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Special Award Winners this Week

Willow 1	Harry D
Willow 2	Chloe M
Yew 1	Connor D
Yew 2	Nikan A
Oak 1	Billy B
Oak 2	Angus J-C
Cherry 1	Eliza T
Cherry 2	Anya H
Beech 1	Reuben D
Beech 2	Zachary P
Maple 1	Ben M
Maple 2	Eloise C
Red 1	Max R
Red 2	Niamh B

Friday 2nd October 2020

Well Done!

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FROM MRS GASCOIGNE, HEADTEACHER

Term 1 Issue 4 2020

Dear Mums, Dads and Carers.

Yesterday saw the beginning of **Black History Month**. We will be exploring this throughout the next few weeks.

Use these websites to talk to your children about this and all that it means

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/cbeebies/joinin/black-history-month>

<https://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/b007mhn7/episodes/guide>

Some books you might like to share:

<https://www.workingmother.com/family-time/10-kids039-books-black-history-month>

Thank you for your continued support at drop off and pick up. I have been encouraged by the number of you who have been wearing masks at these times. When you are collecting more than one child, and you need to wait for the children to arrive from other classes, please could you ensure **all children remain with you** rather than them playing in the playground. This way we can avoid any cross over of bubbles between classes. Thank you.

Staffing news

We are sorry to be saying goodbye, at the end of term, to Mrs Fowler, who has been working as our dyslexia support teacher. We are very grateful to Rachel for her professional, supportive manner and for all she has done to support our team. Mrs Fowler is going to spend more time taking care of her new granddaughter.

We are also sorry to be saying good bye to Mrs Harris, who has decided to dedicate more time to her family. Mrs Harris has been a super classroom assistant. Her calm, patient, compassionate manner has encouraged children over the years. We are thankful that she has been part of our team.

We wish both colleagues health and happiness for the future.

As a result we have carried out interviews and we are pleased to say that we have appointed staff to cover these positions.

Mrs Fry will be our new dyslexia support teacher. She comes with a wealth of experience in this field. Mrs Cochrane will be working with Year 2 each morning.

In addition we have Mrs Davies joining our team to work each afternoon in EYFS and to provide some 1:1 support in Y6. Mrs Treglown will be joining the Year 2 team to provide some 1:1 support too.

Mrs Gascoigne's "Golden Book" Tea Party

Congratulations to the following children for receiving a Golden Token this week: **Carter B (B1), Lauren B (B2), Alfie P (M1)**.

Contact the Governors via feedback@combedown.com

Contact the PTA via combedownpta@gmail.com

Contact the Prayer Group via prayergroup@combedown.com

Wellbeing Week

Next week, we will be celebrating our annual Wellbeing Week! We have made the decision to scale back the amount of visitors we would normally have due to the current COVID restrictions. However, whilst the children will still receive daily Maths and English lessons, the week will be peppered with lots of: extra sport with our specialist coaches, Craig, Ollie and Stuart; outside learning in our Forest School; a special visit from Lucy Stone (owner of Yogadoo, The Hive and Meditation Rocks); talks from Hannah Lees (owner of Hannah the Runner) about the use of having a positive mindset; Jen Lewis (owner of Up and Under Sports) delivering a 'Healthy Heroes' programme. There will also be lots of arts and crafts, mindfulness and meditation throughout the week. We know how much the children (and staff!) value this week!

Next week is the beginning of Dyslexia Awareness Week.

5 Facts for Dyslexia Awareness Week:

- Britain's favourite foodie, Jamie Oliver, is dyslexic. Rather than seeing this as a negative, Jamie is proud of his dyslexia. He believes this enables him to see the world from a different perspective. Dyslexia has not held him back, and you don't have to look far to see the evidence. As of 2020, he has a net worth of an estimated £230 million.
- 50% of people with dyslexia are left-handed, whereas only 11% of the total UK population are left-handed.
- The Dyslexic brain is typically larger than the average-sized brain and often more creative.
- The most common cause of dyslexia is genetics and the way the brain neurologically develops.
- Dyslexia can also be acquired later in life, due to a brain injury from trauma or disease

Scenario Planning - Information Overview for Parents

We are planning for a number of different scenarios:

- Instruction from the government to close the whole school
- Infection affects a member of our school community and a case is confirmed
- High levels of staff illness/absence make it impossible to staff all classes or children

Our hope in sharing these plans is that you fully understand that we will do all that we can to keep our students and staff safe, whilst at the same time continuing to provide them with a valuable education.

Please take the time to look at the Scenario Planning guidance that has been produced - you can find it on the front page of our website, or in the 'letters home' section.

DoodleMaths Summer Challenge

Congratulations to the following children who successfully completed the DoodleMaths Summer Challenge earlier this year:

Louis L - Yew 1

Owen R - Yew 1

Lily A - Cherry 2

Lucy P - Yew 1

Scarlett H - Beech 2

Lauren B - Beech 2

Anabelle M - Cherry 2

Holly D - Cherry 2

Maximilian D - Yew 1

Chloe K - Oak 2

Tessa P - Beech 1

Anca P - Oak 2

Outside Club Providers

We have made the decision that clubs will not restart in Term 2 - we initially said there would be no clubs in Term 1 with a view to reassessing for Term 2, but as we are still trying to keep children in their separate bubbles and cases around the country appear to be rising, it looks unlikely we'll be able to restart clubs for the foreseeable future.

We know this isn't the message you want to hear (or we want to give), but keeping the children safe is the top priority for us all.

We will reassess the situation during Term 2 and make a decision with regard to Term 3 at that time.

Go Sober October

Paul Solly, one of our lunchtime assistants, is taking part in Go Sober October this month. Please feel free to support him by sponsoring him at this link: <https://www.gosober.org.uk/users/paul-solly-2>

Upcoming Dates (subject to change, please always check the website):

October 2020

06
OCT**Year 5 visit to SS Great Britain**

🕒 08:45 - 15:15 | 📁 Year 5

23
OCT**End of Term 1, 3.15pm**

📁 Term Dates

23
OCT**Inset Day - school closed to pupils**

🕒 08:45 - 15:15 | 📁 Staff Training Day



November 2020

02
NOV**Term 2 Starts, 8.45/8.50am**

🕒 08:45 | 📁 Term Dates



December 2020

17
DEC**End of Term 2, 3.15pm**

📁 Term Dates

18
DEC**Inset Day - school closed to pupils**

🕒 08:45 - 15:15 | 📁 Staff Training Day

**Letters home this week:**

Rowing sessions

Year 6

Scenario planning document

Whole school

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