



Our Vision: Children, staff and parents working actively in partnership to enable all children to realise their full potential.

Newsletter - February 2023



MONTHLY ATTENDANCE

Wrens: 97.26% Year 1: 95.47%

Year 3: 96.31% Year 4: 93.33%

Year 5: 96.95% Year 6: 95.07%

The winner for February is:

Year 2: 97.69%

Please remember school attendance is mandatory. Holidays should be planned for school holiday times to avoid missing school time.

If your child is absent, you must notify the school office every day before 9.30 am at the latest.

Thank you

Dear Parents / Carers / Children

Another busy month at school with plenty of activities taking place. The children have been working hard and some even put several candidates for the Headteacher position through their paces! We are hoping to share the outcome of the recruitment places soon.

We are sad to be saying goodbye to Mrs Cutts (Wrens) at the end of term. Mrs Cutts has been with us since September 2019 and I'm sure you will join us in wishing her well in her new role.

Following the recent Parent Governor elections we are pleased to welcome Mrs Jenny Bradshaw and Mrs Ruth Taylor as newly appointed Parent Governors.

Grasshoppers, our new after school club, is going from strength to strength. Please can we remind our parents to book via Arbor, in advance, to avoid disappointment. Please also ensure you collect your child(ren) at the allotted time. Thank you.

Mr Bellinger (Headteacher)

DATES OF INTEREST

Friday 3 March 2023—World Book Day

Tuesday 14 March 2023—PTA Bags2School

Tuesday 21 March 2023—Years 3 & 4 Dodgeball

Wednesday 22 March 2023—Parent Consultation Evening (Years: R-5)

Thursday 23 March 2023—Parent Consultation Evening (Years: R-5)

Thursday 23 March 2023—Years 5 & 6 Dodgeball

Tuesday 28 March 2023—Years 5 & 6 Netball

Friday 31 March 2023—School closes for Easter

Monday 17 April 2023—INSET Day (no pupils in school)

Tuesday 18 April 2023—school opens for pupils for the Summer Term

Monday 1 May 2023—May Day Bank holiday

Monday 8 May 2023— Bank holiday for the coronation of King Charles III

Tuesday 9 May 2023—KS2 SATS begin

2023 / 2024 are now available on our website: <https://www.tatsfieldlt.co.uk/>

SAFER INTERNET —TUESDAY 7 FEBRUARY 2023

On Tuesday 7 February the whole school took part in Safer Internet Day. Everyone was invited to wear one item of yellow to raise our awareness. Children covered various aspects of Internet Safety in their classes. Internet safety is becoming more and more important and alongside that is the use of mobile phones and social networking sites. Below is some advice from the Children's commissioner report on Internet Safety. A link to the full report is below or see the school website under Community use links :

Internet Safety Tips for Kids



www.childrenscommissioner.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/2018/11/who-knows-what-about-me.pdf

BRECK FOUNDATION

On the same day, Years 5 and 6 had a talk from the Breck Foundation. This organisation was founded in 2014 in response to the tragic loss of Breck Bednar, a 14-year-old boy who was groomed and murdered by someone he met online. Their work aims to prevent this from ever happening again.

To read more please follow this link: <https://www.breckfoundation.org/>

HINDUISM WORKSHOP

On Wednesday 8 February 2023, Year 4 participated in a Hinduism workshop and had a wonderful time learning all about the Hindu beliefs and practices. They got creative with face paint, learned how to dress in traditional Hindu clothing and enjoyed listening to stories about the Hindu Gods.

The children had a wonderful time and we hope to be able to welcome Indri again next year.

Mrs A Russell - Year 4



PROCEDURES IN CASE OF HEAVY SNOW

As the weather gets colder, it is a good idea for us to remind parents and inform new parents about our procedures in adverse weather. We always endeavour to open the school during bad weather but this can be challenging when we have heavy snow. Please take note of the following procedures for if we wake up to a significant amount of the dreaded white stuff – thank you!

Please **DO NOT** phone the school office to find out if we are open. Office staff will be making outgoing calls to staff members and sending messages to parents. We do not want to tie up the line or delay the emails being sent if we are answering phone calls.

If it is decided the school will have to be closed, a message will be posted on the school website, www.tatsfieldtlit.co.uk by 8.00am at the latest. The decision will take into account local road conditions, safety on site, whether staff are able to drive in and also the forecast for the rest of the day. An email, InApp message or text will also be sent to parents. Please note, that in the case of less snow, it might be that we will be able to open slightly later than the normal time, if we can get the site ready and teachers are able to drive in. Please bear this in mind.

If we remain closed, class teachers will post work via Satchel 1 or on the website. Whilst no doubt everyone will have some fun in the snow, it is important to keep up the momentum with school work so please do encourage your child to have a go at the work set.

It is important for parents to please keep checking the website as often we will post a message asking for some help to clear paths so we can get the school ready for opening. Parental help is key with this task as we have just a small number of staff who live locally and we have a big site to make safe. As the saying goes – many hands make light work.

Thank you in advance for your assistance.

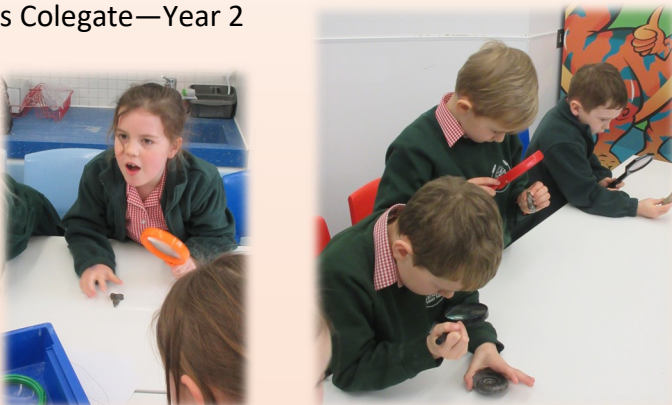


MAIDSTONE MUSEUM

On Wednesday 22 February, our Year 2 palaeontologists set off for Maidstone Museum for a day of exploration and craft. They were greeted by Vicki who showed them some artefacts, explained the process of fossilisation and set some tasks identifying, sorting, classifying and observing real fossils before crafting their own ammonites, which will be coming home very soon. The children then had a chance to explore the dinosaur galleries, looking at the Gideon Mantel discoveries of an Ichiosaur, discovered in Maidstone itself.

We would like to thank the Year 2 parents who came in to see the Kingfisher Class exhibition of dinosaur projects on Wednesday 1 March, the standard of work is truly amazing - well done, Kingfishers!

Mrs Colegate—Year 2



SPORTING EVENTS

Year 3/4 Handball Festival: Two teams of Year 3 and Year 4 children represented us in the Inter schools Handball Festival at Oxted school on 31 January. The children took part in various training drills before taking part in matches against other schools. Thank you to Mrs Abbs and Mrs Knock who accompanied the children:

Shea Lakes, Gracie Bansel, Connie Barlow, Evelyn Care, Ben Steffen, Toby Kilgour, Sofii Teniukh, Harper Green, Jamie Schild, Cali McLean, George Murray, Serin Erkan, Sophie Hill and Ashley Gibbs.

Year 6 Boys Football Tournament: On the 7 February we sent two teams to take part in the Boys South Tandridge Schools Football Tournament. Both teams played very well one team finishing second in the competition, a great achievement.

Thank you to all the parents who came and supported and well done to all the boys who took part::

Jacob Holden, Mason Panvert, Tait McDonald, Lewis Huggins, Zach King, Elliott Browne, Teddy Hawrylak, Lenny Sullivan, Lennie Foskett, Ronnie Foskett, Harvey Gabbadon, Leo Williams, Will Taylor and Loui Salliss.

Year 6 Girls Football Tournament: On the 27 February it was the girls turn to compete in the Girls' South Tandridge Schools Football Tournament. Again they played extremely well; winning many of their matches and finishing an impressive 3rd overall. A big thank you to Mrs Pascal for accompanying them to the tournament and to all the parents who supported. Congratulations to all the girls who played so well:

Poppy Garland, Elsa Sneddon, Emilia Woodhouse, Lilly Seager, Ella Kerry, Sophie Mc Mullan and Sienna Bertagna.

Mr Bellinger - Headteacher

SCHOOL COUNCIL TABLE TOP SALE

Well done to all the School Council guided by Mrs Knock and the class teachers for the organisation and running of the Table Top Sale on Friday 10 February. It was a wonderful event with the children manning the stalls and all classes having a chance to visit and make purchases. A big thank you goes to everyone who donated to the event in what ever way.

The children raised an amazing £453.22 for Richard House the chosen Charity of the School Council this year.

Superstars:

Congratulations to our Superstars this half term: Sophie McMullan, Jayden Williams, Grace Lewin-Collier, Harper Green, Charlie Russell, Riley Valenti and Harriet Naughton.



SCHOOL START TIMES

A polite reminder to parents that the school day officially starts at 8.45 am. Juniors can make their way to the junior playground if there is a member of staff on duty, usually around 8.30 am. Infant staff will open their doors around 8.30 am to allow the children to come in gradually so that all the children are in by 8.45 am and children are not arriving late.

Please be patient if staff do not open doors or are not on duty at 8.30 am staff may need to deal with issues first thing in the morning so the day runs smoothly. Thank you for your understanding.





INTRODUCING... 'GRASSHOPPERS' AFTER SCHOOL CLUB

The club is based within the school building, with access to outdoor play.



Grasshoppers After School Club will be open after school every day until 6.00 pm (different session times available). Children have the opportunity to play, socialise and relax after their school day, with a choice of activities.

A different snack option is provided daily, ranging from crackers and pasta, to fresh fruit and vegetables.

Times	Prices
3.00 pm—6.00 pm	£12.50
3.00 pm—4.30 pm	£9.00
4.00 pm—6.00 pm	£9.00

Childcare Vouchers and Tax-Free Childcare Accepted

Bookings will be via the Arbor Parent Portal / App - queries grasshoppers@tatsfieldtlt.co.uk

Grasshoppers After School Club will be run by current members of staff who are caring and professional, and strive to create a fun play environment for the children.

As with all Tatsfield staff, the Grasshoppers team are:

- * Enhanced DBS check
- * Training in Safeguarding, First Aid, Health & Safety and Behaviour Management
- * Senior staff hold qualifications in Playwork, Childcare or Sports Management