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25th April 2023

Dear Parents and Carers

We are already one week into the Summer term and it is already flying by.

We have lots of things happening this term, starting with the CORAM Life workshops taking place yesterday and today. The children have had a wonderful time meeting with Harold and Nancy; I am sure they will let you know all about it.

I am delighted to let you know that we have an author coming to visit the school this **Friday 28th**. Lucy Bailey has written a lovely book called 'Let's plant a seed!' It is a story about how powerful it is to be positive in your mind. She will be working with each year group and practicing some breathing and mindfulness techniques. **Lucy will be available after school for the children to purchase her book, which will be personally signed.** If you are unable to bring your child to the book signing, and your child would like to purchase her book, please send **£6.99** cash in to school in a clearly marked envelope. Lucy is able to take card payments in person.

Next week is the first of the bank holidays and is the start of a very short week for the children. On **Tuesday 2nd** and **Wednesday 3rd**, we will be celebrating the upcoming Coronation and then on **Thursday 4th** and **Friday 5th** the school is closed for staff training.

I know some people get a bit confused about staff training days, so just to remind you that children are expected to be in school for 190 days each year. Staff are paid for 195 days per year, hence the 5 INSET days that are scheduled throughout the year. This year, we have all been given an additional Bank holiday in recognition of the Coronation, which is on **Monday 8th May**.

As I mentioned, we will be celebrating this momentous occasion on both the **2nd** and **3rd May** when the children will participate in a variety of Coronation themed activities. Children are invited to wear red, white and blue on Tuesday 2nd then, on Wednesday 3rd, I am pleased to invite all children to a **Coronation Ball**, which will be held in school time. Mr Maynard will be providing the music and we are asking that the children '**dress to impress**' on this day. This might be a prince or princess outfit the children already have, or their favourite party clothes. At lunchtime, the whole school will enjoy a picnic on the field (weather permitting) and I ask that you **send your child into school with a packed lunch on that day**. Please remember to cancel hot meals on School Grid.

All children will be drawing a picture of themselves as a queen or a king, which will be printed onto a tea-towel that will be available for you to purchase. They will also receive a Coronation memento to commemorate the event.

I hope that these celebrations will be memorable for the children and they will always remember the time when King Charles III was crowned.

School Trips

Reception and Key Stage One children will have received a letter with information about their educational visit. Please make sure you read the contents carefully and send in your contributions as soon as possible. Thank you.

Attendance

I am still receiving leave of absence requests for term time holidays. Just to remind you that all requests will be unauthorised and should parents knowingly take their child out of school for an unauthorised reason, legal action may be taken. Please remember that children do tell us when they have been on holiday, so even if you say they have been away for another reason, you may still receive a penalty notice.

WOW!

The children are continuing to record their journey to school each day and receive a badge if they travel sustainably at least twice a week for a month. Living Streets is a charity that promotes walking to school to help reduce congestion and pollution at the school gates. Not only that, walking, cycling or scooting to school helps children feel happier, healthier, refreshed and ready to learn. Please remember to make use of the scooter racks at the main gate and, for the safety of everyone, do not allow your child to scoot or cycle on the school site.

Timings of the school day

You may be aware that the Department for Education announced in the White Paper, that all mainstream schools must deliver a minimum length of 32.5 hours by September 2023, at the latest. Therefore, from **Monday 5th June 2023**, the school doors will be open at **8.40am** and the registers taken at **8.45am**. Any children arriving after 8.45am will need to enter through the School Office and will receive a late mark in the register. The end of the school day will remain at **3.15pm**. Please remember to let your childminders and other carers know. I will send a reminder out towards the end of this half term.

... and finally

Should you have any concerns, questions or suggestions please do not hesitate to contact me via the School Office. Your contributions are always welcomed.

Yours sincerely



Mrs Sandra Dorrington
Headteacher

Learning is a journey, not a destination

