

Parent update Monday 4<sup>th</sup> April 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you are all well and preparing for Easter, the most important feast in the church's year. There are a number of items to update you on:

**Ofsted** – As you know, our school was inspected last week. We will share the report and its recommendations with you as soon as we have it. This is usually 30 working days from the visit, but this will be extended due to the Easter holidays. Thank you to everyone who spoke with the inspectors and/or provided their views via the Ofsted survey.

**Online Safety** – A number of children have told us they have accounts on social media e.g. Tiktok, Facebook, Instagram etc. These sites are for people age 13 and above, this is due to children younger than that not having the emotional resilience to deal with some of the issues that crop up when using them. We are aware that some children's accounts aren't private and they are adding people who they don't know in real life as "friends." Whilst we can support children in school, it is your duty as parents to monitor your children's online activity, ensure their settings are private and that your children are safe from unwanted contact, commerce, content and conduct.

Also please be aware of the Omegle app (*oh-meg-ull*). It is advertised to children as a great way to meet new friends. When children use Omegle, they are paired randomly with another person to talk one-on-one. Chats are anonymous but children are obviously vulnerable to grooming in this site

**Huggy Wuggy Bear** – Please be aware of videos accessible to kids through YouTube and TikTok and showing "Huggy Wuggy Bear," a razor-toothed character which is part of a horror game. Children have been mimicking clips from the game in school. Videos include the scary creature singing about "hugging and killing" and asking viewers to "take their last breath." Please don't allow your children to watch these.

**Disco** – Thank you everyone for their support of the disco. Everyone had a great time!

**Easter Competition** - We will be doing an Easter Competition during the last week of term. On Monday 11<sup>th</sup> April, children may enter one of the following:

- An Easter Hat
- An Easter Garden
- A decorated egg

The children can bring in their items, put them on display and then bring them home **at 1.30pm on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> April**. There will be two prizes per class.

**Parents' evening this term** – This will take place on **Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> April** (except for **Y3** which was held on **Thursday 31<sup>st</sup> March**). The meetings will be held from 3.30-6pm via zoom. This is because in the 9 school weeks since Christmas, we have had 55 days of staff absence due to Covid.

The appointments are now available for booking on school spider. Please remember that the appointments are for 5 minutes and be mindful that other parents will be waiting. A short written report will be sent via email to any parents who don't attend.

**SEND review meetings** – If your child has SEND, you will be able to have a 15 minute meeting to review their targets and talk about their learning. If you attend an SEND review this is instead of parents' evening, you don't need to do both. The SEND meetings will be held on the dates below. Again, if you are unable to attend, we will send the reviewed plan and the updated plan to you.

Nurs	Mon 4 <sup>th</sup> April 1- 3pm
Rec	Weds 6 <sup>th</sup> April 1-3pm
Y1	Tues 4 <sup>th</sup> April 1-3pm
Y2	Weds 6 <sup>th</sup> April 9.30 – 11am
Y3	Weds 6 <sup>th</sup> April 1-3pm
Y4	Fri 8 <sup>th</sup> April 11am-12.15pm
Y5	Fri 8 <sup>th</sup> April 1-2.30pm
Y6	Fri 8 <sup>th</sup> April 9.30-11am

**Parent Survey** – Thank you to everyone who completed the parent survey which I sent out on Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> March (before the Ofsted one). Read on for our response to the comments and suggestions made. Please note, these are the comments from the survey on 15<sup>th</sup>, school doesn't have access to the comments made on the Ofsted survey.

**Certificates at assembly** – Two comments were made about certificates at assembly being given to the same children repeatedly. Please be assured that we keep a record of who has had certificates to ensure that every child is included over the course of the academic year. From now on, we will publish the weekly certificate winners in the newsletter.

**Friday Assemblies** – Two comments were made asking for the invitation to Friday assemblies be an open invitation rather than just the parents of those receiving certificates. We are currently the only school locally inviting any parents into weekly assemblies in school. Prior to Covid, the number of parents and carers attending the weekly assemblies was becoming unmanageable (i.e. noise level during assembly,

people coming in and out). As a staff, we have taken the decision not to return to this. We hope you will understand that this makes our assemblies more meaningful (and enjoyable) for those who are invited to attend.

**Behaviour Policy** – One comment was made regarding our behaviour policy having reflections that are too much and do not “reflect the crime.” This comment will be taken into consideration when governors review our behaviour policy in September.

**Extracurricular Afterschool Activities** – Two comments were made about widening what is available. We would love to be able to do this, but are unable to staff any additional clubs. Our recent Quality Assurance Report from the local authority commented that, “the number of clubs on offer is good for a small school.” We will however, review our timetable and offer something for KS1 children in the Summer Term.

**Twitter** – There were two comments about our Twitter account. We are aware there are less updates from some classes, this will be addressed.

**Feedback from school on academic work** – Schools are required to report to parents 3 times per year. We do this at our Autumn Parents’ evening, Spring parents’ evening and Summer term school reports. If there are any issues we do, of course, ask to speak with parents in between these times. There is an overview of what classes do each term on the class pages on the school website, this gives detail of topics and what will be covered. Teachers also keep our school Twitter populated with other things that take place in school. We will from now on write spelling scores in the children’s reading records each Friday so you know how your child has done.

**The timings of the school day and our gate.** One parent commented on our finishing time creeping forward. This was done following a consultation with parents in Autumn 2019. The rationale was to shorten lunchtime to lessen the number of accidents and behaviour incidents – both have been significantly reduced. We have in fact extended the school day by 10 minutes in the morning. Prior to Covid, school opened at 8.55am; we now welcome children in from 8.45am. We know full time working is difficult when you have school aged children; we have tried to support this by starting our afterschool club which is significantly cheaper than other provision locally. One parent commented on the gate being opened late occasionally, we can only apologise for this and endeavour to be on time in future.

**Homework** – Our current homework provision is as follows:

Nursery and Reception bring home a book to share each week.

Y1 to Y4 – Children have spellings to learn weekly which are tested on Friday. We will start to write their scores in their reading records. Other homework is project based and submitted at the end of each term.

Y5 & Y6 – Have SATS Companion homework set online each week.

All children are expected to read at home at least 3 times per week with an adult.

**Other comments:**

Please will the parent who commented about dyslexia concerns please ring me so I can follow this up.

Fundraising – we will continue to fundraise from time to time. Please contribute *if and when* you can. No child will ever be made to feel uncomfortable about this.

Positive comments – there were a number of very positive comments made about school staff which are very much appreciated.

The responses to the other questions on the survey can be seen by clicking this link.

Assembly Certificates – Friday 1<sup>st</sup> April

	<b>Achievement Award</b>	<b>Francis Factor Award</b>
Reception	Samuel	Alfie B
Year 1	Omar	Grace
Year 2	Jane	Hallie
Year 3	Cherry	Angel
Year 4	Kendra	Ava M
Year 5	Amberley	Cora
Year 6	Vincent	Ady
Headteacher's award	Holly and Kalisha – Y2	

Thank you for reading all of the above, and thank you for your continued support of school.

With love and prayers,

Mrs Johnson