



CONTACT – The School Newsletter Spring Term (1) 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

Happy New Year - we hope all of our families had a restful holiday. The children have settled very well.

NHS App

We would like to bring to your attention an NHS app that families may find helpful. It is an app called 'Healthier Together.' The NHS Healthier Together app has been designed to allow you to access care for your child much more easily. If your child is unwell and needs to be seen by a healthcare professional, instead of having to call your GP surgery, your surgery may offer you the option to use the app to directly inform them about your child's symptoms. Instructions on how to download the app are [here](#).



Internet safety and Safeguarding

Whilst the Internet can be a great resource for Children, parents should be aware of what their child is accessing online. [Tutorhunt](#) has provided a guide for parents and adults with Internet safety awareness, support and tools to prevent children accessing harmful material online, such as inappropriate content, cyberbullying, online predators and sexual harassment. Please try to find the time to scroll through this resource to see if it can support you through any concerns or worries that you may have – there are some great resources on how to support children's wellbeing.

Reminders

Please can we give a gentle reminder about ensuring that children have their PE kits in school and that they are dressed appropriately for the weather. The weather is set to get cold over the coming weeks and we wish to keep the children as healthy as we can, to ensure that attendance in school is as high as it can be. It is our duty of care to support and work with families in ensuring that regular attendance is achieved, so that the children receive the best possible education. Whilst we understand that some absences are unavoidable, please can you try to minimise appointments within term time and please note that holidays will not be authorised. Research has proven that attendance in school directly affects progress and attainment.

Support and help

If you would like to meet or discuss any concerns with our family support worker - Mrs Jonas – please contact the school office and she will contact you directly. The team are always happy to listen and support in any way that they can.

Recycling and Charity Initiatives

As part of our ongoing commitment to sustainability and charitable initiatives, we are excited to announce the launch of several projects that you can actively participate in:

Christmas Card Fronts for next year's Gift Tags:

Please consider sending in your old Christmas card fronts to support our Eco Committee. They will transform these into next year's gift tags for the Christmas Shopping Day, reducing waste. Please hand these in to your class teachers.



Unloved Christmas Gifts:

Extend the spirit of giving beyond the holiday season, by donating unloved Christmas gifts for our yearly fundraising activities. Mrs Murphy is already busily preparing for next year's Christmas Shopping Event, and your contributions will play a vital role in making it as successful as the last one. Although, we are also planning some additional events and fundraisers throughout the year. Please bring in your donations to your class teachers or the school office.

Stamp Collection for British Hedgehog Preservation Society:

We are continuing our stamp collection initiative on behalf of the British Hedgehog Preservation Society. Kindly remember to leave a 1cm border when cutting stamps from the envelope, as any damaged stamps cannot be recycled. Your small contribution can assist the conservation of hedgehogs, who are now classed as vulnerable to extinction in the UK.

Pen Recycling for Kicks Count:

We have also launched a new initiative for collecting old pens, felt tips, and marker pens. Each class now has its own pen recycling bin, so please encourage your child to bring in these items, which will then be recycled, raising vital funds for Kicks Count. Kicks Count is dedicated to reducing the UK's stillbirth and neonatal death rate, by raising awareness of baby movements.

Your participation in these initiatives will not only contribute to making our school more sustainable, but will also support some important causes. Thank you for your support.

Community day

Following last year's success, we are excited to announce our upcoming Community Day on **Saturday January 20th 2024!** School will be open from 10 AM to 2 PM, so feel free to drop by and lend a hand between these times, even if it is just for an hour, it would be extremely appreciated. This is a fantastic opportunity for the North Baddesley community to come together, have fun, and make a positive impact in improving the school for the children and wildlife. The whole family is welcome to join us, as there is something for all ages to help with. This will also be a valuable opportunity to gain some experience with conservation work, to help biodiversity in North Baddesley.



We have some gardening equipment, but this is limited and mostly child-sized, so please bring equipment if you are able to. That includes spades, forks, cutters, trowels etc., and anything you think may help us complete the listed activities below. We also need some bamboo canes, so please bring any spares that you might have, so we can plant our trees. Please also wear clothes that are appropriate for the activities, and don't forget to wear wellies! Hot drinks will be provided, but please bring a lunch if you intend on staying for the full day.

Community Day Activities and Information:

Native Hedge Planting for Wildlife

- 1000 trees from over 15 native species
- These trees are carefully selected for their conservation value, but they will also boost privacy and security at site boundaries, soak up excess water and improve aesthetics
- Rake leaf litter and clear area of weeds and grass
- Trees planted in a double row zig-zag pattern spaced 40cm apart
- Planted using pit and slit planting techniques
- If we have spare native hedging, there may be some for you to take away to improve your gardens for wildlife

Site Maintenance

- Clearing and preparing flower beds and pots
- Clearing and preparing vegetable beds
- Pruning hedges and trees
- Weeding
- Painting
- Litter picking
- Repairing wooden equipment
- Filling in and levelling school field divots to improve football pitches
- Building log and leaf piles for wildlife

As we gear up for the arrival of spring, there's plenty on our to-do list to ensure our school grounds are in the best possible shape for the children! Any help is appreciated, so feel free to drop by whenever you want between 10 AM- 2 PM, and lend a hand with any of these activities across the site. We look forward to seeing you there!

Best wishes,
Miss L. Wootten
Head Teacher



Upcoming dates and events

JANUARY 2024	3	4	5	6	Event
Tuesday 2nd January	✓	✓	✓	✓	Return to school
Tuesday 9 th January			✓		Year 5 planetarium experience in school
Wk. beginning 15 th January	✓	✓	✓	✓	Clubs begin
Tuesday 16 th January		✓			4H Class assembly to parents (10:20 -10:45)
Tuesday 23 rd January		✓			4C Class assembly to parents (10:20 -10:45)
Tuesday 30 th January		✓			4W Class assembly to parents (10:20 -10:45)
FEBRUARY 2024					
Tuesday 6th February			✓		Year 5 Hampshire Fire and Rescue visit in school
Thursday 8 th February	✓	✓	✓	✓	FONBJS School Disco (Yr.3 & 4: 4.30 -5.45) (yr. 5 & 6: 6:00 – 7.15)
Friday 9th February	✓	✓	✓	✓	Last Day of Term
Monday 12 th - Friday 16 th February	✓	✓	✓	✓	HALF TERM
Monday 19 th February	✓	✓	✓	✓	INSET DAY
Tuesday 20th February	✓	✓	✓	✓	Return to school
Wednesday 21st February	✓				Year 3 Beaulieu Trip
Monday 26th February	✓	✓	✓	✓	Parent communication: spring attainment and progress reports sent home.
Wednesday 28 th February	✓	✓	✓	✓	Parent communication: Parent Evening Consultations 3:30 -7:00
Thursday 29 th February	✓	✓	✓	✓	Parent communication: Parent Evening Consultations (3:30 - 6:00)