionally coming in to school to look at an aspect of education.

We would be very pleased to hear from anyone who could help us fill one of these roles. Please let me know if you know someone who I could talk to about it.

**Please order your Christmas Cards by  Monday 13th November**

There is only a week to place orders for the Christmas Cards designed by the children, please order them before next Monday.

**Coats every day**

Please could you make sure that children always have a coat during these colder, wetter months of the year. We want the children to be able to be outside for fresh air and exercise every day.

**New School Payment System for All Parents**

Please use the email from Tuesday 10th October which gives instructions on how to download the app called **School Gateway.** This is our new school payment system replacing Pay360, which is no longer in use.  Everyone will need to download the app and use this new payment system for trips and visits in the future. Please do it straight away to avoid the office having to send out lots of reminders. Many thanks, we hope this system will be quick and easy to use for years to come.

**Parenting Support**

Our Early Help team have passed on some useful links for any parents who need a bit of parenting support (I think all us parents do from time to time).

Action for Children offers of support in Dorset:

[Dorset services | Action for Children](https://services.actionforchildren.org.uk/dorset-services/)

The link for overall Parent support:
[Parent Talk - Support for Parents from Action For Children](https://parents.actionforchildren.org.uk/)

The link for Family lives.org, fantastic online resource for parents offering free online courses:
[Online parenting classes | Family Lives](https://www.familylives.org.uk/how-we-can-help/online-parenting-courses)

Here is a link to Internet matters, who offer advice and guidance to parents about supporting their children with their online activities, based on the age of their children:

<https://www.internetmatters.org/?gclid=EAIaIQobChMIuOT2iqPW_AIVwvftCh1QUwuLEAAYASAAEgIBpvD_BwE>

**Forest School – Wednesday afternoons**

Reception have Forest School from Wednesday 1st November, Year 5 from 22nd November, Year 6 from 13th November, Year 2 from 17th January and Year 1 from 7th February.

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

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