

A word from Mrs Milner

Friday 4th March 2022



Dear Parents

This half-term's value- Responsibility

It is again with a heavy heart that I am writing to you about events that are happening right now –in Europe. Whilst the war is raging on in Ukraine, we as a community can think that events such as this certainly brings out the worst in humanity but it can also bring out the best. It is certainly humbling to see ordinary people across Poland, Hungary, Germany, UK and many other countries offering provisions, accommodation and help to predominantly women and children fleeing the conflict. Uncertain times can upset young children and we, as adults, have the responsibility to ensure that current events are explained to them in a non-alarmist and factual way. Many children may experience a range of emotions and we can all support them by offering a sense of stability and security, helping them to process their thoughts and placing the events in the correct context. The UK Government has a [website that is helpful to both teachers and parents in relation to any possible discussions with children regarding the current conflict](#)—please click [here](#)

I, personally, feel very strongly that we can all help our children to understand the importance of treating all people with kindness, compassion, integrity, respect, tolerance and dignity. These are our human universal values regardless of our religions, political affiliations or geopolitics. Children learn by observing what we do and draw conclusions about what, we adults, value and think is important.

If you, as parents, feel it is appropriate to talk with your child about ways of how they can help, please discuss it with them. Buckinghamshire County Council has launched an [appeal on behalf of Disasters Emergency Committee \(DEC\) Ukraine Humanitarian Appeal](#). Please click [here](#) for the link to the appeal.

It has been another incredibly busy week at our school and it only has been one week since we have been back! I hope that all the children had a restful half term because we are gearing up for another incredibly busy, but fun, half term.

Year 5 and Year 6 went on their termly school trips relating to the topics studied. **Year 6 – Imperial War Museum** –linked to the World War II topic and **Year 5 –Living Rain Forest**- linked to their topic about South America and Amazonian rainforest. I am sure that the children shared with you not only their excitement at being able to resume their school trips, but also interesting facts that they have learnt by participating in the above events. As always, our children were a credit to you as parents and to the school as all behaved impeccably. Well done! I am so very proud of you all.

Today so many children came wearing their non-uniform clothes as it is our 'Break the Rules Day' – postponed from Friday 18th February due to the storm Eunice. Thank you on behalf of our PTA for your generosity — the children raised an amazing total of **£423.05**.



Yesterday we celebrated '**World Book Day**' –thank you to Mrs Jonwood for organising a day packed full of exciting events. Thank you parents, as always, for being inventive and creative with your children's costumes –wonderful to see so many book characters –all in one place!

Not very often you will see a picture of Deputy and Headteacher dressed as a tiger and a bumble bee, respectively and as part of our World Book day celebrations. – but here you go! Hopefully, this picture will bring a little smile to your face. Well done to all the staff and pupils, who embraced the spirit of fun this day.

On Monday 7th March we are beginning our month long **Readathon** sponsored read. Your child will be coming home with a sponsorship form today – please click [here](#) for more information on how this will work.



Hope that you will have a peaceful week

With warmest wishes

Dorota Milner

Dates for your diary

Date	Event
Fri 18th Feb— 12 Mar	PTA 65 Challenge
Sat 5th Mar	Cross Country Event, Gayhurst School, SL9 8RJ
Mon 7th Mar— Fri 8th Apr	Readathon
Wed 9th Mar	Bags 2 School
Mon 14th Mar	Foodbank Collec- tion
Fri 18th Mar	Red Nose Day— wear red!
Mon 21st-Fri 25th Mar	Yr6 residential trip to Osmington Bay PGL
Tues 29th Mar	Parent Consulta- tion Evening (Day 1)
Tues 29th Mar	PTA meeting 8pm
Thurs 31st Mar	Parent Consulta- tion Evening (Day 2)

Upcoming term dates for your diary

Close Friday 8th April	1.30pm
Open Monday 25th April	Gates open: 8.35am
Close Friday 27th May	3.15pm

[Link to the term dates for the next academic year 2022/23](#)



Cedar



Elm



Maple



Willow

House Points: Weekly Totals



Safeguarding

A very important message:

If you need to alter arrangements relating to picking up your child from school i.e. my child is going home with a different adult as they have a play date/ my child is no longer going to attend Hideout Zone etc. – **you need to let our office staff know**. Please do not Dojo class teachers as we cannot guarantee that that message will be read in time –especially if you Dojo the class teacher on the actual day. I will also send our teachers a message to Dojo all parents with the above request.

A reminder about parking:

Please do not park on double yellow lines or across peoples' driveways. This is to ensure the safety of all the children and community cohesion. I am being honest and have to state that it is frustrating that I have to send the same message over and over again. Whilst a vast majority of our parents respect the rules (thank you) a very small minority –does not. Please be considerate and accept that these rules are for a reason. I know that parking on Mitchell Walk is difficult but we all need to respect our neighbours and double lines. Thank you in advance for your cooperation in the matter.

Well being

Any war has a catastrophic effect on the health and well-being of nations. Whilst, we as a nation, are not directly involved in the current conflict – constant stream of images, news and associated human suffering – can add to our daily stress. Please look after yourselves and I hope that you will take pleasure from things that surround us – Spring is just around the corner, some early flowers start blossoming and days are certainly getting longer. Children at our school are happy, settled and well looked after by all of us here and as Alice Morse Earle (American Historian) said – 'Every day may not be good...but there is something good in every day.'

Our hardworking PTA has a couple of messages for the parents:

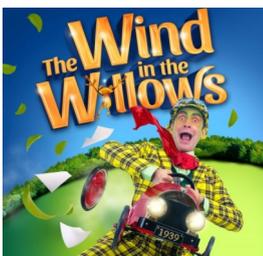
Extension to the 65 Challenge

The PTA are extending The 65 Challenge so it finishes on **Saturday 12th March**, to give you extra time to complete your challenges and raise important funds for school - including buying topic books for the library! So don't put your trainers and hula hoops away yet ;-)

The forms to log your activities are on Google Classrooms and the JustGiving link is here as well as on Classlist:

<http://www.justgiving.com/campaign/65challenge>.

Thank you very much everyone!



Wind in the Willows

In celebration of Woodside's 65th anniversary, Immersion Theatre has sent PTA a discount code. This will allow the families of Woodside to receive a discount off adult and children tickets (as below), if they wish to see The Wind in the Willows at The Elgiva Theatre on Saturday, 2nd April, 2.30pm.

<https://elgiva.com/wind-in-the-willows/#20220402>

The code is WILLOWS.

Bags To School Please bring your bags to the School Office by the end of the day Tuesday 8/3/2022. Click [here](#) for more info



www.bag2school.com