

From Mrs Bateman

The 'Beast from the East' has no doubt been occupying some of your thoughts and conversations over the last few days – that has certainly been the case for me. During severe weather conditions, we make every effort to keep school open for as many children as possible, however, there are some circumstances where this is not possible such as having insufficient staff able to make it to school or if we feel there is a risk of injury to pupils, staff or visitors. It is always a difficult decision to make and certainly one that is unlikely to be the right decision for everyone. Please keep your eye on the school website for daily updates during this time. I would like to thank you all for your patience and understanding in this matter. I also hope that you and your family find some time to enjoy the snow together - I will be looking out for 'snowpeople' popping up in gardens around Long Ditton over the next few days.

Volunteers

We have developed our policy and procedures around parent volunteers as I am aware there are many people who are willing and able to share their gifts, talents and skills for the benefit of the children of our school. Sadly, our website 'went down' for an extended period making it impossible to access the link to the document and form that will need to be completed and returned to school should you wish to volunteer: [School Volunteer Procedure](#)

Attendance

Attendance for the year so far is currently 95.6%

Year 3 – 96.4%

Year 4 – 95.3%

Year 5 – 96.4%

Year 6 – 94.1%

As a minimum, we are aiming for the national target of 96% - please help us to exceed this! Every day in school counts.



Patience

The value we will be reflecting on during March is patience. This is obviously a challenge for all of us at different times and in different situations.

Patience is not the ability to wait but how you act while you are waiting – Joyce Meyer.

We will be looking at some people who have demonstrated great patience in their lives and reflecting on how we can be patient when we have to wait for things.

Online Safety

The impact of social media and online safety is constantly in the news. Children have access to the internet and a range of apps and online games that they are able to communicate with each other through. I would encourage all of you to chat to your children about these things as it often becomes apparent that some are accessing websites, apps and games that are not appropriate for children of their age and this inevitably has led to unpleasant consequences. Let's all work together in helping to safeguard our children online.

Parent Consultations

We are delighted to inform you that appointments to see your child's teacher for parent consultations on 22nd March will now be made via Scopay. The system will go live at 8am on 5th March 2018. The parents evening tab can be found at the top of the screen. Once you have selected your appointment, you will be sent a confirmation email. If you do not have login details please contact the office as soon as possible.

We would also like to draw your attention to the fact that you can set alerts on your Scopay account. These could be to alert you when dinner money is low on your account or a reminder the day before parent consultations are due to be booked. A very handy tool!

Parental Contributions

A thank you to all parents who have kindly made a financial contribution to the school following the Parental Contribution letter we sent home last week. The online Scopay portal is now up and running and payments can be made again this way. Alternatively, cash or cheque can be sent into the school office addressed to the Premises Manager. We would be very grateful for any donations you are able to make.

School Dinners

Another reminder that if your child wishes to change from dinners to a packed lunch or vice versa, a week's notice in writing MUST be given to the school office.

Dinner money for this half term is £65.25 (£11.25 per week). Please check Scopay regularly to ensure debt is not accrued.

Birthday Books

Thank You and Happy Birthday to Dexter F (Pendragon) who has bought a book for the Library to mark his birthday. These will be enjoyed by all the children. To join this scheme, simply send £3 in a named envelope marked 'Birthday Book' and the office will show them the books and book plates to choose from.

Dates . . .

Value for March – Patience

Mon 5 th March	Year 3 Aesops Theatre Company presents Henry VIII
Mon 5 th March	Durham – Movie Making at Brooklands Museum
Tues 6 th March	Pendragon – Movie Making at Brooklands Museum
Thurs 15 th March	Friends Chocolate Bingo
Fri 16 th March	Mad as a March Hair Day! £1 donation
Tue 20 th March	Year 6 to Esher Common
Wed 21 st March	Year 5 to Littleworth Common
Thurs 22 nd March	Parent Consultations (to be booked online via Scopay)
Mon 26 th – Thurs 29 th March	Year 6 Bikeability Course
Thurs 29 th March	Last Day of Term. School Finishes at 1.45pm
Fri 25 th May	INSET DAY
Mon 28 th May – Fri 1 st June	HALF TERM

Class Assemblies – Please note change of dates for Hornby and Skipton

Before Easter	After Easter
2nd March - Montrose	20 th April – Skipton
9th March - Brecon	27th April - Bodiam
16th March - Kendal	4 th May - Hornby
	11th May - Durham
	18th May - Pendragon