

February Newsletter



It was lovely to welcome the children back to Spring Term 2. We have a short, but very busy half term ahead, with lots of amazing learning experiences for the children across the school to enjoy.

ATTENDANCE



I would like to remind all parents of the importance of good attendance and punctuation to ensure that your children have every opportunity to access learning and maximise progress. If your child is unable to attend school due to illness, please ensure the school office is informed daily. I am hoping that the winter bugs will finally settle, and we will see an improvement this term.

All children will bring home attendance letters at the start of next term. These letters go out to every child in the school, as information for Parents/Carers so they have a record of their child's attendance. If we ever have any concern over a child's attendance, we will always pick up the phone to discuss this and offer any help and support. If you have any questions upon reading the letter or about your child's attendance in general, please don't hesitate to contact the school.

Wellbeing



Stop, Understand and Move On course - Top tips and tools to help children develop greater resilience, understand themselves and embrace wellbeing.

This is a 4-week course that will be held at Donington Primary School on Tuesday 5th, 11th, 19th and 26th March from 1.30 - 3.00pm. It is a course for parents and carers to help better understand themselves and their children. It aims to

provide you with some simple tools to help support the journey of parenting. For more information see the attached leaflet. Places are limited, so please contact Mrs Millard via the school office if you would like to attend.

SEND

Your child's class teacher is always the first port of call for any SEND queries you might have. If you need any further support following on from this, you are always welcome to make an appointment with the SENDCo, Mrs Ogden for any specific area of need.

There will be a SEND coffee morning on **Monday 11th March at 9am**. We hope to see you there.

Some useful websites:

https://www.lincspcf.org.uk/P_Events.php

www.wtt.org.uk

STATUTORY ASSESSMENTS - KS2 SATs (YEAR 6s)

These statutory assessments take place from Monday 13th May to Thursday 16th May 2024 and includes a Reading paper, Spelling, Punctuation and Grammar, and 3 maths papers, which are spread over the four days. On these days, the Year 6's can come to school and have breakfast before they complete the tests.

MULTIPLICATION TABLES CHECK (MTC) (YEAR 4s)

The MTC takes place over a two-week period starting on Monday 3rd June. The test takes approximately 15 minutes and the children will have opportunities to practise beforehand. The sound check on TTRS also allows the children to practise the style of questions.



PHONICS SCREENING (YEAR 1s)

There is a phonics screening check for all Year 1 children, which takes place during the week beginning Monday 10th June and takes approximately 20 minutes.



SPORTS

To coincide with National Schools Football Week, the children were all invited to take part in a fun football competition, which incorporated different skills and obstacles.

Unfortunately, the weather did not allow it to go ahead as planned but all those who entered were lucky recipients of a brand-new football to take home, courtesy of kind donations from The Lincolnshire Football Association, Sleaford Town FC and Bourne Town FC. It was fantastic to see over 35 children sign up.

Bourne Town FC have been kind enough to offer free entry to all their home games, to all St Gilbert's pupils and their families. In addition, Peterborough United Ladies play at Abbey Lawn also and this kind invitation extends to these games too. Please contact Mrs Watkins for further details.

On the same theme of football, we will be participating in The Football Association's '*Let Girls Play*' initiative and holding a fun training session on **Friday 8th March**.

This will take place at lunchtime, and it is fantastic to see so many girls have signed up already.

At the end of last term, a group of Year 5 and 6 children travelled to Carres Grammar School to participate in a Small-Schools Sports Hall Athletics Competition. There were several field and track events that the children competed in, against 7 other schools from the local area. Despite not being placed in the final top three, the children won a number of races and represented the school fantastically. They should be very proud of themselves!



READING

World book day will be taking place on Thursday 7th March. This year we are inviting all children to attend school in their cosy pyjamas (with suitable outdoor footwear), as we look to promote and celebrate bedtime reading routines. Children across the school will be taking part in a variety of literacy/reading activities, based around the book 'The Tower' by Joseph Coelho. (Please see additional letter detailing a range of online events and activities in support of World Book Day).

SAS CLUB

Last year in October the SAS children entered a competition called Perfect Pets. They all had to draw their favourite pet, or ideal pet. The children all named their pets and wrote a little something about them. All of the children's pets were published in a book called Perfect Pets.

HOUSES OF PARLIAMENT VISIT



On Wednesday 21st February the Year 6 children from St Gilbert's and Donington travelled to the London Eye and the Houses of Parliament. The children were a credit to the school and were fantastic all day. We went on the London Eye and managed to spot some the landmarks sights in London, such as St Paul's Cathedral and Buckingham Palace. We then walked across Westminster Bridge

to the Houses of Parliament. We were given a tour of the House of Parliament and even went into the viewing gallery and watched part of a debate taking place in the Houses of Commons!



COMIC RELIEF - 15th MARCH

This year we will be supporting Comic Relief. Children will be invited to **Wear it Red** for our non-uniform day- any contributions are welcome.



AWARENESS DAY - 28th MARCH

We will once again be raising awareness of Autism on this day and invite children to attend in colourful clothing to celebrate everyone's uniqueness.



MARCH

5th, 11th, 19th and 26th March from 1.30 - 3.00pm. Taking time to Stop Understand and Move On course.

7th World Book Day

8th "Let Girls Play" Football Training Session

15th Comic Relief - Non-uniform day - Wear it **Red**

20th Parent Meetings

28th Autism Awareness Day - **Colourful** clothing to school and End of Spring Term 2

APRIL

16th Start of Summer Term 1

MAY

13th - 16th KS2 SATs

JUNE

3rd Multiplication Test Check (MTC) for Year 4 children (over 2 weeks)

3rd - 5th June PGL Trip for Year 6

10th Year 1 Phonics Screening Check week

20th Sports Day