

# Happy Easter!



Following another term disrupted by a lockdown the staff and I would like to say a huge 'well done' to all our children and families.

This term has been difficult for all, with children learning from home, children in school adjusting to a new class during lockdown, parents/carers juggling work and home learning and these are just a few of the challenges our families have faced! Over the past weeks the children have returned and settled back into school life. I have to say, behaviour and manners have been exceptional!

Thank you to the staff for facilitating remote learning and ensuring the smooth return of all our children whilst continuing to teach in school and juggling home schooling of their own children.

## Bouncing Back!

Teachers have been gathering the relevant information since 8th March to plan sequences of learning for their class. Across the school the focus remains further development of the following areas :

- Children's independence and stamina in completing tasks.
- Resilience in many aspects both pastorally & academically.
- Fine motor skills across the school (eg holding & writing with a pencil).
- Handwriting, areas in writing (basic punctuation etc) and spelling.
- Reading—this area is used in all aspects & subjects. We are aware this has to be a continued focus in school and also at home. Phonic specific reading books have been purchased to compliment existing reading materials.
- We will be sending out further information for each class/year group after the Easter break.
- We encourage children to read at home, including their own reading materials and this will be a focus after Easter.

## Parents' Evening

Due to circumstances outside of our control this event was done differently in the Autumn Term with a 'book look' on the playground and feedback in Home School Diaries. Teachers strongly feel time if needed to discuss, face to face, children's progress. We are hoping to arrange a 'traditional' Parents Evening outdoors next half term, weather permitting. More details to follow.

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## Groupings—Year 1-4

Historically at Tenacres children have been grouped into colours. This contributes to differentiating and setting work in class. The effect of the disrupted academic years in March 20 and January 21 has resulted in a different approach. Due to differing levels of understanding, teachers are planning 'open ended' tasks. All children will access these and apply their knowledge and understanding to the different stages of the task at their level.

## Curriculum Days

We will continue to ask children to come in appropriate clothing for their PE/Forest School days and to wear uniform on the other days. It is advisable to wear trousers on Forest School days due to the nature of the activities.

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

**Wednesday 28th April** : Class photos are due to take place. Children should come in uniform on this day. The plan is to have an outdoor photograph this year.

### Thursday 6th May : Polling Day

Worcestershire County Council will be using Tenacres as a Polling Station and as a result school will be closed to all pupils. We have formally requested again—that in future years an alternative location to the school is found.



## Lateral Flow Device Testing

This is proving an effective resource for our families if children become unwell at home. At primary age schools do not provide the Lateral flow device kits. These are available at local testing sites. Please visit [www.gov.uk](http://www.gov.uk) for further information.

## School Trips

With light at the end of the tunnel and if the Government's 'roadmap' continues we will finally be able to start planning school trips again in July. We all have fond memories of trip days and both the children and staff have missed these very much.

Thank you for the response to our Year 4 Malvern residential visit in July. Historically this happens every year and we felt again that children should have the opportunity to experience this. Details have already been sent home. Please see your child's class teacher if you require further information.

## Staffing Updates

We welcome back Mrs Purkess from maternity leave this week.

Congratulations to Mrs Longfils who is expecting her second child in the Summer.

Good luck to Mrs Townsend who is preparing for the arrival of her second child.

We say goodbye to Miss Ferris and wish her luck with her new adventure.



And finally .....on behalf of the staff I wish all our children and families a very happy Easter.

Miss Marshall