

Spring 2: Friday 8th April 2022

Thank you!

A humungous thank you to all of our school community over this spring term: our staff, children, parents and carers have shown huge resilience throughout their learning, attitudes and behaviours, even when COVID hit us! Please enjoy a well-rested, family filled Easter break.

After School Clubs

After school clubs will resume when we return to school after the Easter break.

A ParentMail has been shared earlier today regarding changes to after school clubs – Choir, Moving and Stretching, and Young Engineers that were held on a Wednesday after school, will now be held on a Monday after school 3:30-4:00pm. There will be no after school clubs held on a Wednesday due to staff meetings.

Personal Life Skills Workshops

A huge thank you to the parents that attended the Personal Life Skills workshops over this week. Mrs Abbiss thoroughly enjoyed sharing the curriculum with parents and carers and collecting their views on what is important to be taught in school, alongside our current curriculum content.

For those parents that did not attend, please see a separate ParentMail with parental factsheets that share the learning for the summer term.

Rota Kids – Litter Pick

On Saturday 2nd April, Rota Kids and their parents/carers (and even an honorary member – Mrs Abbiss' son) took part in a community litter pick around Ashmore Park. Reverend Tom and Councillor Phil Bateman were extremely complimentary about the children and their families that attended, and wanted to thank them for their hard work in supporting the community, as did we. Well done Rota Kids!



Important Dates

- Friday 8th April 2022 – Last day of Spring term
- Easter Break – Monday 11th April to Friday 22nd April 2022
- Monday 25th April 2022 – INSET Day
- Tuesday 26th April 2022 – Children return to school
- Monday 2nd May – May Bank Holiday
- Thursday 5th May – Voting day – School closed to children
- Monday 23rd May – Whole School Music Workshop
- Friday 27th May – Last day of summer 1 term
- May Half Term – Monday 30th May 2022 to Friday 3rd June 2022
- Monday 6th June – Children return to school
- Friday 10th June – School Photographs
- Monday 20th June – Wednesday 22nd June – Year 6 Whitemoor Lakes



History Project Homework

When we return to school, children's topic lessons will be history. We have some exciting new history units that the children will be learning about, and have asked the children to research and produce some exciting history projects over the Easter Holiday. This is the main focus for homework over this break (other than any key skills practise teachers may wish to send) as we would like the children to spend time researching and presenting their findings in different ways. Following on from this, their hard work will be displayed in front of our exciting, new timeline display in the hall. Thank you in advance for your support with this – we know our parents and carers like to get very invested with these projects too!

Reminders

All children bringing bikes or scooters to school should walk them round to the bike area and under no circumstances should they be ridden on school site.

School gates open at 8:45am and are shut promptly at 9:00am. Please ensure children are in school for this time.

Hammond Art Galleries – return Visit

Hammond Galleries, a contemporary art gallery launched an art competition for children to take inspiration from the artists represented by them and to create their own versions. The competition received a great number of entries from our school in particular (submitting an impressive 29 entries). Our children, led by Miss Walker and Miss Edwards, created their own pieces, with many choosing the micro-sculptures by David A. Lindon and micro-engravings by Graham Short. Lauren in Year 3 was the winner of the competition and because David was so impressed with her micro creation of a 'Doughnut', he spent two months recreating her piece as a micro-sculpture. It measures just 0.4mm in diameter and is now housed inside a dome with a microscope that is on display in our school hall. All of the children that took part put so much hard work and dedication into their artwork and it was real pleasure to share their successes with them and their families.



Crisis in Ukraine – Donating a Teddy Bear

As you are no doubt aware the war in Ukraine is having an incredible impact on the people of the country including many thousands of children. A company that we deal with on a regular basis, is planning to travel to Poland and donate nappies, baby milk, teddy bears and much more, to the Red Cross who will distribute them to displaced families and their children. The company has approached our schools within the MAT to see if we would like to be involved in supporting them in this venture. Of course we have all said yes! Anita Cliff, our CEO, is keen for all of our nine MAT schools to support them.

Bearing Gifts is the name given to this charitable venture that we will support and part of how our children can be involved is by donating a teddy bear of their own to a child in Ukraine. The teddy bear does not have to be new, it can be a loved teddy bear from one child to another. Families of course can donate a teddy bear. The website for this venture is almost ready to go live and it will be forwarded to families as soon as it is ready.



Our Very Own Ukraine Bear

Mrs Thorne's Nan has very kindly knitted and donated a bear, decorated in the colours of Ukraine, to show that we stand with them and support all of the families that are being impacted at this time. It is proudly displayed in our school hall.