

Nursteed Community Primary School



Newsletter 23 28th March 2024

Message From Mrs Vousden

I've had a fun few weeks. Last week I was lucky enough to spend three days with Y5 at PGL Liddington. The children were a credit to the school. They behaved well, overcame fears and were resilient in the face of challenges. Having two nights away from home was a challenge for some, but will stand them in good stead for their week visit to the Beacon next year. On Tuesday this week, I went with Y4 to Devizes School to take part in an Easter egg hunt organised by Devizes School pupils. It was a lovely event and I really enjoyed seeing some of the children who have moved on from Nursteed. On Wednesday this week Y3 visited Stonehenge and had a fantastic day of learning, despite the rain. Once again, both classes were a credit to the school. It has been a joy to see the children learning in different situations and rising to the challenge of managing their learning out of school.

Today we say good bye to Mrs Dunstone who will be moving on to a new school after the holiday. I want to thank her for all her hard work over the last two decades. She has supported the school and helped it to grow in so many ways and she will be missed.

I look forward to Miss Lucy Munton joining the teaching team from April. She will be teaching Y6 for the summer term while we advertise for a permanent teacher for the next academic year.

Finally, I would like to thank all the staff, governors, volunteers and children for working so hard this term. I hope you will all enjoy a really lovely Easter holiday and I look forward to seeing you all rested on Tuesday 16th April.

Kay Vousden
Headteacher

Easter Bunny Bingo

Many thanks to FONS for all their hard working in organising this fun event. Thank you to you all for your donations for the prizes – which were impressive - and to those who came along to enjoy the fun. We look forward to sharing the amount raised! FoNS have also asked us to share the below message.

Thank you so much to everyone who contributed to our Easter Bingo night. Whether it was a donation of chocolate you made, helping out on the night, or buying tickets, you helped to make the event a great night.

For those of you that came along - we hope you had a blast and a massive thank you to everyone that stayed behind to help put tables and chairs away and tidy up. It was lovely to see so many of you lending a hand.

Watch this space for future events and news of our AGM and summer fayre.

Plastic Count

Thanks to those who brought back their form showing how much plastic they had recycled in the week. The children have been busy loading their data onto the website. One family sent in their bag of recycling for the week, which made us giggle, but was not quite what we had asked for!

Parent Questionnaire

Many thanks to all those who have given us their feedback, we can see 40 people have responded so far. We will read it and consider it carefully. You have until 5pm tonight to share your thoughts. We will give general feedback via this newsletter after the holiday.

Devizes Carnival

This year, school with the help of FONS, are keen to take part in the Carnival that will be taking place on Saturday 31st August. We will be registering an interest with DOCA and will share more information with you after the holiday. Please put this date in the diary and plan to come along if you can.

PH Sports after school club

Starting 22nd March 2024, we are starting fresh for students that were not able to book on the sport club before. If your child is interested in the Monday sport club, please email the office (admin@nursteed.wilts.sch.uk) to reserve your space. As there is limited availability, the slots will be filled on a first come first serve basis, priority will be given to students on the waiting list from last term.

Celebration Assembly

At the end of last week the following people were awarded their class cup for showing our school values of: **Kindness**, **Teamwork** and **Determination** and for showing that they were **Thriving** in some way. If your child was chosen, please congratulate them on their efforts and achievements.

W/C 18/03/24

Pluto: Matthew, Mars: Milo, Neptune: Stanley, Mercury: Dotty, Venus: Lola-Jade, Jupiter: The whole class for their excellent kindness, teamwork and determination at PGL, Saturn: Ethan.

W/C 25/03/24

Pluto: Albie, Mars: Logan, Neptune: Ava, Mercury: The whole class, Venus: Olivia, Jupiter: Pixie-Mae, Saturn: Finley.

If children are achieving special things outside of school we love to hear about it. Please let us know so we can celebrate with them in school.

Dates for Diary –

Tuesday 16 th April	First day of Term 5
Monday 6 th May	Bank holiday – school closed
13 th – 16 th May	Y6 KS2 SATS
Tuesday 21 st May, 1.15pm	Sports Day
Wednesday 22 nd May 6pm	New Reception children's Induction evening
Friday 24 th May	Last day of term 5
Monday 3 rd June	Start of Term 6
10 th – 14 th June	Y6 visit The Beacon
Friday 5 th July	Reports to go out
Tuesday 9 th July 5.30pm	KS2 End of year production
Tuesday 23 rd July	Y6 Leavers' Assembly
Wednesday 24 th July	Talent Show and Last day of term – school to close at 1.15pm.

Through kindness, teamwork and determination we thrive.

Attachments

- Top ten tips to help parents...

Information From Other People

- Devizes swap shop

1. #WakeUpWednesday Top Ten Tips to Help Parents

Children can often be guarded about their emotions or any difficulties they're experiencing. This reticence can extend to chats with their parents. A study by the Office for National Statistics found that 64% of children reported regularly talking to their mum about "things that matter", and even fewer (45%) held conversations of the same kind with their dad.

It's incredibly important, of course, for young people to have someone to confide in when they're confused, upset or unsure of themselves – and to know that they can do so without fear of being judged or punished. This week, we have attached a guide from #WakeUpWednesday that explores how to encourage open and honest discussions with children, empowering them to open up if they need help. See attached

2. Family and Community Learning Information from Helen Edwards-Matheou

We have received the following information from Family and Community Learning, if you have any questions, please contact familyandcommunitylearning@wiltshire.gov.uk.
<https://workwiltshire.co.uk/family-and-community-learning/>

We are running **Working in Schools** again from **Tuesday 16 April**. This is a lovely four session course aimed at supporting people who would like to work or volunteer in schools. Each session looks at a different area, including how to engage and support children in learning, effective responses to challenging behaviours, how to use the curriculum to guide learning, and how to promote wellbeing, safety and learning. We also support learners to apply for a day's work experience opportunity in a local school.

Our two budgeting courses are also approaching fast. **Shop For Less** is on **Thursday 28 March** and **Balance Your Budget** is on **Thursday 4 April**. These two courses will share helpful advice about shopping to a budget at this time of ever rising prices.

We have new dates for our teen courses. **Supporting My Teen With Wellbeing** is now running on **Thursday 18 April** 10am – 12pm – useful for parents of those same children looking towards starting secondary school. This course is suitable for parents and carers of children of about 11+ years old. It looks at the emotional and psychological changes taking place for a teenager and shares ways in which to help them prioritise their wellbeing. **Starting Secondary** is a free, online, two session course that will support parents and carers to support their child in the transition to secondary school. Learners will develop practical strategies to support their child and a better understanding of their role as parents during the transition. They will develop knowledge of the differences between primary and secondary school and explore ways to manage stress, build emotional skills and resilience, and support online safety. **Starting Secondary** is running on **Friday 10 May** 10am – 12pm. I have attached our poster to.

Working in Schools starting on **Tuesday 16 April** 10am – 12pm – five sessions - useful for parents who are looking towards getting back to work, perhaps when their children start secondary school.

Embedded in all our courses are opportunities to practise logical thinking and communication skills in small groups in a safe, friendly space with our approachable, highly experienced tutors. A phone call or an email can initiate a booking. New learners will need to complete an enrolment form and attend an induction, links for which we will provide. Booking closes one week before the start of the course.

*Courses are free if you are 19+ and have been a resident in UK/EU for 3+years (some immigration statuses exempt) and have a Wiltshire postcode and if you can tick ANY of these criteria:

- have less than 5 GCSEs grade 4/C
- are in receipt of benefits (other than child benefit)
- are a military family
- are a family with children with additional needs (no diagnosis needed)
- are unemployed and looking for work

3. [Wiltshire SHOUT](#) is a FREE 24/7 mental health text service available for residents in Wiltshire, including those affected by domestic abuse.

4. **Swimming lessons during the Easter holidays**

[Intensive swimming lessons](#) are available across the county this Easter, with courses available at a number of our swimming pools.

These sessions are great for children looking to complete a stage and progress their swimming, or for parents of children who aren't in lessons yet and can use them as a taster experience. Or they are simply a great way to keep your child active during the holidays

5. **Wiltshire Council promotes expansion of childcare support for working parents**

Childcare support is expanding from April and even more eligible working parents can receive extra help for their childcare costs. Applications are now open in England for eligible parents with a child who turns two on or before 31 March to claim up to 15 hours of childcare per week term time. Parents can apply for their hours on [gov.uk](https://www.gov.uk) where they will receive their code which they will need to share with their childcare provider. To continue receiving the government support, parents will need to reconfirm their details every three months on their gov.uk account.

Information from Wiltshire Council

Please see the following information from [Wiltshire News](#) which you may find useful.