

Dear Parents and Carers,

On behalf of the Governing Board, we wanted to share a brief update regarding our leadership team. Our Executive Headteacher, Stephen O'Brien is away from work, with Rachael Carr taking over his role on an interim basis. Rachael is an experienced leader in our federation, having worked across all three schools within the last eleven years. This will not impact the children's routines or learning. You can continue to contact our headteacher and school staff as and when needed in the usual ways.

Once again, we would like to take the opportunity to wish you a very Happy New Year! All children have now started their new topics. You will have received a year group leaflet explaining the topics we are covering over the first half of the Spring Term and any help that you can give from home is always very welcome. Thank you to those parents who helped with creative projects over the holidays which have helped to make fantastic classroom displays.

From Monday 26th until Friday 30th January, we will be undertaking 'Work and Enterprise Week' where children will be finding out all sorts of things about the world of work. Some year groups will be finding out what it is like to work in the community as a doctor or a fire fighter, while others will be thinking about how people can realise their ambitions. All classes will go on a visit to a place of work or have a visitor from someone who works in the community. If you would like to speak to the children about your own job, please do speak with your child's class teacher.

Work and Enterprise Week forms part of our personal, social and health curriculum, which encompasses life skills and ways to be safe, healthy and happy. If you are interested in knowing more about our curriculum themes, there is more information, including a full topic map of the year on our new website. Following parent feedback, we have updated the website to make it easier to use and find the information that you need.

The world around us has changed very quickly and whilst new technologies offer so many opportunities and exciting new knowledge and ways of communicating than ever before they also hold risks, particularly to children. We work hard to ensure that children understand how to stay safe while using the internet; whether through a computer, telephone or game, and the risks of sending images or being in contact with people they do not know online. You can also help to protect children from putting themselves at risk by monitoring their use of online technologies and restricting access to social media. A gentle reminder that the recommended age for using Whatsapp is 16+. There are many places to seek further advice and information on the ever-changing world of online technologies and the risks to young people. A particularly useful source of information, which contains information as well as activities for parents and children of all ages is <https://saferinternet.org.uk/guide-and-resource/parents-and-carers>

Thank you for all of your support.

Ms Felicity Headen - Headteacher

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Reminders

School Start Time

School starts at 8.55am. Please ensure children arrive on time to line up and enter the school with their class teacher when the bell goes.



School Shoes

Smart black shoes for school please. School uniform items can be purchased from Mapac. To order, please scan the QR code on the next page or visit our school website for the link.



Letter Detectives

This week, Nursery children were letter detectives! They searched through the tray for teeth, shining a torch to discover the secret letter hiding inside. Finally, they wrote down their discovery on a post it note, practising to grip their pencil confidently.



Rama and Sita

This term in RE, Year 1 are learning about the story of Rama and Sita. They discussed the meaning of the story and why Rama and Sita are important to followers of Hinduism. They also learned how the story is celebrated during the festival of Diwali and why it is still important to Hindus today.



Micro-organisms

Year 6 explored how botanists classify plants by observing their characteristics. They learned about vascular and non-vascular plants, as well as flowering and non-flowering plants and used scientific vocabulary to create their own plant classification charts!



Holiday Homework

This week, our KS2 holiday homework winners were celebrated in assembly, where they showcased their projects. These impressive pieces incorporated a wide range of skills and knowledge and their projects covered a variety of curriculum topics!



Peer Mediators

Our Peer Mediators have been out in our playground every day supporting their younger peers to engage in positive and purposeful play at lunch time. They have been putting their training into action, organising a range of fun and interactive group games.



Key Dates

Year 1 Oak Class Assembly
Thursday 22nd January at 10:15am

Year 4 Laurel Class Assembly
Thursday 22nd January at 10:45am

Work and Enterprise Week
Week beginning 26th January

Year 1 Ash Class Assembly
Thursday 29th January at 10:15am

Year 4 Hawthorn Class Assembly
Thursday 29th January at 10:45am

Enterprise Fayre
Thursday 29th January at 3:30pm

Year 4 Hazel Class Assembly
Thursday 5th February at 10:45am

Children's Mental Health Week
Week beginning 9th February

Safer Internet Day
Tuesday 10th February

Children break up for the half term holiday
Friday 13th February at 3:30pm

Coffee Mornings

Parents/Carers are invited to drop into our sessions on various themes which are held in the Flexible Space at 9:15am on a Friday. These allow you to meet with other parents as well as to learn more about what the school does and get some practical tips on how to support your child with their learning from home.

Date	Focus
Friday 30 th January	MFL: What do children learn in Spanish and how can language be supported at home? (Children can attend this coffee morning)
Friday 6 th February	Children's Mental Health Week: How can I support my child's wellbeing through developing positive connections?
Date	EYFS Workshop
Thursday 22 nd January	Launchpad: How do we support language and communication development in the Early Years?

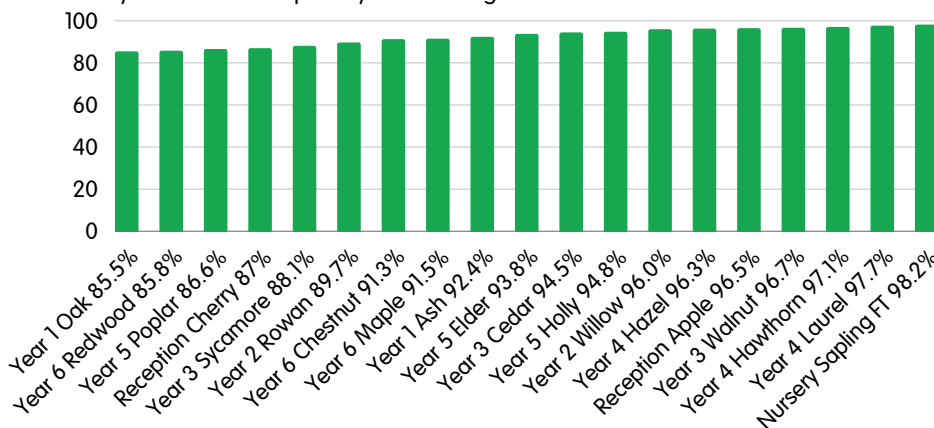
Attendance

The whole school attendance for the last week was 92.4%.

Well done to Nursery Sapling FT, last week's winners with 98.2% attendance.

Attending school every day makes a real difference.

Please remember that WE DO NOT AUTHORISE HOLIDAYS IN TERM TIME and unauthorised absences may result in a fixed penalty notice being issued.



Term End and Start

The first half of the spring term ends on Friday 13th February at 3:30pm.
Please scan the QR code to view our 2025 -2026 term dates.



School Uniform

Please scan the QR code to order school uniform,



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