

Principal's Newsletter – Friday 20th January 2023

Chinese New Year Celebration

Thank you to all the parents who provided costumes or had their children come dressed in red to celebrate Chinese New Year yesterday. It was a great day celebrated by all and the children produced some amazing work and dragons to help celebrate the day. The children were busy making dragons and we would like to invite you to attend our Chinese Dragon display on **Friday 27th January at 2:30pm** on the school playground.



Keeping Safe in Schools



During assembly this week, we have been speaking to the children about staying safe at school. This week we completed a Fire Drill, to ensure we are able to get the children out safely should the need arise. Next week, we will be practising our Lockdown procedures, to ensure that we are able to get the children inside quickly and safely should we need to. The children have had an assembly around this topic and have had time to speak to their teachers about the many reasons why these procedures keep us safe; this is done in an age-appropriate manner. The children will be having a safety session next where they will run through some of these strategies. Should you wish to discuss this any further, please don't hesitate to contact me.

Friends of Holne Chase Movie Night

Thank you, once again, to the Friends of Holne Chase who organised a film night for the children last Friday. It was a lovely event which was enjoyed by the children; I am sure some of the parents enjoyed the film too. The Friends continue to organise special events for the children and our school community in order to raise funds for the school. Keep an eye out for further dates, which will be taking place soon.

Attendance

	RMT	1SSB	2EC	3LM	4CB	5AW	5/6EH	6FH	Whole School	Target
Spring 1	96%	93%	98%	98%	95%	96%	94%	99%	96%	95%
Difference since end of Dec	+3	-1	+2	+5	+2	+3	+4	+6	+3	

Teacher Strikes

As some of you will be aware, one of the teacher unions has voted to strike on different days throughout the next month. We will be working with our teachers in the coming days to minimise any disruption to learning on the 1st of February and further details will follow next week.

NSPCC Pants Lesson

Next week, the children will be having a lesson in their classes discussing the NSPCC's Underwear Rule as part of our PSHE lessons. During these discussions, we will aim to teach our pupils the following important safety skills without giving explicit information or telling scary stories. We will be teaching our pupils the NSPCC's Underwear Rule, using the 'PANTS' acrostic, which is like a green cross code for staying safe from sexual abuse.



PANTS stands for:

- Privates are private
- Always remember your body belongs to you
- No means no
- Talk about secrets that upset you
- Speak up, someone can help

The lessons will introduce a range of ideas, all delivered in a way that's fully age appropriate. These include:

- "appropriate" and "inappropriate" touching
- your child's right to say no to things that make them feel upset or uncomfortable
- naming parts of the body
- who your child can turn to if they ever feel upset or worried.

If you would like to know more about the NSPCC's campaign and see how you can help keep your children safe in partnership with your child's school, more information can be found at nspcc.org.uk/underwearrule If you have any questions or concerns please don't hesitate to speak to your child's teacher.

Dates for your Diary – Spring 1

Event	Date	Time
Y6 SATs Information Evening	Monday 23 rd January	6pm
Year 5 and 6 Netball Tournament <i>Benham Sports Centre, Northampton</i>	Wednesday 25 th January	<i>Letters have gone out to specific children</i>
Y2 SATs Information Evening	Monday 30 th January	6pm
Y5 Shakespeare Performance @ Royal Derngate Theatre, Northampton	Wednesday 1 st February	7pm
Books Over Breakfast	Friday 3 rd February	8am – 8:40am
Y2 Multi-Skills Tournament <i>Benham Sports Centre, Northampton</i>	Thursday 9 th February	<i>More details to follow for children taking part</i>
Children's Mental Health Day	Friday 10 th February	<i>Details to follow</i>
Last Day of Spring 1	Friday 10 th February	3pm / 3:10pm
HALF TERM - Monday 13 th February – Friday 17 th February		
First Day of Spring 2	Monday 20 th February	8:40am