

Music of the Week: Fur Elise composed by Beethoven

2nd February 2024

Dear Parents/Carers

Here is a reminder of key dates for this next week:

	Talbot	St. Peter's
Monday 5 th February	SHINE WEEK Children's Mental Health Week WRAP AROUND Care	SHINE WEEK Children's Mental Health Week WRAP AROUND Care
Tuesday 6 th February	WRAP AROUND Care	WRAP AROUND Care
Wednesday 7 th February	WRAP AROUND Care	WRAP AROUND Care
Thursday 8 th February	WRAP AROUND Care The Moorlands Primary Federation Parents' Meeting at 6pm	WRAP AROUND Care
Friday 9 th February	TSA Cake Sale	WRAP AROUND Care FOMS Crazy hair/hat day!

Key dates for your diary

	Talbot	St. Peter's
W/C 12 th February	HALF TERM	HALF TERM
1 st March	DEVA Roman Experience for Years 3 and 4	DEVA Roman Experience for Years 3 and 4
4 th March		PARENTS' EVENING
7 th March	TSA Bakes and Books	PARENTS' EVENING
11 th March	Non-Uniform Day for TSA chocolate tombola PARENTS' EVENING	
14 th March	PARENTS' EVENING	
22 nd March	TSA Easter Parade and chocolate tombola	

W/C 25 th March	Easter Holiday	Easter Holiday
8 th April 2024	INSET - School Closed	INSET - School Closed
21 st May	INSPIRE Trip for Years 3 and 4	INSPIRE Trip for Years 3 and 4
W/C 27 th May	HALF TERM	HALF TERM
22 nd July 2024	INSET - School Closed	INSET - School Closed

Special Notes:

- I will always try to see you at short notice if at all possible. If your issue is urgent and I am unavailable, I will ensure that another senior member of staff is made available to you. For non-urgent meetings, you are welcome to telephone the School Office. Mrs. Hill and Mrs. Delaney-Lewis manage my diary and will be more than happy to make you an appointment at a mutually convenient time or you can always drop me an email (jfarrington@woodlandsfederation.staffs.sch.uk). Alternatively, you can catch me on the school gate where we can easily make an arrangement to meet.
- My weekly newsletter is accessible via Dojo and is uploaded to the school website. If you would prefer an email version, you can log on to the school website (following the NEWS AND EVENTS tab and then NEWS/LETTERS) and enter your email address to sign up. In the same way, if you would prefer a paper copy of the newsletter, please let the School Office know.
- Please note that OFFICE HOURS are 8am - 4pm.

- This half term, the after school club activities at Talbot are as follows:

Monday	Craft Night!
Tuesday	Talbot Choir
Wednesday	Sports with Jack
Thursday	Gym Club using the apparatus

- This half term, the after school club activities at St. Peter's are as follows:

Monday	Construction
Tuesday	Sports with Jack
Wednesday	Crafty Club!
Thursday	Singing Hands
Friday	Yoga and Mindfulness

For those that have already booked Wraparound Care for this half term, there is no need to book into these clubs as they form part of our Wraparound Care. If you have not already booked in and would like your child to take part in these clubs then book in the usual way via the school office. **Don't forget – under the new WAC terms and conditions, there will be a charge applied for late bookings.**

Just a reminder that **next Thursday 8th February**, there will be an opportunity for Parents/Carers to meet with The Moorlands Primary Federation. The meeting will take place at Talbot First School at 6pm. It is an ideal opportunity for you to come along, meet with the CEO Jared Eccles and to hear all about their plans to support our two lovely schools. It is also an opportunity for you to ask any questions that you may have about the merger. If you are not able to attend or would like to submit your question(s) in advance, please email the School Office and these questions will be covered during the meeting. If you have a question that you do not wish to be shared publically, simply submit your question and you will receive a reply via email. Otherwise, bring your questions along to the meeting! Mrs. Duddy (Talbot's Parent Representative) will be taking notes throughout the meeting. These notes will be available to you, should you not be able to attend.

Please try and come along to the meeting – this is a very exciting stage for our two schools and we are all so fortunate to have found The Moorlands Federation!

- You will see that our next SHINE WEEK will take place next week. During the week, the children will complete assessments in reading, writing, maths and spelling. These assessments will inform us of the progress that your child is making and help us to plan the next steps in learning. Please make sure that the children get off to bed early each night and make time for breakfast before arriving at school. This will really help them to show what they know and shine at their best!
- It's a short half term and we will be taking a break at the end of next week for the half term holiday. At the end of next week, you will receive your next ATTENDANCE letter. This will inform you of your child's attendance for this half term since Christmas. Your child's attendance will be colour coded as follows:
GREEN: 96 – 100%
AMBER: 90 – 95.9%

RED: Under 90%

- The **Talbot Toddlers** is now thriving every Wednesday! A massive THANK YOU to our Play Leaders for getting this off the ground! We are now planning to set up **St. Peter Pan's Toddlers** in school for one morning (2 hours) a week. If you would be interested in volunteering to lead this group or simply help out, please speak to Mrs. Hill or Mrs. Delaney-Lewis in the School Office.
- We all recognise and understand that children end up with lumps, bumps and injuries whilst playing at home! If your child has suffered an **out-of-school injury**, please be sure to let a member of staff know when they are dropped off in a morning.
- I am still receiving some requests for HOLIDAYS IN TERM TIME. Please note that leave of absence will not be granted for holidays during term time unless there are exceptional circumstances. Amendments to the Education Regulations 2006 removed references to family holidays as well as the threshold of ten school days and the criteria is now extremely tight. Where unapproved holidays are taken during term time, it is likely that a PENALTY NOTICE will be issued.

On Friday 1st March, Year 3 and Year 4 will be visiting the Deva Roman Experience in Chester. This is a first for the Woodlands Federation and looks like being an amazing day!

The children will be transported back to the time of the Romans, where they will travel across the sea to the North of Brittania, to the Roman Fortress of Deva!

Once they have arrived and boarded a ship, the children will learn why the Romans invaded Britain and built the fortress of Deva and what it was like to live in Chester as a Roman Soldier nearly 2000 years ago. There will be ports to explore, streets to walk down, a hospital, a Roman bath, an amphitheatre and plenty of hands-on activities.

Your child will be enlisted into the Roman Army, where they will meet a veteran of the legion who will put them through their paces and have them working together as a team to become the finest soldiers the world has ever seen!

The Roman soldier will march the school group through Chester chanting as they go and carrying their shields ready to create Roman military formations.

This promises to be an incredible day for our keen young historians!

- Just a reminder to ensure that clear lines of communication are maintained. If you have a problem or an issue please can I ask that in the first instance you:
 - Speak to the class teacher if it is a class-based issue or ask the school office to arrange for the class teacher to give you a call. Alternatively you could message the teacher on DOJO. **Please note that for staff well-being, staff will only reply to your message during working hours.**
 - If the class teacher is not able to resolve the issue or you are not happy with the outcome, then speak to me or drop me an email and I will do everything I can to sort out the problem.
 - If you are not happy with the outcome having spoken to me, then your next step would be to formally raise the issue with our Governing Body who will then look into the matter for you. Please remember that no Governor can be involved in managing your issue or complaint if they have prior knowledge of your issue.

On Tuesday 21st May, Year 3 and Year 4 will be attending the annual "Inspire" event at Lichfield Cathedral. The "big question" this year is "What does it mean to be human?"

Children will have the opportunity to meet and work with children from across the county in high-quality learning experiences including:

- - Reflecting with WISDOM around the question of what it means to be human
 - Engaging in the art of the cathedral as a means of expressing HOPE
 - Experiencing the use and science of music to express COMMUNITY
 - Considering the importance of DIGNITY and responsibility in being human
 - Experience the AWE and WONDER of Lichfield Cathedral.

We seem to be slipping through the winter without any S—W!! However, to ensure that we are all prepared, please be clear on our snow procedure:

In the event of SNOW, school will remain open wherever possible. Closure will be a last resort and will depend on a number of factors:

- ❖ The availability of meals for the children
- ❖ The temperature in school

- ❖ The condition of roads and pavements on route to and from school
- ❖ The availability of staff.

In the event of necessary closure due to snow during the day, a message will be sent to you via Dojo asking you to make your way to school as safely as possible to pick up your child. In the event of heavy snow overnight, a decision will be made as early as possible on the following morning and a message will be sent out to you on Dojo. The closure will also be posted on our school website. **PLEASE MAKE SURE THAT YOUR CONTACT DETAILS ARE UP TO DATE and that we have more than one contact for you.**

- Our brand new MUSIC AREA at St. Peter's is taking shape very nicely thanks to the help and support of FOMS. Already, brand new instruments (courtesy of DAVID WILSON HOMES) have begun to appear including three FABULOUS keyboards! We are SO grateful to FOMS for getting behind this project and injecting it with such energy and enthusiasm!
- It would appear that the BRIGADE website is experiencing some technical difficulties at the moment. However, don't forget that most of the supermarkets including Marks and Spencer supply jumpers and cardigans that match our school colours (and work out considerably less expensive!) Please help us to remain smart by keeping to our agreed uniform standards. If for some reason, your child is not able to come to school in the expected uniform, they will be challenged by Staff unless you have already made us aware of the reason. Please remember that if earrings are worn, this should be a small, plain stud. Please remember to remove earrings on PE days. Don't forget that we are not allowed to remove earrings for safeguarding reasons and our policy does not allow covering pierced ears with plasters. **PLEASE REMEMBER** - If you are considering having your youngster's ears pierced, please consider that this is done in the summer holiday as earrings cannot be removed from newly pierced ears for at least 6 weeks and this will result in them having to miss at least 12 PE lessons. In the same way, in line with our uniform policy, hair must be tied back and no jewellery is permitted.
- THANK YOU to everyone who has already managed to book an appointment time for the Spring term Parents' Meetings. If you haven't managed to secure a slot yet, please speak to Mrs. Hill or Mrs. Delaney-Lewis who will be more than happy to help you. Monday 4th at St. Peter's is almost fully booked so hurry if you need an appointment on that date!

- Don't forget, charges for WRAP AROUND CARE will be added on to your PARENT PAY account next week and you will be sent an invoice detailing how your charges have been calculated. **This is to cover your charges for JANUARY.**

READING AT HOME - Please try to read with your child every day. When you read with your child, please write in the reading diary or for the older children, support them in writing in the diary themselves. Please ensure that your child's reading book and diary is in school every day. Reading every day makes a REAL DIFFERENCE!

Don't forget that our TALBOT TODDLERS group runs on a Wednesday morning in the school hall. Come and take a break for a couple of hours and enjoy a chat and a cuppa!



- St. Peter's - Please remember that gates will close **promptly at 8.30am** each morning to safeguard all children. No vehicles will be permitted to enter/leave the carpark during the period of 8.30am - 9.10am. PLEASE NOTE that the carpark is intended for **STAFF use only**. Could I please ask that

Parents/Carers do not use the carpark - your vehicle will not be insured if a bump takes place on this carpark.

- Talbot - Please don't park on the zigzag lines outside of school when dropping off in the morning - the road can become very congested and emergency vehicles would not be able to make their through if needed.
- The children are working SO hard to improve their presentation and to achieve a PRESENTATION AWARD! Don't be surprised if your young learner comes home with two pieces of photocopied work to show you - the BEFORE and AFTER!

STAFFING UPDATE

Miss Allen remains absent from school. Miss Brown and Mrs. Chatfield will continue to cover the class up to the half term break.

Mrs. Holden remains absent from school. Miss Davies will continue to cover the class, supported by Mrs. Dwyer, Mrs. Fowler and Mr. Morgan.

ATTENDANCE FOR LAST WEEK:

We are all in the GREEN this week with much improved attendance - WELL DONE Everyone!

Talbot	St. Peter's
Class with best attendance: Miss Davies' class with 100% Well done! This meets and exceeds our school target and National Expectations. You get to look after Tiny Ted for the week!	Class with best attendance: Miss Beynon's class with 97.5% Well done! This meets and exceeds our school target and National Expectations. You get to look after Tiny Ted for the week!
Whole School attendance this last week: 98.6% Well done! This meets and exceeds our school target and National Expectations.	Whole School attendance this last week: 96.2% Well done! This meets and exceeds our school target and National Expectations.

Please note that leave of absence will not be granted for holidays during term time unless there are **exceptional** circumstances. Amendments to the Education Regulations 2006 removed references to family holidays as well as the threshold of ten school days and the criteria is now extremely tight. **Please remember – because we are small schools, a week's holiday from one child is sufficient to take the school below national expectation. Where unapproved holidays are taken during term time, it is likely that a PENALTY NOTICE will now be issued.**

Both FOMS and the TSA are a very small group of VOLUNTEERS who work really hard to raise money in order to provide additional experiences for our children. These special events don't just happen and their fun events and financial contributions would be very much missed by all of the school community. A big THANK YOU to all the volunteers involved. **FOMS and TSA are in REAL NEED of some new volunteers to join the group or simply to help out at some events.** If you are interested in finding out more, please speak to Mrs. Hill or Mrs. Delaney-Lewis in the School Office who will be happy to pass on your details! Please try and help out if you can – sometimes it's just some extra energy that's needed for a particular event!

This week's ROLL OF HONOUR for certificate winners is as follows:

<u>The Woodlands Federation Certificate Winners</u>				
Certificate:	Talbot:		St Peter's:	
Pen Licence				
Presentation Award	Willow:	Tegan, Zac	Ash:	Cooper
	Maple:	Harry, Max	Birch:	Aimee, Huxley, Georgia, Annie, Eliza, Florence E, Jack, Florence O, Elsie H.
Maths Award:	Willow:	Ivy	Ash:	Niamh

	Maple:	Lola	Birch:	Florence O
English Award:	Willow:	William	Ash:	Lucy
	Maple:	Rubie	Birch:	Sam
Star of the week/golden award:	Willow:	Arthur	Ash:	Lauren B
	Maple:	Annabel	Birch:	James (3)
Golden rules/value award:	Willow:	Olivia	Ash:	Ronnie
	Maple:	Emily	Birch:	Elsie P.
Headteacher award:	Willow:	Tegan, Charlie	Ash:	
	Maple:		Birch:	
Out of School Achievements:				
Talbot:		St Peter's:		
Hollie - Rainbow Distance 200m, 400m Learn to Swim Stage 7		Nancy - Football achievement Eliza - Gymnastics achievement		

WELL DONE to all these children!

I hope that you all enjoy a relaxing and peaceful weekend.

W.J. Farrington