

Dear Parents/Carers,

Take two. NOW it is time for the Easter holidays. To be honest, this week has felt a little on the odd side. We were all just getting into the swing of things with the long weekend and then we had to gird ourselves for another four days of school. On the other hand, I could get used to a curtailed working week. (At this point, Beth has that quizzical expression on her face which says, 'What?! We don't work four days a week now?' Only you Beth, only you).

It is that time of year again in Year 1 & 2 when they break out the frogspawn and all maths and literacy is suspended while they gaze transfixed at 500 small black dots doing five eighths of nothing. This year Mrs Yandall has come up with the cunning plan of not over feeding them and looking after them properly. Following advice and doing things properly is a novel approach and not normally how we do things around here, but we thought we would give it a go just this once. Funnily enough, they are thriving and the whole room is not filled with the delicate aroma of dried dog food (what we use to feed the tadpoles) as it was last year. Yesterday, they went on their holidays to Mrs Yandall's pond for a bit of R and R and will return unto us relaxed and fully charged in Term 5.

Drugs and alcohol awareness was the topic of conversation for Year 5/6 on Wednesday, when they visited Nailsea Methodist Church for a workshop to help them separate fact from fiction. This is an annual course for our children, aimed at helping them understand the difference between legal and illegal drugs, the consequences of taking narcotics and how alcohol can affect your body and judgement. It was all good, serious stuff. However, the highlight for the children was when the teachers were asked to put on 'beer goggles' which replicated the sight of someone who had drunk too much. They then had to perform everyday tasks such as catching a ball or even sitting on a chair, to show how their vision was impaired. Needless to say, it was not entirely successful and there was many a laugh at Mr Wobblylegs Fossard's expense.

Year 3/4 spent Thursday visiting Westonbirt Arboretum to look at habitats and the interdependent nature of animals and their ecosystems. With the weather favourable and exceptional workshops on the environment and food webs, the children had a brilliant time. If the birds live in the trees and the trees are being cut down, what sort of impact does that have on birds and the wider environment? This was the sort of question they were exploring. Whole food chains were collected, habitats of different animals gathered and string used to literally link up a food web of animals. A very big 'Thank you' to all the parents who accompanied us on the trip, we could not do these things without you.

On Wednesday we were fortunate enough to have Paralympian, Ben Rushgrove, and Welsh rugby international, Philippa Tuttiett, come into school to work with us. It was a fantastic experience for our children to work with and listen to a genuine Olympian (he won silver in the London 200 Metres). For the fundraising section, the children performed circuits with him in the hall, consisting of spotty dogs, mountain climbers, press-ups and jumping jacks. I am not sure what any of those things are but Miss Madge was decidedly wheezy at the end of it. Ben then led an assembly where he explained how he had overcome his deafness, dyslexia and cerebral palsy to become an international athlete. Truly motivating stuff. Interestingly, his philosophy is that, we should try to improve a little bit each day and then you will become better and better at the things you are working on. Just the message we are giving our children.

The athletes' visit clearly had an effect on Reception. Freddie was heard to say he, 'Loved' PE, while Flynn was so inspired that he insisted on setting up a circuit of his own on Friday. As Flynn, or the Green Goddess as we now refer to him, put it, we had 'Proper' press-ups, one legged press ups and star jumps to mention but a few. As you can imagine with Reception, they attacked the exercises with gusto to begin with and then crashed and burned by the end. Throughout the course of the term they have all come so far, with all manner of things, from PE to maths. They should be very proud of themselves and definitely deserve a well-earned rest.

Anyone who has seen the inside of my office will have viewed the carnage that is my filing system. It is fair to say that being neat and tidy is not one of my strengths. Fortunately, we have a Susanne. Her usual *modus operandi* is that if it moves, tidy it up. If it does not move, tidy it up until it does. Well, she has gone into overdrive this week. Lost property has been sorted, cabinets have been moved and hoovered (please see attached photo) and every piece of non-essential paper has been stored in the loft. While all this may come under the heading of 'standard', where she has really pushed the envelope, is in forming a working party to, grout, retille and make good all of our mosaics in school. They really have done an impressive job. Now, if you need your bathroom refitted over the holidays, please contact Wraxall, Sons and Daughter c/o The Office. Apparently, their pipe work is something to behold; it is just their skimming which needs a little attention. If you mention Miss Madge's name, you may even get mates' rates!

This time our Stars of the Week are Otis in Reception, Jessica P & Phoebe T in Year 1/2, Molly & Thomas in Year 3/4 and Luke B & Rebecca B in Year 5/6. A great way to finish off the term. Well done to Dragons who had the highest number of conduct marks this term – you guys can wear your own clothes on the first day back. Earning their bronze star badges were Ethan P & Beau B, gold was William S, platinum was Lily K & Paige P and Oliver K was awarded his ruby badge.

If anyone still has any Children's Society moneybox candles at home, please could you bring them in as soon as possible? Even a few pennies would be very welcome.

Our book review comes from Archie in Year 6 and is on *Skulduggery Pleasant: The dying of the light*. It is about a skeleton, named Skuldugery and he's a detective, warrior, sorcerer, oh and of course, dead. It is a 10 out of 10 because it has inspired me with my writing multiple times.

Oh, incidentally, under no circumstances were there any puerile April Fools' Day pranks played throughout the day. Frankie was not sent for a long wait and Archie did not go to Miss Madge asking for stripy paint. That would be silly and we do not support such immature behaviour. Ever. (Year 1/2 now need to sleep with one eye open. Fancy giving the head salted fruit to eat? There will be consequences Mrs Yandall, there will be consequences).

Have a lovely couple of weeks off. Play safely and take care. Me, 200 chocolate eggs and a long holiday. All of a sudden, life doesn't seem so bad. (Apologies, again, for the length of this missive. I appear to have got a little over excited).

Mr Tucker

Coming up first week back:

- **Monday-Back to school - All clubs start- DRAGONS NON SCHOOL UNIFORM**
- **Tuesday - Shakespeare menu: Roast meats, Roast potatoes & Root veg or Baked Egg cake with vegetables.**

Maths Ninjas

Information & worksheets for Maths Ninjas can now be found on the website under the **Parent** tab.

Music Lessons

These will start in the first week of term:

Monday: Keyboard

Tuesday: Clarinet, Flute, Recorder & Saxophone

Thursday: Guitar

Powerpoint

The KS2 Powerpoint from the Parent's Information evening can now be found on the website under the **Parent** tab and **Curriculum** tab.

Netball club - Tuesday after school

Apologies, this was omitted from the original timetable. Please apply on parentpay.

FWSA

TEXTILE RECYCLING COLLECTION - FRIDAY 6 MAY

Our next collection will take place on Friday 6 May from 8.15am in the Church car park. This fantastic fundraising programme recycles old and unwanted textiles (clothing, shoes/boots, handbags, belts, hats, curtains, bedding, towels etc.) and turns it into cash for the school. No need to wash or sort, can be in any condition, the heavier the better. So please get collecting during the Easter holidays (using bin bags or similar) - why not ask your family, friends and neighbours to join in!

Thank you, as always, for your support FWSA

Church News

Sunday 3rd April 10:00 - All Together In Church (ATIC), All Saints' Wraxall

A service of music, words and prayer for all ages.

Children's Society Boxes

Please can these boxes be returned after the holidays so the money raised can be sent to help the Children's Society support children in need - thank you.