



Dear Parents and Carers

Learning—Laughing—Achieving

It has been a pleasure to see first-hand the progress our year 4 children are making in maths at the start of 2018. They demonstrate great resilience; a desire to learn from mistakes and as a group they are developing a fantastic approach to problem solving. They are working incredibly hard to master their multiplication and division facts for the 8 times table and by improving their fluency with key number facts they are able to work with greater precision and pace. I have been particularly impressed with their ability to use the bar model to solve the problems shown below:

- ◇ 4/7 of the marbles in a bag are green. There are 52 green marbles. How many marbles are in the bag?
- ◇ Mr Darby has 72 football stickers. He gives 1/6 to Mr Chalk and then drops $\frac{3}{4}$ of what he had left in a puddle. How many cards has he not dropped?

SATs Parents Information Afternoon

The year 6 team are leading a SATs information afternoon next **Tuesday at 2.30pm**. During the session they will share the structure of SATs week; talk parents through the different assessments and access arrangements that some children will be able to use during the week as well as sharing top tips for supporting your children in the lead up to SATs week. Parents found this meeting really helpful last year and we will look forward to seeing as many parents as possible on Tuesday.

Love of History of Music Day

On Wednesday, we spent the day exploring some of the different musical eras. Music has evolved enormously over time and the day allowed the children to become familiar with composers from the different eras as well as pieces written by them. The day involved building up a fact file of a famous composer's life as well as listening & responding to music written by them. The children also now know more about the types of instruments and musical features that are associated with the different eras. It was a fun day and was lovely to walk around school hearing a range of magical pieces of music written by some iconic composers, ranging from the Baroque era, through the Classical and Romantic eras right up to some of the modern film composers that we admire today.

House Winners – Swimming Reward

A great afternoon of fun was had by our Year 3 and 4 pupils lucky enough to be in Nelson house on Tuesday. Nelson house earned the highest amount of house points last half term and this achievement was celebrated with an extra swimming session on Tuesday. It was lovely to see pupils from Years 3 and 4 working together in teams taking part in some friendly competition. Pupils had a range of different challenges which included testing their hand eye coordination with target practice, trying out their strength with the surf board towing challenge and testing their balance by trying to run with hoops on their head—which is no easy feat!

It is the turn of the Year 5 and 6 children in Nelson house this coming Tuesday. Please make sure that children have their kits in school on this day.

Ofsted Online Safety Webinar - Ofsted

Next Wednesday, at 7pm, Ofsted are running a free webinar to support schools and parents in keeping children safe on line. The session will focus particularly on:

- Strategies for keeping children safe online
- Danger signs and how to spot them
- What to do when things don't feel right
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You can register for the webinar via: <http://bit.ly/OnlineSafetyWebinar>

Parents Evening

It was great to see so many parents in school this week. Thank you for your feedback about Reading Star Journals and Must Reads. I will look forward to reading these with Lisa, our Chair of Governors, in the coming week and then reflecting on how we can develop the approach further for next year.

PTA dates

Our next Film Club will be taking place on Friday 16th March with the Easter disco on Thursday 22nd March. Please add these dates to your diary.

Enjoy your weekend, David Bessant

Diary Dates 2017/18

30th Jan	Winning House swim for Years 5 and 6 Nelson house
30th Jan	Year 6 parents SATs meeting 2.30pm
5th Feb	Planetarium visit for Year 5
6th Feb	Safer Internet Day
7th Feb	Years 5 and 6 ACE time pm
8th Feb	Years 3 and 4 ACE time pm
9th Feb	Original Love Day
12th Feb	Half Term Week
19th Feb	School closed for training
20th Feb	First day back after half term
12th Mar	Mock SATs week
12th Mar	Bikeability for Year 5 children
16th Mar	Film Club
22nd Mar	PTA Easter Disco
27th Mar	Year 3 visit to Fishbourne Roman Palace
29th Mar	Winning House cinema and popcorn day
14th May	SATs Week