



Year 1 got creative as they began their sculpture and 3D art unit

Dear Parents and Carers



Welcome back to a new term. We hope that you all had a great break and enjoyed time with your families and friends. We have been rather lucky with the lack of significant snow over the past few days compared to other areas of the country which has allowed us to get the term started strongly.

It has been all go in Year 1 this week where they welcomed two sets of visitors. Firstly, they were lucky enough to start their History topic investigating how toys have changed the world with a visit from the Chertsey toy museum. Children got the opportunity to handle toys that people played with in the past and also enjoyed pretending what life was like without any screens to occupy them. Children's behaviour was brilliant and everyone had a fabulous day.

Also this week, children in Years 1, 2, 3 and 4 have taken part in some drama workshops based on their new English books this term. These workshops have been delivered by some visiting drama teachers who have helped the the books be introduced to the children. It has been a really engaging way to start the new books and children are already really excited to delve further into each book.

We all know how important road safety is and so we have been working closely with Tamasine, one of the Royal Borough's road safety education officers (and volunteer on the school street team) to deliver some road safety workshops to pupils. The content of each workshop included how and where to cross safely, remembering the importance of the green cross code and to follow the actions stop, look, listen and think.

Next Thursday 16th January is School Census day. You may be aware that one of the factors that determines the funding that schools receive is based on the uptake of school dinners for children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 on census day. With this in mind, please could we ask every parent in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2, if you haven't already, to order a hot school lunch for your child – they can still bring in and have their packed lunch, and do not even have to eat the hot lunch if they do not wish to. By ordering your child a meal on this day you will be helping Wessex secure maximum funding. Any funding not spent on meals will go towards resources for the children.

We seem to be missing some reading books. Please can we ask that all reading books belonging to school are returned once they have been read, thank you.



There are spaces left on all external led before and after school clubs, please see the clubs [page on the website](#) for more information.

Quotes of the week

New books in our Reading and Writing lessons:

"We have read One Snowy Night, I liked it when the little mole popped up from the floorboards" Jude, Reception

"I like the new book, it is called Beegu. I am doing well in my reading" Delilah, Year 2

"The Bear and the Piano is a great story because the bear in the city plays a piano" Isaac, Year 2

"Our new reading book is called Don't Cook Cinderella, it is about a witch who wants to cook Cinderella" Sophia, Year 2

"I have loved reading our new book called Resist which is set in WW2, it is fascinating" Hannah, Year 6

Diary dates coming up



Sunday 12th January

Swimathon at Braywick Leisure Centre 4-5pm
GOOD LUCK TEAM WESSEX

Tuesday 14th January

Stay and Play for prospective pupils 9:15am

Wednesday 15th January

Year 4 Road Safety Workshop

Tuesday 21st January

Young Voices choir at the O2

Thursday 6th February

Share your learning session – Year 1-6 2:45pm

Tuesday 11th February

Safer Internet Day

17th February – 21st February – Half term

Good News Certificates



EYFS: Ella and Xavi

Year 1: James and Sophie

Year 2: Sebastian and Callum

Year 3: Eliza and Harry

Year 4: Nermine and Jaida

Year 5: Anah and Billy

Year 6: Samah and Elwood

Attendance

Lower School: Ash winners with 100%

Upper School: Pine Winners with 98.3%

School attendance this week

94.3%



Last week = 93.8%
Last year average = 95%

Aiming for 97%

School Values



Positivity



This week's value has been risk. We discussed how New Year Resolutions often involve a change or doing something different. Sometimes this comes with an element of risk to try something new, push ourselves out of our comfort zone or change a habit. We linked this to having a growth mindset and how positive we can be when we try new things or achieve our goals.

Cold weather

Despite the freezing weather, snow falling and ice on the ground, we are still seeing children come to school without a coat. It is incredibly important that children have the correct clothing for the weather. It may be that we decide if children do not have a coat when it is especially cold then they can't go outside.

Parent donation reminder

As it is the start of the new term, I wanted to remind you of our parent voluntary donation to the school funds. As a reminder, we request a donation of £22 per term or £60 per year, per family, which can be paid through the Arbor Portal. However, we understand that not all families may be able to contribute at this level; so we have other options for different levels of contributions should you wish to make these via Arbor.

A reminder that these donations are voluntary, and do not cover the cost of school trips, where we will continue to ask for voluntary contributions.

Any contribution is very gratefully received - we appreciate everything that you do to help us provide the best possible learning experience for our children.

Character Curriculum

This week's character curriculum focus was a reminder of how we expect pupils to enter the school each morning. It is good to refresh and review our expectations so that they remain current with pupils. Within the classrooms, staff are reminding children of the routines and expectations in class as we start the new year too.

How to come in to the school



- Be in correct uniform and shoes
 - Walk to their entrance door.
 - Enter the building quietly.
 - Say good morning to friends and adults.
 - Put things away quickly and sensibly.
 - Leave their cloakroom or locker space tidy.
- Find their seat / carpet space and begin morning work.



Positivity



Honesty



Respect



Pride

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HERE**



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YEARS**

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5:15pm-
6:15pm**

**YEAR 4 - 6
6:20pm-
7:20pm**

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Dear Parent

Little Musketeers at Wessex Primary School | Purple Term – Leadership and Responsibility

Little Musketeers are back offering a fun, safe and educational environment for young children to learn the sport of fencing. What child has not grown up pretending to be a swashbuckling pirate, a dueling Musketeer, or even the master of swordplay himself, Zorro? Why do they do it? Because it's fun!

Little Musketeers provide bright coloured foam and plastic foils and plastic masks with mesh visors that are safe and yet hard enough to give children the real feel of fencing. We ensure visors are worn at all times giving peace of mind as well as that genuine fencing experience.

Little Musketeers classes are designed and managed by Olympic fencer and 4 times British National Champion James Beevers. All staff are CRB checked, First Aid certified and trained personally by James.

This term's course will focus on **Leadership and Responsibility** as well as focusing on balance and reaction speed! Once the course is completed, they will be awarded with the **Purple term wristband**.

We hope you can join us for our **10-week course** as follows:

- Monday 13th January - Monday 24th March 2025 / 08:00 - 08:45 / Year 1, Year 2, Year 3, Year 4, Year 5, Year 6

The cost for the course will be **£80.00** per child.

If your child would like to sign up for this course, please visit:

<https://bookings.littlemusketeers.com>

Once there, follow the instructions to complete your booking online. **Places are limited and will be allocated on a first come first serve basis.**

Yours Faithfully

Hayley Munt

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What is Little Musketeers?

- The UK's No.1 dedicated primary school fencing programme.
- A welcoming and friendly club giving children a fun and safe introduction to the sport of fencing.
- Founded in 2009 by Olympian and 10x British champion James Beevers.
- Currently operating in 60 schools across Berkshire.



Why choose us?

Because its fun!



- Classes provide a unique mix of mental, social and physical stimulation.
- Strategic, disciplined, physical nature makes it attractive to a wide range of students.
- Endorsed by the worlds leading cognitive, developmental neuroscientist.
- Teaching the art of friendly confrontation & conflict resolution.
- Emphasis on a child's social emotional well-being.
- Development of a child's executive functions.