



Dear Families and Friends

As we finish school for a week's holiday at the end of what has been a very busy half-term full of activities and class visits, I want to bring you up-to-date with news from school and the events calendar for the months ahead.

Do not forget that we finish school today for the half-term holiday. I wish you a very pleasant half-term holiday and look forward to seeing you back in school on Monday 22nd February.

Kind regards

Ian Beard
Headteacher



KEY DATES for your DIARY

<i>Friday 12th February</i>	<i>School closes for Half-Term holiday (1 week)</i>
<i>Monday 22nd February</i>	<i>School opens for remainder of Spring term</i>
<i>Tuesday 23rd February</i>	<i>Poetry in Motion workshop (whole school) – Arts Month</i>
<i>Thursday 25th February</i>	<i>Year 6 Class Visit : Opera House (Goodnight Mr Tom)</i>
<i>Friday 26th February</i>	<i>Class Assembly / Presentation : Year 5</i>
<i>Wednesday 2nd March</i>	<i>Mid-Year Reports to parents (postponed from February)</i>
<i>Thursday 3rd March</i>	<i>Year 1 Class Visit : Liverpool Museum</i>
<i>Thursday 3rd March</i>	<i>Years 3 – 6 visit to the Bridgewater Hall (Halle Orchestra)</i>
<i>Friday 4th March</i>	<i>World Book Day (see article)</i>
<i>Monday 7th March</i>	<i>Shakespeare Workshops (Y5 and Y6)</i>
<i>Thursday 10th March</i>	<i>Year 6 Class Visit : Macclesfield Forest (Art Workshop)</i>
<i>Friday 11th March</i>	<i>Early Learning for Safety (ELFS) Workshop (Year 1)</i>
<i>Friday 11th March</i>	<i>Class Assembly / Presentation : Reception class</i>
<i>Tuesday 15th March</i>	<i>Parents' Evening (3.30pm – 5.30pm)</i>
<i>Wednesday 16th March</i>	<i>Parents' evening (3.30pm – 7.30pm)</i>
<i>Friday 18th March</i>	<i>Sport Relief Day</i>
<i>Wednesday 23rd March, 1.30pm</i>	<i>Year 4 Performance at MHA (Water Cycle)</i>

KEY DATES for your DIARY continued



Wednesday 23 rd March, 6.00pm	Year 4 Performance at MHA (Water Cycle)
Thursday 24th March	School CLOSED for Staff Training
Friday 25th March	School CLOSED for Public Holiday (Good Friday)
Monday 28th March	School CLOSED for Public Holiday (Easter Monday)
Tuesday 29 th March	School open for remainder of Spring term (4 days)
Friday 1 st April	Class Assembly / Presentation : Nursery Class
Friday 1 st April	School CLOSES for Easter Holidays

Looking ahead a little to next term ...

Monday 18 th April	School opens for Summer term
Tuesday 19 th April	Year 3 Class Workshop : The Water Cycle
Tuesday 26 th April	Year 3 Class Visit : The Lowry (Art Workshop)
Wednesday 27 th April	Year 4 Class Visit : Manchester Climbing Centre
Monday 2nd May	School CLOSED for Public Holiday

The calendar of events for the full year is available on our website.



I would like to thank everyone involved in planning last week's disco event for the children, especially all of the new members of the Friends of NCS who have recently joined the team. I know that the children really enjoyed showing off their dancing skills.

The Friend's next event is a Quiz Night for adults only. This will take place on the evening of Friday 29th April. Information and team booking forms will be sent out by the Friends before Easter. In the meantime, start thinking about putting a team together for what promises to be a fun evening.

ROYAL MAIL YOUNG LETTER WRITER COMPETITION

We are delighted to announce that one of our Year 3 pupils, Eleanor, reached the area finals of the Royal Mail Young Letter Writer Competition and has won £40 of vouchers for herself and the school. She was the only child from a Manchester school to be selected to go through to the North West finals. We would like to congratulate Eleanor on her achievement, particularly given that there were over 100,000 entries to the competition. We would also like to congratulate and say thank you to all those children who took part in this competition.



PUPIL PREMIUM AWARD

Pupil Premium Awards 2016 Local Winner

Primary schools with published KS2 results

We are delighted to announce that the school has recently received an award from the Department for Education for the attainment and progress of pupils who have been supported by the Pupil Premium grant schools receive each year to support the progress of disadvantaged children. Although a relatively small grant when compared to that of other schools, we aim to use it effectively to raise standards and provide equality of opportunity for all children.

An extract from the letter from the Minister of State at the DfE to me reads:

“It gives me great pleasure to write to you and congratulate your school on winning a local award in the Key Stage 2 category of the Pupil Premium Awards 2016. The reason you have been selected is that you are one of the high achieving schools in the country in terms of the attainment and progress of your disadvantaged pupils since 2011. It is clear that you and your staff have provided your disadvantaged pupils with a good start in life and prepared them well for secondary school. I would like to congratulate your governors, parents and pupils for their hard work and success, and thank you for your leadership in making such a difference to the future success of your pupils.”

Very well done, everyone!

RAISING ISSUES AND COMPLAINTS – A REQUEST

We hope that parents rarely find the need to raise issues or complaints with the school. However, we accept that we are not perfect and that from time to time parents will want to raise a concern or issue with a member of staff. We are more than happy to listen to parental concerns but we ask that parents find the right time and the right place to raise them with teachers. Specifically, we are asking parents to avoid raising issues in the playground in the morning (especially in front of other parents and children) when the member of staff is collecting their class and preparing for the school day ahead, It is not always helpful to approach staff at that time as they do not always have time to think about or respond to concerns as they would want to. If you wish to raise an issue or a complaint, please ask to see the member of staff privately at another time, make an appointment or write a note. We also ask that all members of staff are approached with respect and in a calm manner. Thank you for your consideration and support.



CAR SEATS : SAFETY ADVICE

We have noticed recently that a number of parents are driving young children to school without the safety of a child seat in their car. In the interests of safety, we want to remind all parents of the law regarding this. The law requires that all children travelling in the front or rear seat of any car, van or goods vehicle **must** use the correct child car seat until they are either 135cm in height or 12 years old (whichever they reach first), after which they must use an adult seat belt. This requirement will apply to the vast majority of our children up to and including Year 3.

LINGARD AND BAZLEY ROAD – SPEED LIMIT (20MPH)



Also in the interests of child safety, we would like to remind ALL parents that the speed limit on Lingard Road is 20mph. This is the speed at which any collision with a child or adult is less likely to result in a fatality or very serious injury. **Please DO NOT drive down Lingard Road any faster than 20mph. The speed of driving on Bazley Road should be even slower ...** particularly when parents are entering and leaving the cul-de-sac (which, of course, everyone has been asked NOT to do) when dropping off or collecting children. It has to be said that some parents leave Bazley Road as if trying out for the Formula 1 circuit. There are still plenty of parents ignoring our request not to use Bazley Road at all for parking. This is disappointing as it will be to the child, and the parents of the child, who is one day knocked down.



ATTENDANCE and PUNCTUALITY FOR 2015 - 2016

Our class attendance for the year up to 11th February 2016 is as follows ...

Class	Attendance	Days Missed	Attendance Thresholds				Late Marks	No of Pupils Late
			Pupils who have attendance more or less than the percentage shown					
			100%	97%+	<90%	<85%		
Nursery	96.1%	89½	11	18	3	1	102	15
Reception	97.2%	83½	11	21	1	1	15	5
Year 1	98.3%	50	11	22	0	0	39	9
Year 2	97.4%	78	5	19	1	0	40	6
Year 3	97.8%	64½	5	24	0	0	44	13
Year 4	97.7%	70	7	22	1	1	24	13
Year 5	97.8%	64½	16	21	1	1	36	8
Year 6	96.5%	103	6	16	3	0	48	12
All	97.4%	603	72	163	10	4	348	81



97.4%

All classes except Year 6 and nursery are exceeding the target the 97% attendance. Well done everyone. The number of lates across the school is concerning – do not forget that all children should be in school by 8.55am for registration and that after 9.00am they are marked as late. The number of children with less than 90% is concerning – absence of less than 90% is now classed as persistent absence. The aim of this school is that NO children have persistent absence.