

Friday 14th February 2020

Dear Parents/Carers,

Inspiring others, creating opportunities

I cannot believe the first half term for Spring is already over. It has been a jam-packed term with lots of learning happening in a variety of creative and exciting ways which has been lovely to watch. Thank you to all our staff who have worked hard to deliver the curriculum so that the children are enthused about their learning and to the staff who give up their time to allow your children to take part in all those extra curricular experiences such as sport, music, attending the overnight residentials and those that create the displays around the school to keep it looking bright and cheery. Tickford Park is lucky to have such dedicated members of staff. As ever, your children have been delightful and all visitors comment on how polite and engaging they are.

Everdon

Despite the weather, all the Year 4 children who attended Everdon had a super time. I am so relieved the visit took place between storm Ciara and the upcoming storm Dennis! If you have not already done so, you can look at photos of the trip on Twitter which can be accessed through an app on your phone or viewed on our Twitter feed found on the homepage of our website.

Year 1 Phonic Screening Test Workshop

Thank you to the parents who attended the Phonic Screening Test workshop with Mrs Battle and Mrs Valentine. The team showed the parents a video <https://safeYouTube.net/w/bhEt> demonstrating how to say the sounds in their purest form. The year 1 children will take the test in June, it comprises of 20 real words and 20 alien words. Parents were shown examples of the words and even completed a 'test' altogether at the end of the session! The parents received an informative handout about the Phonic screening Test with helpful websites and apps to aid the children's phonics to use at home. If you were unable to attend, the team are sending your child's handout home in the children's green home learning book.

After School Clubs – New Arrangements for Collection

To keep all our children and staff safe when they are on site after school, we have reviewed the arrangements for collection from after school clubs. As from week beginning 24th February 2020, the gates will be locked at the end of the day and then opened for collection from clubs. Arrangements will be as follows:

Club	Day	Collection Arrangements
Coding	Tuesday	Release from office (as usual)
Cheerleading	Tuesday and Wednesday	Release from middle gate (near Rivermeadow Pre School)
Fashion Design	Tuesday	Release from field gate (near year 5 classroom)
Dodgeball	Wednesday	Release from field gate (near year 5 classroom)
Cookery Club	Wednesday	Release from middle gate (near Rivermeadow Pre School)
Street Dance	Thursday	Release from middle gate (near Rivermeadow Pre School)
Football Club	Thursday	Release from field gate (near year 5 classroom)

Fab Finish Year 2

Year 2 parents/carers are invited to join us on 24th February from 2:40pm to look at the end of this term's topic.

Late pick up from school

There has recently been an increasing number of children being collected late after school. Whilst we understand that there is the odd occasion when parents are late due to circumstances beyond their control, this should not be a regular occurrence. If children are left after school, we reserve the right to book them into after school club and parents will be charged for the session.

Midday Supervisor Vacancy

We have a vacancy for a midday supervisor. If you love working with children in the great outdoors, then this would be perfect for you! If you would like more information and an application form, please look at our website http://www.tickfordpark.co.uk/uploads/1/0/8/8/10881774/advert_for_lunchtime_supervisor.pdf or contact the school office. Thank you.



The **NSPCC's Speak out. Stay safe.** Programme is visiting our school to make sure our pupils have the knowledge and understanding they need to stay safe from abuse.

Assembly for KS1 and then KS2: Tuesday 25th February 2020.
Workshops: Wednesday 26th for Year 5 and Thursday 27th February for Year 6.

Through child-friendly, interactive assemblies and workshops their specially trained staff and volunteers will give our children information about how to keep themselves safe from harm and how to get help if they have any worries, sensitively discussing issues like bullying and sexual abuse, without using scary words or adult language. We have taken part in this programme before and are extremely confident, that they are appropriate for primary-school-aged children and the sessions will give them the power to "Speak Out, Stay Safe".

Year 1 visit reminder – 27th February, 2020

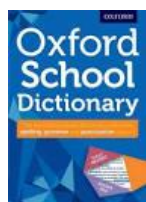
Year 1 are excited about visiting Milton Keynes District and Reform Synagogue in Giffard Park on Thursday the 27th February. Children will be departing the school at 10.00 and arriving back at approximately 11.50, before lunch. School uniform and sensible shoes with coat are advised.

Newsletter distribution

In order to cut costs, save paper, and streamline communications (we already use parentmail, school coms, website and twitter), this edition of the newsletter is the last one that will be copied and handed out to the children who at present receive paper copies. After half term the letter will continue to be sent out via parentmail and published on the website. If any of you would like a paper copy of the newsletter, just pop into the office and request one, which the office will copy on demand.

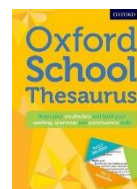
Year 2 learn about communication

On Monday this week the Year 2 children went on a visit to the Milton Keynes museum to enhance their topic of Communication. We visited the communication room where the children were able to learn about the very first forms of communication through to modern day communication. There was lots of hands on experience involved, from sending messages via Morse Code through to alerting the emergency services of crimes or fires. The children enjoyed playing the part of the switchboard operator and the importance of putting calls through. The visit also included a trip to the museum and seeing how early forms of print were produced and a trip to the post office where telegrams were sent.



Friends of Tickford Park Primary School

Thank you very much to our Friends who have bought all classes in Key Stage 2 five new dictionaries and five new thesauruses. The children will love using them. FOTPPS have created a programme of events for after half term, the dates of which will be published in the first newsletter when we return for the half term holiday.



Enjoy the half term break and I hope this weekend's storm does not cause much more damage to people's garden fences! We look forward to seeing everyone again on Monday 24th February.

Kind regards

Claire

Miss Claire Britnell
Executive Headteacher



Department for Education

Coronavirus – Advice for all early year’s providers, schools and further education providers

The government is closely monitoring the spread of Coronavirus and is taking action at home and abroad. The overall risk of Coronavirus to the UK remains moderate. However, we understand that people may be concerned where there are children, students or staff returning from or visiting China.

Advice for parents/guardians

You should not be unduly worried about the possibility of your children catching the Coronavirus. There is no reason why your children should not continue to attend their early years, school or further education setting as normal. We recognise that some families or children may be planning to travel to China during the forthcoming half term period. If so, please refer to the FCO’s latest travel advice via the link, <https://gov.uk/coronavirus>.

What action can you take?

A UK wide campaign has been launched to provide clear advice on how to slow the spread of Coronavirus. Please help support the campaign which promotes basic hygiene practices, such as regularly washing hands and always sneezing into a tissue, to stem the spread of viruses.

Follow Five Steps to Wash Your Hands the Right Way

1. Wet your hands with clean, running water (warm or cold), turn off the tap, and apply soap.
2. Lather your hands by rubbing them together with soap.
3. Scrub your hands for at least 20 seconds.
4. Rinse your hands well under clean, running water.



This Sunday, 16th February the MK Dons Women are playing their biggest game in their history. They are hosting Stoke City in the National League Cup Semi-Final, with the winners playing against either Sunderland or Southampton in the Final.

Entry to Stadium MK is completely free for all spectators, with entry at Gate 7 (to the right of the Box Office) from 1:15pm. Kick-off is at 2pm. It would be lovely to get as much support as possible, and hopefully inspire sine girls from our school to take up this sport.

Dates for your calendar (these dates may be subject to change)

Date	Year Group	Visit/Event
24.02.2020	Whole School	School opens
24.02.2020	2	Fab Finish from 2:40pm
25.05.2020	KS1 and KS2	NSPCC Assembly.
26.02.2020	5	NSPCC Workshop
27.02.2020	6	NSPCC Workshop
27.02.2020	1	Synagogue visit
02.03.2020	WholeSchool	Scolastic Book Fair arrives (open for parents 3:00pm – 3:30pm) Book Week launched in classrooms. Stop, Drop and Read (all adults reading to children)
03.03.2020	Whole School	Assembly – author Janet Roberts visits school
04.03.2020	Whole School	Reading Mix Up – Shared reading across the classes
05.03.2020	Whole School	World Book Day – 9am costume parade (dress up as your favourite character)
05.03.2020	Whole School	Scolastic Book Fair ends
06.03.2020	Whole School	Book Week Celebration Assembly
06.03.2020	6	RAF Museum
16.03.2020	Parents	Maths workshop 5:30 – 6:30pm
17.03.2020	Parents	Maths workshop 9 – 10am
19.03.2020	Foundation	Pizza Express
24.03.2020	Whole School	Class Photographs (please make sure your children are in uniform)
03.04.2020	Whole School	School closes at end of session
20.04.2020	Whole School	School opens
29.04.2020	3 and 4	Performance – 1:30pm
29.04.20	3 and 4	Performance 6pm
08.05.2020	Whole School	May Bank Holiday
22.05.2020	Whole School	School closes at end of session
01.06.2020	Whole School	INSET Day – staff only in school
02.06.2020	Whole School	School opens
22.06.2020	5	Residential visit to Oakwood leaves

26.06.2020	5	Residential visit returns from Oakwood
14.07.2020	6	Residential visit to Caldecotte leaves
17.07.2020	6	Residential visit returns from Caldecotte
17.07.2020	Whole School	School closes at end of session
20.07.2020	Whole School	INSET Day – staff only in school
07.09.2020	Whole School	School opens
22.10.2020	Whole School	School closes at end of session
02.11.2020	Whole School	School opens
18.12.2020	Whole School	School closes at end of session
05.01.2021	Whole School	School opens
12.02.2021	Whole School	School closes at end of session
22.02.2021	Whole School	School opens
26.03.2021	Whole School	School closes at end of session
12.04.2021	Whole School	School opens
03.05.2021	Whole School	Bank Holiday
28.05.2021	Whole School	School closes at end of session
08.06.2021	Whole School	School opens
22.07.2021	Whole School	School closes at end of session