July 4th 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

**Social Stories for Transition**

For many children, times of transition can be challenging and that includes moving from one year group to another. We often write social stories to support children with different aspects of their school day, and we have decided to provide a social story for all children in Reception to Year 5 as they approach the end of the school year and prepare to move to a new class.

A social story is is a simple story that describes a social situation and the appropriate way to act in that situation. The story can teach children about a certain event (like their first trip to the dentist), skill (such as sharing), or topic (for example, how everybody is different). The simple language and pictures in social stories help children at various ages understand what to expect and how to respond in certain scenarios.

Your child will come home with a social story before the end of term and we will let you know when we have sent them home. When you get it, please spend some time reading and then re-reading the story together, particularly as they near the beginning of the new year.

**Summer Reading Challenge**

This week we had a special visit from our local librarians who held assembly to launch the Summer Reading Challenge. We would encourage all of your children to give this a go, and we look forward to celebrating the children who have completed the challenge early in the new school year. Details can be found in our Community noticeboard.

**Parking**

A polite reminder that we ask parents and carers who use the carpark/drop-off zone in Deanfield Grange to turn their engines off when they have parked. I understand that recently this may be in order to keep the air-conditioning on, but the extra pollution that is caused by these engines running so close to houses and a school is something we would rather avoid. Thank you for your cooperation with this.

**Warwick Castle**

The Year 1 and 2 children had a fabulous day at Warwick Castle this week. They braved climbing the towers and visiting the dungeons. They also enjoyed displays of falconry, trebuchet launching and jousting! No wonder they all looked exhausted when they got back! A huge thank you to all of the staff and volunteers who supported this visit.

**Yr 2 Sleepover / cricket**

On Tuesday, our Year 2 children took part in a cricket tournament at Burford School. They represented the school so well! Thank you to everyone who supported this event.

**Swimming Pool**

We have had a few complaints from local residents about the levels of noise from some of the families when using our swimming pool in the evenings and at weekends. Please can we ask you to be sensitive to the fact that there are residents nearby who also want to enjoy their outdoor spaces. Thank you for your support.

**OPAL**

Thank you to the parents who have completed the survey about play. If you haven’t done so already, please take a moment to complete it by using this link:

<https://forms.gle/6x5rNqzxkyXqAT8k7>

We have been inundated with lots of wonderful donations so thank you so much for that! We have had a fantastic suggestion from a parent for the creation of a sensory space/garden including a musical tree (or similar!) in our field.

If you have any items that might make a lovely sound when suspended from a tree, please bring them in to school. Examples include:

* Old cutlery
* Ribbons/long strips of fabric to hang things from a tree
* Wind chimes
* Old percussion instruments

We are also still looking for the following items:

* Large Ikea type bags
* Kitchen pots, pans, baking trays, wooden spoons, chopping boards
* Character costumes for dressing up
* Pegs (to help to set up dens)
* Tarps
* Waterproof Briefcases or suitcases, especially on wheels
* Used car/tractor tyres

**From the PTA**

**Bake for Books - Year 3 & 4 - Friday 11th July**

We have our next and final 'Bake for Books' of the year next Friday, 11th July!

The last two sales have been a great success, with Year 5&6 raising £160.60 and FSU/Year 1&2 raising £176.25. Well done and thank you to everybody who contributed to these great totals!

This time, we are asking our Year 3 and 4 classes to bake and raise funds for their classes to buy new books and resources.

Please bring cake donations in on Friday morning - homemade or bought is great, just make sure all is nut free and includes a note listing ingredients. We would also love to have some parent helpers from these classes to help our PTA team set up and sell - let Susie know on 07890 560379 if you can lend a hand any time between 2:45 and 3:30 on Friday.

Thank you - and don't forget to bring cash to pick up if you'd like to buy some tasty treats 🙂

**Milton Village Fete Pimm's stall - Saturday 12th July**

The organisers of Milton village fete (which looks like it's going to be a brilliant afternoon!) have asked the PTA to run a Pimm's stall.

We are all set to be on Milton village green from 2-6pm serving iced Pimm's and would love to see you there.

It would also be great to have some extra pairs of hands to help throughout the afternoon - let Susie know on 07890 560379 if you would be happy to help for half an hour.

**Summer Fayre - fundraising total**

We are delighted to share that we raised a fantastic £3,343 at our 2025 Summer Fayre!

Thank you so much for coming along to support the event.

**Dates for the Diary**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Date** | **Details** | **Who** |
| 8th July | Year 6 Swimming – Chipping Norton | Group B |
| 10th July | Leavers BBQ 4.30 – 6.30pm | Year 6 (Parents from 6pm) |
| 11th July | Cotswold Farm Park Visit | Reception |
| 14th July | Maypole and Country Dancing | Year R, 1, 2, 3, 4 parents – after drop-off |
| 16th July | Year 5 & 6 Performance – 7pm | Year 5 & 6 Parents |
| 17th July | Wychwood’s Got Talent Final | All |
| 18th July | Leaver’s service – Shipton Church 9:30am | Year 6 & Parents |
| 18th July | Last Day of term – 1.30pm Finish | All |
| 1st & 2nd September | Inset Days |  |
| 3rd September | First day back | All |

**Birthday Book Donations**

Happy Birthday’s to Izzy and Alex (Chestnut). Thank you for donating a book to your class. We hope you had a special day! If you would like to donate a book, please collect a donation sticker from the school office.

Thank you all for your continued support.

Best wishes,

Katy Gent

Headteacher

Wychwood CE Primary School