



Headteacher:  
Mr Wheeler

*"Shine like stars in the sky as you hold on to the word of life"*  
(Philippians 2:15)

Friday 5th May  
2023



Evening all,

It's been a fortnight full of enthusiasm for our new initiative this last couple of weeks. The children have been delighted to share their book reviews with the school and we saw a big increase in reading at home in week 1 with all 3 classes recording a personal best on their total number of reads - meaning they all moved up on our game board. Sadly only Foxes could maintain it in week 2 though. We have a special 'Sweet Treat' lined up for them next week. We have also given out several individual 'Star Reader' awards too as there are some incredible efforts going on across the school. Those children have been delighted to earn their badge and a book as a prize. If those efforts are yet to be rewarded though, please do keep encouraging them. My hope is that by the end of the year, all pupils will have earned their 'I ♥ Reading' badges.

Sticking with reading, the response to the book fair was incredible. Just over £500 was spent which means Scholastic have given the school an amazing **£201 for school library books!!!** Mrs Woolnough can't wait to go shopping! Thank you for your continued support!



There's also been: folk dancing; field trips to Badbury Rings; and an archaeologist visit on top of all the usual learning opportunities - not to mention this afternoon's Coronation event. It was wonderful to see all the children working together in the hall across the age groups, supporting each other and having a fab time. I do hope the children haven't come home too messy and their Coronation lanterns were fairly dry - it was a bit of a tight turnaround. We strongly recommend using the battery powered tea lights rather than natural flame ones.

We wish you all another fantastic long weekend, don't forget to check out the events section below as there's so much to look forward to coming up that might be worth aligning to the family calendars!

Mr Wheeler

## Industrial Action / Assessment Periods / Attendance

As you will have noticed, we remained open during the recent strike action with no staff disruption. Teachers are currently between a rock and a hard place in terms of what they feel is right to protect the future of the education system (pupils and staff); and the more immediate needs of your children. It is those immediate needs they are currently fully focussed on at this time whether that is preparing the children for assessments or transitioning into the next stage of their education.

Such big things are happening at this time of year and there is genuine concern about the impact of industrial action in a term already shortened by bank holidays. I would only be repeating myself in speaking at any length about the importance of consistently high attendance. Of course we know that

children get ill, we all do, but please also encourage a level of resilience to colds and sniffles - they will certainly need it in their working lives. I will also remind you that no holidays can be authorised as absence and they could incur a penalty notice (fine).

## Citizens Advice Bus

We have been made aware of a new local service offering advice on the following topics as we navigate the cost of living crisis:

Benefits, Debt & Money, Energy, Employment, Family, Housing, Legal and help with bills.

They are a mobile service who can be found weekly at the following locations:

Mondays 10-12 @ Colehill Village Hall

Tuesdays 10-12 @ Verwood Hub

Tuesdays 1-3 @ Parkway Car Park, West Moors

Wednesdays 10-12 (excluding first Wed of the month) @ St Nicholas Church, Corfe Mullen



## Upcoming School /PTFA Events

**Tuesday 9th May:** Leeson House Information Evening 6-7pm (Y4 Families Only)

**Thursday 11th May:** Vision Screening for Owls pupils

**Friday 12th May:** Cricket Festival @ Dumpton (Y4 only)

**15th - 26th May:** KS1 assessment period (Year 2 SATS)

**Friday 19th May:** Bikeability training (Stags only)

**Saturday 20th May:** Bluebell Community Walk - 11am start

**w/b 22nd May:** Foxes and Stags class trips to Kingston Lacey  
+ Foxes class gallery showcase (further details to follow)

**Wednesday 24th May:** Creature Teachers' visit to Foxes class (habitat focus)

**Wednesday 7th - Thursday 8th June:** Leeson House residential (Y4 only)

**Saturday 10th June:** Wimborne Folk Festival - performances in the model town late morning (timings TBC)

**w/b 12th June:** KS1 phonics screening (mostly Year 1 Pupils) and Year 4 Multiplication Tables Assessments

**Tuesday 13th June:** Owl's class trip to Launceston Farm

**Tuesday 20th June:** Foxes art workshop as part of Glow Badbury Project

**Friday 23rd June:** Owls art workshop as part of Glow Badbury Project

**Friday 30th June:** Stags art workshop as part of Glow Badbury Project

**Friday 30th June - 3:30-5:30pm:** Strawberry Fair

**Friday 7th July:** Transfer Day (including Y4s to new schools)

**Monday 10th July:** Sports Day (pm)

**Tuesday 11th July:** Sports Day (pm) - back up

**Thursday 20th July:** Leavers' Service 6-8pm

**Friday 21st July:** Last day of the year inc. church service at St. Stephen's in the morning and our End of Year Party 1-3pm

Some parents have also kindly offered to do a little bit of fundraising by selling **ice lollies after school on Wednesdays** in good weather. Thank you to them!

We are also hoping to arrange a local river walk and river sampling event for Stags as part of their geography learning later this term (TBC).