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6th January 2017

What's on Next Week							
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday			
		NSPCC assembly		Celebration Assembly 2.4			

Happy New Year!

Happy New Year from all at Dordon Primary School!

It was wonderful to see all the children back again, excited to tell us all about their lovely Christmas and the fantastic presents they received. The children look marvellously turned out and are a real credit to parents and their significant efforts to send children into school in our smart school uniform. We really appreciate your support. We were also delighted to discover that many of our children had continued their efforts to read over the holidays.

This year will be a very exciting one for us. We start 2017 as an academy family of 13 schools across the Midlands. We are also building a brand new school in Warwick which will open next September and we are really positive about the opportunities this gives all the children, staff an our communities to benefit from all the skills, resources and finances of larger organisation.

Working as a large family of schools offers many benefits. Apart from significant financial advantages by purchasing as a large group, which means we can stretch our finances further, we also benefit significantly from sharing expertise across our schools and have found that by sharing our colleagues amazing talents and skills, as well as our resources, ultimately the children benefit hugely.

Over the course of the holidays our teachers have been not only taken a well-deserved opportunity to relax with their families, but have also spent time planning and preparing exciting lessons for the children. They have also organised exciting visits and visitors to come into school, which will engage the children and make learning really interesting. Many of them have already delivered an exciting 'starter lesson' or a 'problem' which we use to introduce our termly themes.

We look forward to welcoming you into school again this term, to attend one of the many opportunities we arrange to encourage you to get further involved in the life of our school and your child's education. Apart from our weekly 'Achievement Assemblies, we would be delighted to see you at one of our curriculum events, parent's evenings, assessment meetings or just to help us out on trips or hear children read.

Mr May Director of Education

Important: Make sure you have applied for your child's Reception place for September 2017

The deadline for applications for Primary School is the 15th January apply online at http://warwickshire.gov.uk/ admissions or telephone 01926 742037.



All photographs can be purchased for £3 per A4 colour copy. Please see the school office for one.

# Spot Light on Excellence...



This week the children have returned to school after the festive break ready to engage in their learning. And they haven't been disappointed!

In just the first few days back, when I have been walking around school, I have seen the following: Swift class taking part in an archaeological dig for ancient artefacts, Kingfisher class embracing the fun of a Brazilian carnival – complete with a samba dance competition – and Peacock class having a penguin delivered to their classroom. Hawk class have also put their art installation in the playground as a culmination of their work on World War 1. Inspired by 'The Weeping Window' in London, they chose to create a poppy memorial for Dordon. It looks amazing.

A lot to cram into just a few short days but it is a reflection of our aim to create 'Rich Opportunities and Memorable Experiences' for all pupils.

Mrs Cross



Please note that although we check the suitability of applications, they can be changed without notice.

#### Reminder for Parents - Leave Of Absence during Term Time

As you will all be aware, current attendance regulations stipulate a Head teacher may not grant a leave of absence during term-time unless there are exceptional circumstances.

Each application for a leave of absence will be considered on a case by case basis and on its own merits.

It is for the Head Teacher to decide what he/she views as 'exceptional' and it is at their discretion if the circumstances warrant the leave to be granted. If the leave is granted, the head teacher is able to determine the number of school days a child can be absent for.

The school can only consider Leave of Absence requests which are made by the 'resident' parent.

Where applications for leave of absence are made in advance and refused, the child will be required to be in school on the dates set out in the application. If the child is absent during that period, it will be recorded as an unauthorised absence, which may result in legal action being taken against the parent(s), by way of a Fixed Penalty Notice.

Failure to make an application for leave in advance can also result in a Fixed Penalty Notice being issued to the parent(s).

All matters of unauthorised absence relating to a Leave of Absence will be referred to the Attendance, Compliance and Enforcement Service of Warwickshire County Council

Where a Fixed Penalty Notice is issued and not paid within the required timeframe as set out on the notice, the matter will be referred to Warwickshire County Council's Legal Services to consider instigating criminal proceedings under S444 Education Act 1996.

Parents are asked to respect the new regulations under which the school must work and if there is a need to take a child out of school during term-time, an application or request must be made in advance and make clear how the circumstances are exceptional.

### Myths and Legends

A selection of comments and misconceptions we sometimes hear 'My child should only be telling their parents about any problems'

On a daily basis our children tell us all sorts of weird and wonderful stories. We are very used to this and are highly skilled at distinguishing between 'fact and fiction'. Occasionally children tell us about things that are a 'child protection concern'. When this occurs we have a legal obligation to investigate the matter and occasionally need to refer issue to Social Services. On the rare occasions this occurs, not only is this a very difficult time for parents, but also for the

school who respect 'our parents' highly.

Control Contro Control Control Control Control Control Control Control Control Co	<u>Last weeks</u> <u>Postcards Hon</u> Peacock = Moi Kingfisher = Le Swan = Hatt Owl = Josial	llie ewis ti	activity to an appropriate trying to spy on them. O age and it becomes tricki their teens. But by perha internet usage and show your child's online activiti experiences are as safe	extent, wit bviously m ier to super ps setting s ing some ir es you'll be and happy	ortant to supervise your child's hout your child feeling you are uch will depend on your child's rvise your child once they reach some ground rules on home neterest and understanding of e helping to ensure their online as possible.
20/01/17 - Young Voices Concert 20/02/17 - 24/02/17 - Half Term 15/03/17 - Parents Evening 16/03/17 - Parents Evening 07/04/17 - Spring Term ends 24/04/17 - Staff Development Day 25/04/17 - Summer Term starts 08/05/17 - SAT's Week	Swift = Harve Hawk = Jaco Falcon = Gra	ey b ce	CAMEO DANCE Es Fun Children's Dance Held in Polesworth Cl Children From Age 2 ½ TAP * ACROBATICS * MODE Tuesdays (from Feb '17) & Friday 4:30pm Juniors (6-11yrs) Friday 5:30pm Memorial Hall Vis	e Classes asses For BALLET * RN /s From s from	Our vision is to provide children with Rich Opportunities, Memorable Experiences'
29/05/17 - 02/06/17 - Half Term 09/06/17 - 12/06/17 - Manor Adventure 21/07/17 - Term ends school	Attendance       *     Attendance       *     Last Week       *     Peacock       96%     *	Year 97%	www.cameodance.co.uk Face Charlotte Kate Cameo Call into t Barn from 4:30pm on Fridays or C 07443421867 to arrange your o FREE TRIAL	he Tithe all Liz on	<u>Jack &amp; Jill Preschool Before</u> <u>and After School Club</u> Breakfast Club 7.45-8.35am. After School Club 3.00-5.30pm.
finishes at 1pm These dates may be subject to change if necessary. Details and times to be confirmed nearer each event.	<ul> <li>Kingfisher 95.7%</li> <li>Swan 97%</li> <li>Owl 98.7%</li> </ul>	96.2% 95.9% 97.4%			Monday - Friday, term time only. For more information please contact Jack & Jill Preschool on 01827 899551
Contraction of the online supermarket www.ocado.com/careers	* Swift 96% * Hawk 97.8% * Falcon <u>100%</u>	95.7% 96.7% 96.9%	Making business flow CEVA Logistics, Valkawagen Distribution Centre Brich Coppice Business Park, Dordon, Tarriworth, 878 15Z Tei: 01822 891100 www.cevalogistics.com	Kang ladeer for	(Please note that once a session has been booked you will be charged even if your child does not arrive.)





## "After the excitement of Christmas all

of us were relieved to come back to school with an interesting new theme, all about Ernest Shackleton and his expedition. We each picked a crew member and found facts about their personality and their role on the expedition." Jessica

"The best thing about being back at school was seeing my friends and learning about our new theme. Yesterday Mrs Price brought in some mountain climbing gear that belongs to Mr Price. It was very exciting because there were really big boots which were cold weather boots. It was a lot of fun." Rubi

"Yesterday Falcon class took part in Conscience Alley. We had to decide if we wanted to reply to Ernest Shackleton's advert for crew members. Those of us who couldn't make up their minds walked down Conscience Alley while the rest of us tried to persuade them to go or not." Grace

"I enjoyed yesterday when we had to discuss our qualities. We had to discuss if we were brave, if we were strong, if we want to be famous and if we want to see the world. I would like to be famous because people would know me. I would also like to see the world because I could see different people and have a once in a lifetime opportunity." Nathan

## Keeping our parents up to date with 'Social Networking'

## Protecting your child on social networking sites

It would be easy to pull the plug on the home computer after reading all of the potential threats to your children while using social networking sites over the past few weeks, But it's important to consider how online communication in one form or another is shaping our children's future. According to government statistics back in 2007, 55% of children aged 12-15 who used the Internet at home had created a page or profile on a social networking site, which equates to two in five of all this age group in the UK. Indeed 55% of this group accessed social networking sites at home at least once a week.

Furthermore remember that most children and young people will ess their your child's ling you are n your child's ce they reach on home tanding of e their online

