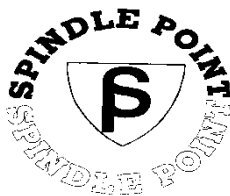


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March 2019

Dear parents and carers,

Special things to celebrate from last month:

- Children's Mental Health celebrations
- Safer Internet Day
- Year 1 library visit
- Year 5 Bikeability
- Reception balance-ability
- Mile a day track has been installed in the KS1 playing field
- The school office is being refurbished and new carpets in the entrance hall
- Year 5 Class Assembly

Attendance

We are continuing to work in partnership to improve our attendance figures so that our children are regularly attending school and ensuring that they receive maximum opportunity to learn. These are the attendance figures for last half term. Attendance is particularly important this half term for our Year 6 children, leading up to the SATs. Please support the school and make every effort to ensure your child attends and attends on time.

Current attendance figures for the year. **Well done Year 3!**

Reception	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
96%	97%	96%	98%	97%	96%	95%

Next Academic Year Holidays – 2019-2020

As some of our families do take children out of school during term time, we have looked at the holiday pattern for **NEXT YEAR** and shortened Easter to make a two week break in May/June. These are now on the website and we urge parents to use this as an opportunity to book a cheaper break. Holidays in term time affect our attendance figures which are judged by Ofsted and can influence their views of the school.

Knowledge is Power!

To support our children in developing an improved memory, improved vocabulary and subject knowledge, we are sending home curriculum knowledge mats. These will inform you of what your child is learning at school, the challenging vocabulary that will be used in lessons and any other supporting materials. By displaying these at home and sharing them with your child, there is increased likelihood that they will be able to make links and connections in their learning at school and improve reading comprehension and quality of writing. Staff are really excited that these will make a difference to children's confidence levels in the classroom. We will be looking for some feedback on parents evening about these, so please have a go at using them at home and let us know. 😊

Red Nose Day

The School Council would like the school to celebrate red nose day. It is on Friday 15th March and we invite children to come dressed in non-uniform, with something red. Donations of £1 would be greatly appreciated to donate to the Comic Relief charity.

Parents Evenings

Parents Evenings will take place on Monday the 25th March and Tuesday the 26th March. Mrs Bridge will send further details so that you can book your slot. We look forward to seeing you then. Please bring your child to the meetings if they are in Y2, Y3, Y4, Y5 & Y6 only.

Easter Egg Competition

It is that time of year again where we are thinking about our Easter egg competition. Entries are optional and are based on the theme- SCIENCE. Entries are due in on Monday the 25th March and will be displayed in the school hall for children and parents to peruse after parents evenings. Prizes will be given out for independent and original designs.



Science Week

We are celebrating National Science Week commencing Monday 11th March. We are asking children to come dressed as a scientist on the Monday. White shirts and a tie will do, or something a bit wackier should you choose!

The children will be investigating Journeys as part of the science week theme. The deadline for competition entries is Monday 11th March.

Easter Coffee Afternoon

The PTFA have organised coffee afternoon for Friday 29th March. Non uniform day in request for donations will be on Friday 22nd. As ever, we would appreciate volunteers to help run this event. Details to follow.

SpindleFest!

Those children that have been playing in their Rock Steady bands will be performing a gig to showcase their progress. Parents whose children are performing are invited to come and mosh out with us at 10am on Friday 5th April. **#nocrowdsurfingallowed**

Online Safety

There have been a number of articles in the press relating to grooming and child vulnerability. Apps like Tik Tok and WhatsApp have been under fire for risk of predatory behaviour towards children. There are also issues where Apps like You Tube and Facebook have been hacked by Momo. This 'suicide game' asks users to take part in sinister and dangerous challenges. Although technology has many advantages, we need to ensure our children are protected against dangers. We are hosting an Online Safety workshop for parents on Wednesday 13th March at 3.00pm and again at 5.00pm. Mrs Peter's and I will be sharing information about apps and latest updates to keep our children safe- we think parents will be shocked about possible exposure that put our children at risk. Please do attend.

Dates for your Diary

Date	Event	
Friday 1 st March	Resilience Show	KS2- Hall
Monday 4 th March	Rock Steady Shows	Hall
Tuesday 5 th March	Day 2 Year 5 Bikeability Reception Library Visit	
Thursday 7 th March	World Book Day	Come to school in your Pyjamas
Thursday 7 th March	Y4 Class Assembly 9am	Parents Welcome
Monday 11 th March	Science Week	Dress as a scientist Deadline for inventions
Tuesday 12 th March	Nursery Library visit Year 6 to attend Unity Brook Colliery Memorial Service	
Wednesday 13 th March	Online Safety Workshops	3.00pm and 5.00pm
Thursday 14 th March	Y3 Class Assembly 9am	Parents Welcome
Friday 15 th March	Red nose Day Year 3 trip to Chester	Wear Red
Monday 18 th March	Assessment Week for Children	
Tuesday 19 th March	PTFA Film Night	Details to follow
Thursday 21 st March	Cross County Competition	Details to follow
Thursday 21 st March	Y2 Class ssembly 9am	Parents Welcome
Friday 22 nd March	Non-uniform Day	Donation for Easter Coffee afternoon
Monday 25 th /Tuesday 26 th March	Parents Evening	
Monday 25 th March	Easter Egg Competition	Deadline for Easter Egg Competition
Tuesday 26 th March	Year 1 class assembly 9am	Parents Welcome
Thursday 28 th March	Class Photographs	
Friday 29 th March	Easter Coffee afternoon	
Thursday 4 th April	Year 3 and 4 to Sunning Hill Primary	School Link Partnership
Thursday 4 th April	Reception Class Assembly 9am	Parents Welcome
Friday 5 th April	SpindleFest! (Rock Steady) Break up for Easter	10am Hall
Tuesday 23 rd April	Return to School	

Please do keep checking our website which is regularly updated with blogs from the children, pictures and other information.

Miss J Bingham
Head Teacher

