

The Blue Letter: 24th October 2019



Dear Parents/Carers

We have reached half term! I hope you all have a lovely week and the children return ready and raring to go. The half term leading up to Christmas will certainly be a busy one I'm sure.

Just to clarify for those who have asked, Mrs Smyth will be with us until Christmas and starts her new job in January.

Our Premises Manager has decided to move onto pastures new and we will shortly be advertising for a replacement. The role includes the cleaning of the classrooms as well as upkeep and maintenance of the buildings and grounds. It is a part-time role with some work during the holidays. If you know of anyone who might be interested do let them know. The vacancy will be advertised on the West Sussex website after the half-term holiday.

We are currently also advertising for a Clerk to the governing body. This a part time, term time only role and further details can be found on this website: <https://www.westsussex.gov.uk/jobs/school-jobs/>

A reminder that the first day back after half term is an INSET day. We look forward to seeing you all on 5th November.

Monday 4th November	INSET DAY
Tuesday 5th November	Fitjoy Club - finishes 4pm
Wednesday 6th November	Create Club taster during school
Thursday 7th November	Owl Class visit to Weald and Downland
Friday 8th November	Owl and Fox Class Theatre trip

Collective Worship

Our focus for the start of the next half term will be Remembrance and the value of respect. We will be thinking about and reflecting on the sacrifices made by our armed services in past conflicts .Our bible verse will be John 15:13 "Greater love has no one than this: to lay down one's life for one's friends."



Firework Safety

Watching fireworks is great fun. But burns from fireworks can be devastating – and happen very easily if you don't take the correct safety precautions.

- Over 500 children under 16 are rushed to A&E in the four weeks surrounding bonfire night.
- Many more boys than girls are injured by fireworks – especially boys aged 12 to 15.
- The most common injuries are to hands, followed by the eyes and face.

Most injuries happen at family bonfire parties or private displays. Understanding the dangers of fireworks can prevent injuries and in some cases save lives.

Firework safety – the basics

Make sure children stand at a safe distance from the bonfire.

- Keep everyone well back from the display.
- Never return to a lit firework.
- Never throw fireworks.
- Keep fireworks in a closed metal box.
- Always follow the instructions when using fireworks.

Did you know: A rocket can reach speeds of 150mph.



Sparkler safety

Sparklers are not 'fireworks lite' – **A sparkler can reach a temperature of up to 2,000 degrees Celsius – 20 times the boiling point of water.** And three sparklers burning together generate the same heat as a blowtorch!

- Always hold sparklers at arm's length and wear gloves when handling them.
- Don't hold babies and young children while you're holding a sparkler – they can reach out unexpectedly and grab at them.



- Don't give sparklers to children under 5. They're too young to hold them safely and don't understand why they might be dangerous.
 - Older children can be trusted with sparklers, but need supervision. Teach them not to wave sparklers near anyone else or run while holding them.
- Once sparklers are out, make sure you put them in a bucket of water.

Deadline Reminders

The deadline for year 6 parents to apply for secondary school places is **31st October**.

Open Day

If your child is due to start school in September 2020, we will be holding an open day on Thursday 28th November for parents to look around the school. Please spread the word and ask anyone interested to contact the school to arrange an appointment for that day.