


# SCHOOL NEWSLETTER



MAY 1  
UPDATE  
TERM 5

## WHAT'S NEW?

Welcome to the start of Term 5 everyone and our first school newsletter of the Summer Term! I trust that you all had an enjoyable, restful Easter break and were able to enjoy some downtime (and chocolate!) with friends and family.

It has been lovely to see the children enthusiastically return to school during last week and this week, and reconnect with their friends at the start of this short but busy term. All children have quickly settled back in to their routines with some fabulous learning taking place across the school. Do look out for this term's year group newsletters which will be sent to you next Friday; these are a great opportunity for you to find out more of what your child will be learning throughout Term 5&6 and offer ways in which you can support your child too.

Finally, a reminder please regarding uniform. NO bracelets or necklaces are allowed to be worn by pupils in the school. They will immediately be asked to remove them. Please also ensure that the appropriate footwear is worn to school.

Thank you for your help and support with this. Have a lovely bank holiday weekend everyone.

Mr Anscombe



# Attendance matters



Week Ending

4th April

Panda Class 92.62%

Elephant Class 81.43%

Giraffe Class 88.39%

Lion Class 90%

Koala Class 93%

Tiger Class 94.14%

Zebra Class 91.11%

Week Ending

25th April

Panda Class 96.25%

Elephant Class 93.53%

Giraffe Class 96.77%

Lion Class 95.83%

Koala Class 96.67%

Tiger Class 99.57%

Zebra Class 95.37%

**Whole School  
Attendance  
Target  
97%**

**Whole School  
Attendance This  
Week  
96.56%**

**Whole School  
Attendance this  
year  
94.94%**

Well done to the 61 pupils across the school that were awarded an Excellent Attendance Certificate at the end of last term for 95% or above attendance across the Spring Term.

Well done also to the 73 pupils who were awarded a 100% Attendance badge for the Spring Term too. Thank you to all parents for your support with this. It makes a huge difference to pupil's outcomes as research has shown in the primary and secondary phases of education.

# Parental Consultations

It was lovely to see so many parents attend parental consultations at the end of last term.

Thank you to the number of parents that commented and fed back to us via the classes parent comments books. Here are a selection of quotes:

- “It was lovely to come in and hear about xxx progress and how much he has been enjoying his time in school. Thank you so much for all of your hard work.”
- “Thank you for all the help and support you give xxx. She has improved so much with your teaching and seeing her come into school with a smile on her face makes me so happy.”
- “Xxx has come so far since joining school and has made lots of wonderful friends.”
- “Thank you for all your support. Lovely bunch of teachers that are always ready to help.”
- “Very pleased with all the help that has been given to xxx. She has come on leaps and bounds over the year.”
- “Xxx loves coming to school, we are so happy with her progress. Thank you for all your support and hard work. It truly is a lovely happy school.”



# The Easter Experience



On Friday, April 4th, Zebra Class participated in an Easter Experience workshop hosted by Family Trust, where they explored the Easter story. It was fascinating to learn about the beliefs of Christians and the various ways they celebrate Easter.



## Easter work



Thank you very much to all the parents and volunteers that helped with the Early Years redevelopment and Forest School clear up. It is so greatly appreciated, see pages 8-9.

A particular thank you to Mr Dave Gardner for organising volunteers from the One Savings Bank, to help with this and also their donation of £300 for resources for the outside area in Early Years too.

Also, we'd like to say thank you for the positive comments regarding the new fencing that has been put up around the school. Parker Gates and Fencing, a local company, took 7 days and were here bright and early every day; a very professional job. We are very pleased with the results.

# What an achievement

As many of you might know, Miss McDonald from our School Office has dedicated the past year to training for the London Marathon. We are thrilled to announce that on Sunday, despite the heat and battling a knee injury, Miss McDonald completed the race in an impressive 5 hours and 30 minutes.

Congratulations, Miss McDonald! We are all incredibly proud of you.



## Congratulations

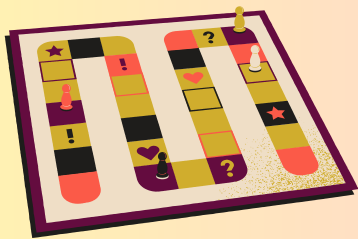
We are thrilled to share the wonderful news that Mr. Dickinson, our PE Specialist, and his wife welcomed a baby girl on Friday, April 25th. Congratulations to the happy family!



## Easter Egg Hunt

We want to extend our gratitude to Mrs. Atkinson, Mrs. Watts, Mrs. Bays, and Mrs. Burr for generously dedicating their time to assist with the Easter Egg Hunt last term.

Additionally, a big thank you goes to the Office team for organizing and distributing the eggs.



## Chuckles Club

Tiger Class had a fantastic time at the Chuckles Club on the 24th April. Chuckles Club is held at the local Methodist church and forges links with the local community. They played a range of games that included Uno, Rummikub, Snakes and Ladders and Quirkle. Ollie said "It was really fun because we got to play games that we haven't played before.

### Summer is here (almost)

Summer has now arrived (hopefully) which means that the weather will start to warm up and we will get lots of sunshine; spending breaks and lunchtimes outside.

Sun safety is an important consideration at this time of year and we advise that all pupils wear a hat when outside on the playground. Baseball caps are available from the School Office at £6.65 but pupils can bring in their own instead - please make sure all hats are named.

Staff are unable to apply sun cream so if you want your child to wear sun cream please apply it before they come to school in the morning

# Basic life Saver Course



A heartfelt thank you to Mrs. Friend, who conducted a free Basic Life Saver Course in the hall on April 3rd. Sixteen participants joined the course, raising £50 for the British Heart Foundation and £25 for FoLS.



The group were taught how to recognise a cardiac arrest and the basic skills required to start CPR. Mrs Friend spoke about public access AED machines and how to use them

Finally there was a practical demonstration of CPR and then everyone had a go to experience the skills needed.

The course was so popular that Mrs Friend has agreed to run another - date to be confirmed



# Panda Class Outside Development

The Panda children have come back to Term 5 with an updated outside area – we hope you enjoy looking at the photos to see how this area has been developed! A huge thank you goes to Willow’s mum, who created our new murals. We are sure you will agree they have really given the area a wow factor! Thank you to the team of adults who came into school to help with this, and also for the donations which were provided by various family members across the school. It was a huge job, and we’re still not fully finished as we ran out of time to get anything hung up from the canopy areas. We look forward to adding to this area over the remainder of this term. The children have loved playing with their new water wall, weaving wall and noisy wall, and for the time being, they are having plenty of fun with imaginary play in the tyre area, until we change this into our sensory play area.

## Before



After



A HUGE thank you to all involved with this project! The Panda children have loved using their new updated learning area, and the Panda teaching team are truly grateful for all the time from volunteers and equipment donations.



# *Useful information*

## **Kent and Medway Integrated Care System**

An online hub has been created where neurodivergent people living in Kent and Medway can find information and links to local and national support.

Focusing on learning disability, autism and attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD), the hub is split into sections for adults, children and young people, making it easy to navigate. There is also a section on Right to Choose which answers frequently asked questions.

As well as links to local support groups and support available in schools, the hub features advice on everyday life – including sensory differences and sleep – education, employment and volunteering, and keeping safe and well.

Visit the support hub at

[www.NDKentAndMedway.co.uk](http://www.NDKentAndMedway.co.uk)