



Dear Parents,

Happy New Year! I hope you all had a chance to relax and unwind and enjoy the festivities of the season.

### Children Coming To School in PE kits

After the successful trial of children coming into school in their P.E. kits for their lessons last year, we will be continuing this term. Please note change of dates.

**Year 1 & 2** - please come into school in PE kits on Friday.

**Year 3 & 4** - please come into school in PE kits on Wednesday.

**Year 5 & 6** are swimming on Mondays so do not need to come into school in PE kits. However, they will be asked to bring in a PE on occasional days for workshops or virtual competition events.

**Reception** - Please bring PE kits into school as usual to leave on your child's peg so they can get changed as part of their lessons.

### Reading At Home

Reading at home is crucial for children's development as it builds vocabulary, boosts cognitive skills, enhances concentration, fosters imagination, and sets them up for greater academic and life success by creating a strong foundation for literacy and learning. Even 10-15 minutes daily can expose children to a million more words by school age, closing potential word gaps and preparing them to understand complex texts.

There has been a noticeable decline in the number of children of all ages regularly reading at home over the last term. Please could we urge parents to hear their child read daily to help them reach their full potential and kickstart 2026 by fostering a worthwhile daily reading habit.

### Swimming

Year 5 & 6 swimming lessons start this term each Monday. There is a voluntary contribution of £6.75 for each session or £74.25 for the term, this covers the cost of transport and tuition and is available via Parentmail Pay.





### Y3 & 4 Residential

The residential trip to Ford Castle for Y3 & 4 is fast approaching. The next instalment of £60 is due by 30<sup>th</sup> January please. With a further payment of £65 due by 27<sup>th</sup> February please. Further information regarding the trip will follow this term. A parent meeting has been arranged after school on **Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> January at 3:15pm** straight after school to provide further information. If you are unable to attend, the presentation will be sent to you.

### Year 6 Edinburgh Residential

The next instalment of £55 is due for payment by **13<sup>th</sup> Feb 2026** please. Further information and finalised itinerary will be sent in due course.

### Parent Consultations

There will be an opportunity to meet with your child's class teacher to discuss their progress and next steps in week commencing **2<sup>nd</sup> February**. We will notify you via Parentmail when booking slots are available.

**Reception - Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> February 3:30pm-6pm.**

**Year 1 & 2 - Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> February 1-3:30pm & Wednesday 3:30-6pm**

**Year 3 & 4 - Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> February 3:30pm - 6pm & Wednesday 3:30-6pm**

**Year 5 & 6 - Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> February 3:30pm-6pm**

### Royal Navy Visit

On **Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> January** members of the Royal Navy will be visiting Year 5/6 to provide a workshop on 'flare & fitness' focussing on the benefits of exercise and teamwork skills. Children should bring in their PE kits for this date please.

### Athlete in School - Fundraising Activity

On **Friday 30<sup>th</sup> January**, a GB Paralympic footballer, Jonathan Paterson- currently captain of the Scotland football team, will be coming into school to lead a fundraising fitness workshop with the children. Please look out for further information.





### Mystery Readers

A few years ago we ran a successful Mystery Reader project. We had a wonderful response with so many parents offering to come and read and share their favourite stories with the children. The children loved it. We will be continuing with the project after February half term. If you would like to take part, please speak to your child's class teacher.

### Xmas4Schools

Thank you for supporting our Xmas4Schools scheme. It raised £83.

### Dates For Diaries

**Monday 12<sup>th</sup> January** - Y5 & 6 swimming begins

**Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> January** - Royal Navy workshop for Y5/6

**Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> January** - Y3/4 parents meeting regarding Ford Castle Residential

**3<sup>rd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> February** - Parent Consultations - see specific dates for your child's class.

**Friday 13<sup>th</sup> February** - Break up for half term

Regards,

Louise Fletcher

