



## Headteacher's Welcome

Happy New Year to everyone and Welcome Back! On behalf of every staff member I'd like to thank you for all the many cards, gifts and delicious edibles that we received before Christmas. You are all very kind and it is very much appreciated by all of us!

Young Voices was a great success and we thoroughly enjoyed all the singing and dancing. Urban Strides were a big hit with the children and we all enjoyed watching the concert.

The two sections of the Spring term are very short but as you can see from the diary dates, we have many events to look forward to. All of these workshops and special events have been heavily subsidised by school, grants and the BSA.. Please continue to support our BSA by attending and helping at events as all monies raised goes towards providing an exceptional curriculum for the children. All best wishes

J Kewley  
Headteacher

## Dates for your Diary

25/1 Chance to Shine Cricket Day for whole school.
29/1: Chinese Zodiac Workshop for Owls and Puffins
30/1 NO Story Writing club with Mr Young
30/1 Bledington School Oracy finals afternoon
9/2 Gujarati Workshop – all year groups
<b>12/2 -16/2 Half Term Holidays</b>
19/2 Back to school after half-term
20/2 Poetry in Motion Dance Workshop for all year groups
20/2 Oracy KS1 cluster finals at St David's School, Moreton
22/2 K'NEX Challenge for Parrot Class
27/2 Oracy – KS2 cluster finals at Bledington School
29/2: OWLS Book Fair 8.45am School Hall
1/3 PUFFINS Book Fair. 8.45am School Hall
4/3 PENGUINS Book Fair 8.45am School Hall
5/3 PARROTS Book Fair 8.45am School Hall
5/3 NHS Vision, Height and Weight checks for Reception- OWLS
5/3 NHS Height and Weight checks for Year 6- PARROTS
7/3 World Book Day 2024- Come to school dressed up as a character from your favourite nursery rhyme or poem.
7/3 NO AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS
8/3 North Cotswolds Oracy Final
11 <sup>TH</sup> , 12 <sup>TH</sup> AND 14 <sup>TH</sup> March, Parents evening- NO after school clubs
15/3 PC Leah Davis Schoolbeat Officer to visit Parrot Class
21/3 Easter Eggstravaganza afternoon- time tbc – all welcome
22/3 <b>Break up at 1.05pm for Easter Holidays</b>
18/4 Languages Day at the Cotswold School for Penguin Class

16/04 Photographer at school
<b>6/5/24 May Day bank Holiday</b>
13/5 SAT's week
17/5 KS2 athletics at Temple Guiting- all day
22/5 Walk to School Day
23/5 NO after school clubs today
24/5: Maypole Afternoon: gates open 1.15 for a 1.30 start
<b>27/5 – 31/5 half Term Holidays</b>
<b>3/6 Inset Day – no pupils at school</b>
7/6 Non school uniform day in return for a tombola prize
8/6 Bledington Village Fete
11/6 No after school club today
13/6 1 <sup>st</sup> Induction afternoon for Sept reception children and parents
17/6 : 2 <sup>nd</sup> Induction day for Sept reception intake (children only)
17/6: Parents Open Evening
25/6 Sports Day
26/6 PC Leah Davis Schoolbeat officer to see Parrot Class
27/6 Reserve Sports Day if wet on the 25 <sup>th</sup>
2/7 Year 6 Induction Day at the Cotswold School
9/7 End of Year Performance- gates open 1.15 for a 1.30 start
11/7/23 End of Year Performance – 6pm START TIME
16/7 Leaver's assembly. 2.00pm start time
17/7 Brass concert in the school hall 2.30 start time
<b>19/7 Break up at 1.05 for Summer Hols</b>

## Welcome

We would like to extend a very warm welcome back to Mrs Rollins who has returned after her maternity leave and to Mr Brown who has joined our team as class teacher working alongside Mrs Rollins in Puffin Class. Welcome both!

## Chance to Shine Cricket Workshop – whole school. 25/1/24

Chance to Shine is a national charity on a mission to spread the power of cricket throughout schools and communities. We're very fortunate that Gloucestershire Cricket Foundation are delivering this free of charge workshop for the whole school on Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> January. All pupils will benefit from professional cricket coaching in what promises to be a very enjoyable day. Please make sure that your child has their PE kit at school.

## Chinese Zodiac Workshop for Owls and Puffins 29/1/24

The 2024 Chinese New Year begins on 10 February- it will be the year of the Dragon!

Owls and Puffins will take part in a fun and creative dance workshop based on the story of the Chinese Zodiac, The Great Race. It's the most popular story told during Chinese and Lunar New Year, and is still enjoyed by children in China today.

They will work together to recreate the characters and story of the Chinese Zodiac which will help them develop their cultural understanding.

The cost of this workshop is £3.00 per child payable in advance via Parentpay.

### *BSA Disco in the School Hall 2/2/24*

---

The DJ is booked and we're ready to dance! Flyers went out this week so please return the slip asap giving contact details for the night. Payment of £4 per child to be paid in advance via Parentpay, please. No cash on the night

Times are as follows:

**Infants (Owls and Puffins) 5.30 to 6.30pm**

**Juniors (Penguins and Parrots) 6.30 to 7.30pm**

Parents are welcome to stay for the 'Parents Social' with honesty bar set up in one of the classrooms.

### *Gujarati Dance and Language Workshop 9/2/24*

---

To further develop intercultural understanding and awareness of other faiths and cultures in our school, we're very much looking forward to a Gujarati Dance and Language workshop for the whole school on the 9<sup>th</sup> February. Cost of this workshop is £3.00 per child payable in advance via Parentpay.

### *Poetry in Motion- Dance Workshop 20/02/24*

---

**"Poetry in Motion workshops give children a unique insight into poetry as they explore the story and world behind the verse.**

**By bringing the words to life with music, movement and spoken word, children gain a fresh understanding of the poem. Each class works together to create an imaginative and visual retelling of the narrative through movement"**

This whole school workshop will take place on the 20<sup>th</sup> February. This is being offered at no charge as the cost has been covered by school and the BSA.

### *School Bookfair- School Hall. (please see below for dates and times)*

---

Our annual Book Fair will be held after half term kicking off with Owls on Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> Feb at 8.45am. If you're looking to add to your home library, this is the perfect place to buy books suitable for all ages and tastes. £1.00 World Book Day tokens will be issued during the sale- they will NOT be issued in advance as in previous years.

Every book sold at our Book Fair helps to earn free books for school- so the more we sell, the better for our school library.

This year, Scholastic are providing a card payment reader machine which means we can accept payment by debit or credit cards.

Dates and times of bookfairs as follows:

**OWLS: 29<sup>th</sup> FEBRUARY 8.45am School Hall**

**PUFFINS: 1<sup>st</sup> MARCH 8.45AM School Hall**

**PENGUINS: 4<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 8.45AM School Hall**

**PARROTS: 5<sup>TH</sup> MARCH 8.45AM School Hall**

### *World Book Day 7/3/2024*

---

We're celebrating World Book day 2024 by coming to school dressed as a character from our favourite nursery rhyme or poem. Please do not buy costumes, use whatever you have at home to make a costume- this not only saves money but also the environment. Be as imaginative as you can- it's always a fun day with some fantastic costumes!

### *Punctuality*

---

It is important that your child attends school every day and on time. Arriving late to school is unsettling for children and disrupts the start to their day. 10 minutes late every day = 33 hours lost learning each year!!

The easiest way to ensure your child attends school on time every day is to establish a good evening and morning routine. If mornings are hectic in your household, prepare as much as possible the night before. The school day starts at 8.45am. and the entrance gate closes at 9.00am to parents bringing their child/ren to school. Please make every effort to arrive at school on time.

### *Safeguarding Road Safety – Stop, look, listen and think!*

---

Teaching children about road safety from a young age is important. Your child may not be crossing the road by themselves yet, but the drip feeding of how to cross a road safely every time you're out and about will stand children in good stead for when they eventually do - even if you're still a few paces behind just to check. A few basics to remember include:

- Never cross between parked cars. Children are shorter than adults and therefore will not be seen by motorists/cyclists if stood next to a car. Children's own visibility will be reduced too
- Put gadgets/phones away. Don't be tempted to look at a screen whilst crossing. Adults need to model this too.
- Take earphones out- listen out for traffic as well as look for it
- Always use a crossing if one is available – don't be tempted to take a short cut
- Don't run – always walk