

2nd March 2018

Monday 5th March
Fire Safety Talk 1K

Wednesday 7th March
Physics Phil Year 4

Wednesday 7th March
Science Family Learning Night
Years 4, 5 & 6

Thursday 8th March
Fire safety Talk 5J

Thursday 8th March
KS2 Mother's Day Assembly

Friday 9th March
KS1 Mother's Day Assembly

Friday 9th March
School Disco

Monday 12th March
Science Day - with follow up activities throughout the week

14th – 16th March
Year 4 to Edmond Hall

Tuesday 20th March
Transport Museum & Herbert Art Gallery Year 2

Wednesday 21st March
Parents Evening 4-7pm

Thursday 22nd March
Parents Evening 4-7pm

Wednesday 28th March
POP UK

Thursday 29th March
Break up for Easter

Friday 30th March
Good Friday

Children return to school Monday 16th April

Next newsletter 16th March



Bingo Evening Friday 2nd March 7.30pm, eyes down 8pm. The Friends had to postpone their fund raising Bingo evening at the school. This will be rescheduled in the next few weeks.

New Disney Songs After school Singing Club
Unfortunately we have had to cancel this after school club. Many apologies.

Reception 'Teddy Bear Picnic'



took place on Monday 12th Feb. The children had a fabulous time making teddy shaped sandwiches and biscuits. They then shared them with their families. We all enjoyed taking part in all the bear themed activities and an amazing £211.74 was raised. This will go towards buying some new equipment for the Reception classes.

Pancake Races Tues 13th Feb

As in previous years, Year 6 children took part in the pancake races being held in Alcester High Street. Despite the rain, they had lots of fun.



Parent Information Meetings

The two information meetings regarding SATs that were scheduled for last week, had to be cancelled due to the weather conditions. These will be rescheduled and we will let you know dates as soon as possible.

Mother's Day Assemblies.

We would like to invite family members to our Mother's Day assemblies, which we are holding on Thursday and Friday this week. The children are collaborating to perform in their Key Stage Mother's Day assembly and will celebrate their families, through songs and poetry. They are going to be held on the following dates and will start at 9.10am in the hall:

Thursday 8th March
KS2 Years 3,4,5 & 6 Mother's Day Assembly at 9:10

Friday 9th March
KS1 Rec, Years 1 & 2 Mother's Day Assembly at 9:10

Friday 9th March School Disco
Infants 4.30-6pm
Juniors 6.30-8pm

Letters were sent home with the children last week. Please ask at the office if you have not received one.

Pop UK Weds 28th March

Please can reply slips be returned to school by Thursday 8th March as we have to finalise coach numbers and packed lunches with the kitchen etc. We will not be able to offer coach travel to parents who return slips after this date. Cost will be approx. £6.

Reminder there will be no after school clubs held on 21st & 22nd March due to Parent Consultations.

Breakfast Club

Invoices for this half term will be sent home this week and payment is due which covers this half term to Easter. Please could payment be made by 16th March. £2 will be adjusted for the snow closure on 2nd March.

Monday 12th March Science Week - during this week, all year groups will participate in lots of different science activities. We will keep you updated with photographs.

14th – 16th March

Year 4 to Edmond Hall. Reminder children to arrive at school at 8.30am; the coach will be leaving at 9am. All activity consent and medical forms must be returned to school by 7th March. If we do not receive these your child will be unable to go. Many thanks.

Birthdays - Celebration Assemblies

As there was no Celebration Assembly on Friday 2nd March, the same classes and Platinum will be celebrated on Friday 16th March. Year 4 children who will be at Edmond Hall on the 16th will be included in Celebration Assembly on Friday 23rd March. There will be no Celebration Assembly on Friday 9th March due to the Mothers Day Assembly taking place for Key Stage 1 and Reception.

Birthdays falling between 24th February to 16th March will be celebrated on Friday 16th March.

Sport update

Congratulations to the Indoor Athletics team who got through to the final. The rearranged date is yet to be confirmed.

Well done to the Gymnastics team who represented the school in a competition on Monday 12th February. They came second and are through to the final on 26th March. A letter with full details on will be sent home this week. The rearranged Inter Primary School Football League match due to take place tonight has also been cancelled. New date yet to be confirmed.

Digging Holes

It has been brought to our attention by the sports team, that while parents are waiting to pick up their children from the KS2 playground, some of the younger children are digging holes next to the long jump area next to Our Lady's fence.

When we begin to use this area in the summer term, these holes could potentially cause children to trip and fall.

Please could we ask that you supervise your children at all times at the end of the school day.



Library Opening

On World Book Day, we opened our school library. This would not have been possible without the generous donation from Alcester Trades and Labour Club. We would like to thank all the trustees that made this become a reality. Mrs Tovey, Mrs Dean, Mrs Jackson, Mrs Long, Ms Forde, parent volunteers and two secondary school D of E students have worked so hard in ensuring that our library is up and running for the use of all of our children.

Mrs Karen O'Shea
Head of School

World Book Day

We had a fabulous day on Thursday despite the threat of snow closing the school. The children and staff all looked amazing!

During the day, the children completed lots of book related activities and spent time in the new library.



Crossing Patrol

The School Crossing Patrol (SCP), Cherril, has informed us and her supervisor, that some parents are not using this valuable resource to cross the road safely with their children. Unfortunately, some of our children who walk home alone are following this behaviour and putting themselves at risk. It is really important that we show our children how to cross the road safely and in the appropriate place. Thank you for your support with this.

We want all of our children to stay safe.

On Thursday 1 March, she also reported that parents were ignoring road markings and were parking, to drop and collect children, on zigzag markings at the SCP crossing point. This reduced visibility for Cherril and increased the risk when she was trying to stop the traffic. One car insisted on reversing at the SCP site without looking properly and so very nearly hit 2 children.

The registration numbers have been noted and these will be monitored in the future. Please park considerably and safely even when the markings are not visible. I appreciate that the worst of the bad weather will be gone by this week but it is important as a reminder for future bad weather.

Absence Letters

We have been made aware that some parents are upset over absence letters being sent. The purpose of the letter is to inform parents of their child's attendance record and, as the letters state, the school understands that absence is very often the result of illness, however, we need to follow The Department for Education guidelines which state:

The government expects schools and local authorities to:

- Promote good attendance and reduce absence, including persistent absence;
- Ensure every pupil has access to full-time education to which they are entitled;
- and, act early to address patterns of absence.
- Parents to perform their legal duty by ensuring their children of compulsory school age who are registered at school attend regularly.

All staff at St Nicholas C of E Primary School are committed to working in partnership with parents to enable all children to reach their academic potential and to support their social development. We greatly appreciate the support of parents and carers to ensure each child's attendance is as high as possible.

Our attendance requirements are 97% (approx. 6 days absence over an academic year) and as our policy states, we will send letters to inform parents of anything below that. The Department of Education has set persistent absence at 90% and below, so attendance around this percentage at this stage of the academic year is a real concern.

We have worked closely with ACE (Attendance, Compliance and Enforcement Service) who have supported us in ensuring our policies and procedures are in line with Government expectations.

All of our policies are available to view on: <http://alcesterstnicholas.co.uk/parents/policies/>

I would particularly draw your attention to the attendance flowchart on pg 7 of the Attendance Policy which explains the process that we follow. If you would like to make an appointment with Mrs O'Shea to discuss your child's absence further, please ring the office.