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**MOMENTS  
MATTER,  
ATTENDANCE  
COUNTS.**

Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2024

### End of Spring Term Updates

Dear families,

After a very short period of time, we have reached the end of the spring term. We have had a lovely end to the term with lots of wonderful Easter bonnets and egg scenes. Thank you to all the parents who supported their children to show their creativity in this way. The children and staff will now have a much-deserved two-week break. The children will then return from the Easter break on Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> April (Monday 8<sup>th</sup> April is an INSET day).

For those children entitled to benefit-related free school meals, vouchers will be issued for the holiday period. You will receive £10 per child, per week, and they can be accessed via text or email that will be sent out tomorrow. If your child does not currently receive benefit-related free school meals, please check the following website for eligibility criteria and to apply online:

<https://www.dudley.gov.uk/residents/benefits/free-school-meals/>. Benefit-related free school meals are different to universal free school meals, and you will only receive the voucher if you have applied for and are in receipt of benefit-related free school meals (this can be confusing, so please contact the school if you need any support with this).

Our new catering provider will commence service on Tuesday 9<sup>th</sup> April and we will be sharing the menu and other information with you via ParentMail - please look out for this. There are some very tasty sounding new items on the menu, and at the children's request we have kept Pizza Friday's!

Well done to Apple Class. They had the highest attendance this half term and as a result they have chosen to have a party afternoon, complete with disco, as a reward for their above average attendance. It was fantastic to see the children of Apple Class really encouraging each other to be in school and on time - their support for each other has meant they had 100% attendance this week! We must also say a huge well done to the 244 children who all had excellent attendance and punctuation this term, we hope they enjoy their Easter egg!

For your child to get the most out of their education, it is imperative that they are in school and on time every day. When children miss time from school, they miss chunks of their learning, and this can create difficulties for the child in the future. There is a strong correlation between high levels of attendance and excellent educational outcomes. As a parent of a primary aged child, it is your responsibility to ensure your child is attending school regularly. If you are having any difficulties with getting your child to school each day, you must speak to us so we can support you. Lack of attendance

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at school is a safeguarding concern, and fines of £1000 can be issued by the local authority as well as possible court action. We will be sending out information during the summer term to share the government expectations with you for attendance from September 2024 onwards, as there are changes you need to be aware of.

It was great to see so many of our parents engage with parents' evenings over the last fortnight. It is vital that parents attend these appointments so together we can support your child to be the best they can be. We communicate with parents using a variety of methods, including ParentMail and text messages. Please make sure you keep your details updated with the school office. We kindly ask that all communication with members of staff is respectful as everyone works really hard to support the children, and we do try our best to keep everyone smiling. If you have any concerns, we want you to raise these concerns with us as soon as possible but it is important that everyone is showing kindness and understanding. Please also remember that most people are in class during the day, but they will get back to you when they can.

Sadly, today was Miss Cooper's last day with us. Miss Cooper has been a lunchtime supervisor with us for many years and in that time, she has supported many of our children during their lunch break. We will miss her and wish her all the best for the future.

Miss Best will return from the Easter break with a new name - Mrs Rowe! Miss Best will be getting married in the second week of the holidays, and we wish her every happiness for the future. It may take us a while to get used to the new name!

We have lots of building work starting to take place over the Easter break, and when we return this could cause some disruption to the entrances and exits we use in the school building. We will send a letter, via ParentMail, on Monday 8<sup>th</sup> April explaining any changes we need to make after we've surveyed the extent of the work taking place. We are expecting to have a lot of scaffolding around certain parts of the school as the flat roof will be replaced.

We wish all our families a wonderful break, and we look forward to hearing about the children's adventures on their return. Chocolate may be a popular feature!

Yours faithfully,

Miss Grasby  
Headteacher