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## A final farewell to Chris!

St Matt's Church Vicar, Chris, came for a final visit to the school on Wednesday ahead of him retiring from being Vicar of St Matt's Church next week. It was so very special to see him, to thank him for his 32 years of support for the school, and to witness the joy and love shown by the children as he visited classrooms. He has been missed this year and will be missed in the future.



We wish Chris and his family lots of happiness for the future.

## Forest School

On Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> May, 4S (Year 4 – Mr Smith) will be taking part in Forest School.



## A message from Miss Harris

It has been lovely to welcome the children back to school this week and has certainly been busy as everyone settles into the new term.

Years 1 and 2 launched into the new term by visiting Southborough Civic Centre on Wednesday – they watched an amazing puppet show of Anansi and the Lost Sun.



A big well done to Class 6H who sat two tests as part of a Government trial to review some SATs papers. Our school was selected to take part and the children worked hard to complete the tests and provide feedback on the questions. A really valuable experience! The Department for Education representative spoke highly of our children in relation to their effort and responses. We are very proud!

## Positive Changes and Successes

The Easter break was a busy one at School – the planned building work has been completed (for now!) and we had lots of other maintenance completed too, including the replacing of the lights in the main hall.

For the parents/carers of children in Reception and Years 1/2, you may well have already seen the new wall and fence on the playground and the new steps leading up to the field – we are very pleased with it all! The wall and steps are so much sturdier and look so much better! Now we are organising the play equipment into zones on the playground to enable our children to have an even more enjoyable time at breaktimes and lunchtimes.



The 18 Velux windows have also been installed – these have replaced rotting windows that leaked and did not open and have created lighter classrooms and communal spaces which are so much better for our children. Our roof has also been cleaned and 2 ½ ton bags of moss was removed... wow!



We very much thank Kent County Council for funding this work - the workers from the company who completed it were a pleasure to work with too! Now we move onto the next project!

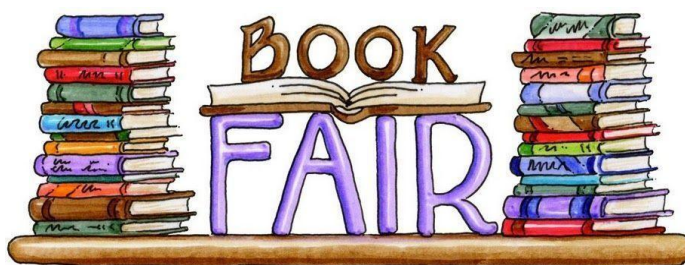
## Attendance: A message from our Attendance Officer, Mrs Smith!

It has been a pleasure to write and see presented 194 certificates to celebrate excellent and very good attendance at school between Christmas and Easter. A massive **74 children achieved 100% attendance** during this time! A further **71 children achieved 97% or above** and another **49 children with 96%**.

This is nearly double the amount of children achieving good and excellent levels of attendance when compared to the attendance in the autumn terms!



Well done everyone – attending school every day really does make a difference to children's learning and progress!



## Book Fair in school next week!

Next week, the Book Fair visits us again! It will be available to parents/carers and their children to visit after school on Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday and will be situated in the hall. Please do pay it a visit!

## Goodbye to Mr Cawfield



Our Site Manager, Mr Cawfield, is moving onto pastures new. He will be missed and we wish him well for the future – and hope our paths cross again.

We are now advertising for a new Site Manager – an advert for the position can be found [here](#).

## Dates for your Diary

You will have already seen the Term dates for the year, but if you would like to refer to them again, you can find them by following [this link](#).

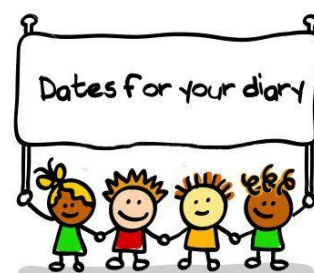
Many of the events below will be followed with additional details.

### Dates for Term 5:

- Week beginning Monday 28<sup>th</sup> April: Book Fair in School
- Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> April @ 2.30pm: Parent Meeting with Educational Psychologist
- Monday 5<sup>th</sup> May: Bank Holiday, School closed to pupils
- Friday 9<sup>th</sup> May: Years 1/2 visit to the Assembly Halls to see 'Happy Birthday Nitwit'.
- Week beginning Monday 12<sup>th</sup> May: SATs week for Year 6 pupils
- Week beginning Monday 19<sup>th</sup> May: Year 6 Residential and Activity Week
- Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> May: Non-uniform day - PTA event
- Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> May: Term 5 ends

### Dates for Term 6:

- Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> June: Term 6 begins
- Fortnight beginning Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> June: Year 4 Multiplication Times Table Check
- Monday 9<sup>th</sup> June: Class Photos
- Friday 13<sup>th</sup> June: Non-uniform day – PTA event
- Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> and Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> June: Parent Consultations for Years 1-6
- Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> June: Key Stage 2 Sports Morning
- Friday 27<sup>th</sup> June: Reception and Key Stage 1 Sports Morning
- Saturday 5<sup>th</sup> July: Summer Fair – PTA Event
- Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> July: Term 6 and the school year ends



The calendar for the next school year including Term Dates for 2025-2026 can be found on our school website and/or by following [this link](#).