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'My son was so looking forward to coming back to school after Christmas!' Parent

Dear Parents/Carers,

### **Year Two and Year Six National Curriculum test videos**

There will be a meeting regarding National Tests for parents of Y6 pupils on 19<sup>th</sup> February at 2.30pm, however, if you are unable to attend the following message will be really useful.

Please use the links below to see some short, informative videos for parents about each set of tests. The videos last about 5 minutes. Michael Tidd, West Sussex head teacher, has allowed them to be widely shared. If your child is in either year group, or you have an interest (it is compulsory for every child in England to take the tests), please take a few minutes to view them because most of your questions will be answered in them.

Key Stage 1 [https://youtu.be/dVlrdqh\\_J6Y](https://youtu.be/dVlrdqh_J6Y)

Key Stage 2 <https://youtu.be/532MUvA81tM>

### **Attendance in the month of May**

It is vital that ALL children, regardless of year group should have full attendance during the month of May, because it causes considerable administrative issues for teaching staff otherwise. This is the case every year so please bear this in mind when booking any appointments or holidays.

### **100% Attendance**

100% attendance certificates have been distributed to classes today, to pupils who came to school every day in the Autumn Term. The class with the greatest number of certificates was 3W with over half of the class gaining certificates. We do, of course, understand that 100% attendance is not always possible (because no-one means to be unwell), but it is noted and appreciated that a large proportion of our school community is well supported in their learning by families determined to do everything possible to avoid absence. Thank you very much and congratulations to those with certificates.

### **KS2 play equipment**

Please be aware that the equipment on the Key Stage Two playground is intended for use by children over the age of 7. If you choose to allow your younger-aged child to use it, before or after school, you do so at your own risk and under your own supervision.

### **No Packed Lunches please in The Orchard, Year 1 or Year 2 - Thursday 18<sup>th</sup> January**

Some schools have taken a decision not to have any packed lunches at all in EYFS or KS1. That is not a decision we are taking at present, however it is vital for our budget that we have all children who are entitled

to a Free School Meal taking up that entitlement on School Census Day on 18<sup>th</sup> January. Even if your child is a very fussy eater, we will make sure they eat enough on that day. Thank you for supporting our school budget by NOT providing any packed lunches for children below Year Three. The menu for this date is; Sausages or Omelette with Waffles and a Blueberry Muffin or Fruit.

If you do choose to provide a packed lunch on this date, please write a short note to the school office explaining that you do not wish for your child to take up their free school meal entitlement for the foreseeable future.

### **Free School Meals Entitlement**

If you are in receipt of certain benefits it is hugely helpful to our school for you to claim the Free School Meal entitlement, even if your child is in Reception, Year One or Year Two. Please call in at the school office and Mrs Chalmers will help you with forms and evidence.

### **Meet the Teacher – Mr Verner**



I am in my third year as Early Years Foundation Stage lead at London Meed. I have been teaching in Primary schools in the UK for 11 years. Before that, I lived in Spain for 6 years teaching English as a foreign language to young children, teenagers (never again!) and adults. I live in Hove with my husband and our two rescue cats Megan and Oliver. They are mother and son. Oliver is a real Mummy's boy. Megan is unconvinced. In my free time I enjoy running and do Parkrun (almost) every Saturday and my time is nearly below 25mins now! I grew up locally and so enjoy spending time with my parents who still live in the area.

### **Thankyou!**



Congratulations to Oliver H, Grace M, Grace S and Charlie D of Cherry class who entered the Round Table photo competition which involved taking a photo with Santa when he came around on this sleigh. The children won a £100 voucher that was kindly donated by Kid Stuff in town.



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Very kindly the families have donated the voucher to spend in the Orchard. Thank you so much for your kind and generous gift.

Hiddleston, Sir Kenneth Branagh, Jeremy Irons, or Sherlock himself – Benedict Cumberbatch. Please visit for the website for more details <http://www.bbc.co.uk/programmes/p00rfvk1> Miss Oliver our Literacy Lead would be very interested to see a copy of any entries submitted that can be sent to her via the school office [office@londonmeedprimary.co.uk](mailto:office@londonmeedprimary.co.uk).

### Do you have any questions, comments or suggestions for newsletter items or School Improvement?

Pop your question into an envelope and mark it for Ms Reece's attention and I'll either be in touch or include your item in the next Friday newsletter. Thank you  
Yours sincerely,  
Candida Reece, Head teacher

### Other Important News

#### Parent Governor Election at London Meed

You will be aware from recent school Newsletters of our efforts to recruit 2 new parent governors to join our existing team. Although no parents have come forward, we are very lucky to have 2 non-parent volunteers with excellent skills and experience. In order to be able to recruit them as non-parent governors we are giving you notice that two of our existing and very experienced governors Howard Collins (a parent of year 2 and year 4 children), and Tracy Newman (a parent of a year 6 child) are standing for re-election to fill these two parent governor vacancies. If the school receives no further parent volunteers willing to stand for election by Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> January, then both Howard and Tracy will be automatically appointed. If you do wish to apply, please contact Mrs Chalmers for more information.  
Jane Davey, Chair of Governors

#### BBC Radio 2 – 500 Words 2018

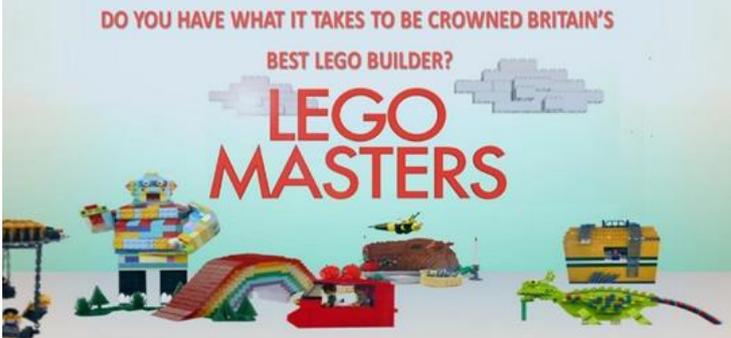
Chris Evans and Radio 2 are launching a new 500 Words 2018 competition on 15<sup>th</sup> January. Seven years ago, Chris Evans had a dream: to get children excited about reading and writing. All children, no matter what their ability are welcome to apply. 500 Words is now one of the most successful story-writing competitions for kids in the world: **Three quarters of a million** children have written a story for the competition over the years!

It's very simple. Entrants aged 5-13 are invited to write an original story on any subject or theme in 500 Words or fewer and submit it online.

If they win, their story will be read live on the radio by a superstar celebrity...like Julie Walters, Tom

#### Bag2School Tuesday 16th January

Don't forget that on Tuesday 16th January the LMA have organised a Bag2School collection. Items can include adults' and children's clothes, shoes, hats, belts, handbags and soft toys, (please refer to <http://uk.bag2school.com/> for full details). **Please note that we cannot accommodate any bags prior to the 16<sup>th</sup> January as we have no space to store them.** In addition to raising much needed funds for our school it will also raise awareness amongst the children of the benefits of recycling and reuse.



DO YOU HAVE WHAT IT TAKES TO BE CROWNED BRITAIN'S BEST LEGO BUILDER?

# LEGO MASTERS

Do you love to build awesome creations? We are looking for brick obsessed pairs of all ages to register interest in a second series of 'LEGO MASTERS' on Channel 4 to find Britain's most talented amateur builders.

Please email [build@tuesdayschild.tv](mailto:build@tuesdayschild.tv) to register your interest. If you are under 18 please ask a parent or guardian to email on your behalf. Unfortunately, we won't be able to answer all the requests individually. Applicants must be 9+.

**TUESDAY'S CHILD**

#### Family Fun Day

There is a WSCC Extratime family fun day for children and young people with and without disabilities, their families and friends. Come along and join in the fun with us on Saturday 27th January 2018. We will be joined by...Tony the Magician with interactive tricks and fun!



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**extratime**  
**FAMILY FUN DAY**

**Saturday 27th January 2018**  
**10.30am – 4pm**

"Extratime's brilliant - there's so much to do!"  
Extratime child.

Suggested donation of £5 per child - parents & carers free!

West Sussex County Council  
East Sussex County Council  
SUSSEX MUSIC WORKSHOPS  
Time Aside Sensory Art and Interaction

Venue:  
St Mary's School,  
Windmill Lane,  
East Grinstead, RH19 2DS  
For children and young people with & without disabilities, their families & friends.  
Fully accessible toilets and changing facilities with a hoist are on site.  
Free parking.  
Make some noise with Dan the music man, learn some Magic with Tony and get creative with Time Aside Sensory Arts!

"Great choice of events & activities"  
Extratime parent.

We look forward to seeing you!

For more information please contact [brett.preston@extratimebrighton.org.uk](mailto:brett.preston@extratimebrighton.org.uk) or call us on 01273 420 580

### Dates for your Diary

(Dates for the academic year can be found on the calendar on our website)



#### INSET days Academic Year 2017-2018

Friday 25<sup>th</sup> May 2018

Monday 4<sup>th</sup> June 2018

### JANUARY

15<sup>th</sup> National closing date for children starting school in Sept 18

16<sup>th</sup> LMA Bag2School Collection

### FEBRUARY

2<sup>nd</sup> Snowball making and throwing competition in the Orchard at 2pm for Dads.

19<sup>th</sup> Y6 Parents SATS meeting 2.30pm in the large hall.

22<sup>nd</sup> Music Making Morning at St Pauls

28<sup>th</sup> Parent Consultations 3-5pm

### MARCH

1<sup>st</sup> Parent Consultations 3-7pm

Week 5<sup>th</sup> Scholastic Book Fair

8<sup>th</sup> World Book Day

29<sup>th</sup> Last day of term

	First Day of Term	Half Term	Last Day of Term
Spring Term 2018	Thurs 4th Jan 2018	w/c 12th Feb 2018	Thurs 29th March 2018
Summer Term 2018	Mon 16 <sup>th</sup> April 2018	w/c 28 <sup>th</sup> May 2018	Tues 24th July 2018
	Inset Days: - Fri 25 <sup>th</sup> May 2018 & Monday 4 <sup>th</sup> June 2018		

### Inset Days 2018-2019

#### Inset Dates for the Academic Year 2018-2019

3<sup>rd</sup> September 18, 19<sup>th</sup> October 18, 29<sup>th</sup> October 18  
25<sup>th</sup> February 19, 3<sup>rd</sup> June 19