

House Point Cup Weekly Winners

The House Points earned this week were...

Silbury	324pts
Ridgeway	322pts
Kennet	315pts
Avebury	310pts



Well done to all!

Nursery News

It has been a busy week in nursery welcoming lots of new children. The children are settling in beautifully.



Please note:

Nursery is filling up quickly for September so if anyone is looking for a pre-school place, please apply as soon as possible so you don't miss out!

Admissions Deadline is MONDAY!

If you have a child born between 1st September 2019 and 31st August 2020, your child is due to start Primary School in September 2024 and you now need to apply for your child's School place **NOW!**

Complete the online application form, which is available on Swindon Borough Council's website 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, via the [link here](#) and typed out below.

https://www.swindon.gov.uk/info/20071/school_places_and_admissions/427/primary_school_places_and_admissions

It must be completed and submitted by midnight on Monday 15th January 2024.

Even if your child is in our Nursery, or have brothers and sisters in the school, you still have to apply.

Year 1 Phonics Meeting for Parents

Year 1 children will have a government assessment in the summer.

This will be the Phonics Check.

Year 1 parents are invited to a meeting next week to outline how this will take place and what you can do to help your child prepare for this. If you are interested in your child's learning and can make the time, please come along on Tuesday 16th January - next week - 6.15pm.

If you come to the main entrance, we will open the doors around 6.10pm.

brend	label
throst	vanish
stret	blossom
spraw	thankful

Slight Menu variation next week

There is no change to next week, so no need to change anything, but you may have noticed it is fish and chips on Thursday instead of Friday next week – this is not a mistake. Periodically the usual routine of having fish and chips on Friday changes. Next week is one of those occasions. ParentPay has reflected this for some time, so please don't worry.



Golden Book

Congratulations to the following children for being mentioned in the Golden Book Assembly today for their excellent attitudes and approach.

Alyssia and Sam (Ash)
Arthur and Ava (Oak)
Lexi and Antoni (1Elm)
Evan and Rachel (1Holly)
Leonel and Lola (2Beech)
Fletcher and Ryan (2Hazel)
Harrison and Daniel (3Alder)
Ilinca, Oliver and Erin (3Birch)
Tilly and Max (4Chestnut)
Alex and Ava (4Hornbeam)
Eni and David (5Rowan)
Sofia and Anmol (5Sycamore)
James and Logan (6Juniper)
Brian and Sam L (6Willow)



Well done to all of you!

Year 4 MTC Workshop for parents

Thank you to parents who turned up for the Yr4 Parents Workshop on the Multiplication Tables Check, which your children will take this summer. Only 11 out of 64 children were represented. Mr Shore and Miss Harland outlined how this government test takes place, and how to use the Times Tables Rockstars software to help your child at home. They also shared some games and activities you can play at home to help your children learn their times tables. My thanks to Mr Shore, Miss Harland and those who came despite the poor turn out. **BB**



Parent Consultation Evenings (PCEs) - Survey

Following the number of appointments either missed, or not what people wanted, in the last round of parent evenings, we will be sending out a survey very soon, asking for parent opinions on whether they would prefer face-to-face or online.

We will set the number of appointments based on the responses we receive. **So please do the survey.**

It will take 1 click on the screen...seconds!

For example, if 75% of parents want face to face meetings, we will fail if offering a 50/50 split. Please note this timing change for all PCEs...

All PCEs, from now on, will run 3.30-6.30pm.

More sporting successes

Well done to Addison who shared her recent dance successes with her class. In her Grade 1 tap exam, Addison passed with Distinction (87%) and has already progressed onto Grade 2. Not only that, at her dance school end of year awards evening, Addison won a gold trophy for musicality. Great job Addison!



Year 3 Geography/History Fieldwork.

As part of their geography fieldwork, Year 3 walked to Groundwell Ridge, near St Andrews Ridge, to observe a previous Roman site. The children enjoyed looking at the views across Swindon and finding residential and retail areas within it. The children behaved brilliantly, and we look forward to visiting again in the warmer months so that we can find the similarities and differences in the seasonal flora and fauna.



UPCOMING PARENTING PROGRAMMES (open to all parents but schools must book a place)

Happy Homes – held @ Catherine Wayte starts 30th January 2024

Family Links – held @ Abbey Meads starts 7th March 2024

LIGHTHOUSE

UPCOMING PARENT SESSIONS

(open to all parents – parents can just attend – no need to book)

Eating Well - held @ William Morris
18/01/24 9am

Eating Well - held @ Abbey Meads
25/01/24 9am

'Happy Homes' and 'Family Links' are courses that take a number of weeks to complete. The school needs to book you on these – please see Mrs Cunningham – you can catch her on the gate or call in to school.

'Eating Well' are one off sessions and you can just turn up!

Lighthouse is the Early Intervention Team from The Blue Kite Academy Trust, of which we are extremely proud to be a member school.

This service is only available to schools within our trust and unique within Swindon.

Please contact Mrs Cunningham for more information.



Who we are

We are an Early Intervention service supporting the schools within the Blue Kite Academy Trust. We work with schools, families and children, offering a whole family approach to manage a variety of issues to support long term change.

Our Team

We are an experienced, multi-disciplinary team made up of:

- Inclusion Workers
- Family Support Workers
- Educational Psychologist
- Educational Welfare Officer
- Therapeutic Play Practitioner

What we offer

Our work takes a wide range of approaches. We can offer direct work with children, family support within school and within the home. This may be through:

- 'Behaviour support' 'Signposting to relevant services' 'Supporting in meetings'
- 'Practical help such as budgeting or completing paperwork.'

We also run regular parenting programmes.

Work with children

Our work with children may be through collaborating with your child's school to create a support plan, one to one or group work around a wide range of areas such as social and emotional skills, behaviour, relationships or school attendance. We also offer 'Drawing and Talking' sessions.

If you feel Lighthouse may be able to support your family please contact your child's school who will discuss this further with you and complete a referral into us.



The Abbey Meads Amble 2024

SAVE THE DATE!

5K Walk-Jog-Run-Crawl

When: 23rd March 2024 Time: 10am Registrations 11am Start

Come and join us for what is affectionately known as **The Amble**. One person's sprint is another person's amble. Come and walk, jog, run or even crawl around our specially designed 5K route around Abbey Meads and Seven Fields.

Whether a 20-minute dash or a scenic stroll, 5km is 5km (3.1 miles)! Amble, scramble or ramble your way around and we will celebrate 'finish lines' not 'finish times'... unless you want to try for one of the fastest age group times!

Entry Fee Details to follow

There will be a medal for all finishers and a Fun Day to follow, with bouncy castles, BBC, cakes and other refreshments available. All money raised will be going to schools run by Project Gambia Charity. <https://www.projectgambia200.com/>

We sponsor children through a full year of education. In these charity run schools. To provide uniform, food and education for one child it costs just £60.00 a year. We hope each class will sponsor a child, if we raise sufficient funds. (£2.00 from each AMCPS pupil would provide a full year's education for 12 infant children through Project Gambia)

Find out more about the charity, by visiting this link: <https://www.projectgambia200.com/>





NYC

NETBALL YOUTH CAMP

The ultimate day for netball lovers!
Ages 9-11 years

TUESDAY 13TH FEB 2024
10:00AM - 3:00PM

DORCAN RECREATION COMPLEX
SWINDON
SN3 5DA

ANY QUESTIONS PLEASE CONTACT:
ANNA.YOUNG@ENGLANDNETBALL.CO.UK

- WATCH PLAY
- TEAM BUILDING
- LEARN NEW SKILLS
- DISCOUNT FOR EN MEMBERS
- GREAT OPPORTUNITY TO SOCIALISE

£40 or £35 for EN members

Please see the next page for an update on dates and events coming over the next two terms.

2024
CALENDAR

Not all events are on this calendar – classes will inform when additional trips and geography fieldwork etc are set.

The majority is an extract from the dates first published in July 2023. Any changes (in yellow) have been updated on the master document as well... [Events Diary click here!](#)



Dates and Events taken as an extract from our Website Dates Page. Originally shared with parents July 2023.

15th	6.15pm	Local Governing Body Meeting	Governors
18th	Morning	Science Dome coming for Year 5 pupils as part of their curriculum. School time in the school hall.	Yr5 children
16th	6.15pm	Phonics Meeting for Parents - Year 1 (about the Phonics Screening Check 2024)	Year 1 Parents
16th	7pm	FOAMS Meeting - all welcome	Parents
22nd-24th	3 days/2 nights	Y4 Chestnut Residential Trip - The Wilderness Centre - with Mr Buckley	Children
24th-26th	3 days/2 nights	Y4 Hornbeam Residential Trip - The Wilderness Centre - with Mrs Cunningham	Children
February 2024			
2nd	9am	Year 4 Class Assembly	Year 4 Parents
6th	3-4pm	Book Look - parents look at work with children - 3-4pm	Families
8th	5-6pm & 6.15-7.30pm	FOAMS Discos - Rec-Yr2 between 5-6pm and Year 3 to Year 6 between 6.15-7.30pm	Children
9th	LAST DAY of term 3 - Finish at 1.30pm (4.30pm Sunshine Club)		
End of Term 3 Break			
19th	7.30am & 8.30am	First Day of Term 4 - Sunshine Breakfast Club at 7.30am and School at 8.30am	
22nd	School Day	Scout and Girl Guiding Founders Day - Uniforms welcome in school	Children
March 2024			
5th	6pm	Year 6 SATS Meeting - Yr6 Parents	Year 6 Parents
5th	7pm	FOAMS Meeting - all welcome	Parents
7th	All day	World Book Day Non- Uniform OPTIONAL Dressing Up!	Children
8th	9am	Year 3 Class Assembly	Year 3 Parents
11th	6.15pm	Local Governing Body	Governors
15th	All day	Comic Relief - Red Nose Day - any activities etc will be announced nearer the date!	Children and Staff
21st	5-6pm & 6.15-7.30pm	FOAMS Discos - Rec-Yr2 between 5-6pm and Year 3 to Year 6 between 6.15-7.30pm	Children
22nd	9am	Year 2 Class Assembly	Year 2 Parents
Sat. 23rd	11am	Abbey Meads Amble 5K Walk/Jog/Run/Crawl - save the date - poster in this newsletter - more details VERY SOON!	Parents/Family/Friends
25-27th	School Day	Curriculum Enrichment Week 2 - Focus = Science and Technology (including Science & Technology House Cup Competition)	
26th	3.15pm-4.30pm	Kitchen Sink Science Family Learning Event - families stay after school and enjoy Science Activities	
27th	3pm	Last Day of Term 4 (Easter) (Sunshine Club at 6pm)	
28th	Teacher Training Day 3- School Closed to children		
April 2024			
15th	7.30am and 8.30am	First Day of Term 5 - Sunshine Breakfast Club at 7.30pm and 8.30am for School	
16th	3.30-6.30pm	Parent, Child, Teacher Consultations - please note 'Parent Evening' timings have changed and we will be consulting on how to allocate face to face and virtual appointments so we can improve our system based on feedback from parents. Surveys on their way soon. Please respond!	
18th	3.30-6.30pm		
22nd	6.30pm	Parent Update - Updates for Parents from Mr. Buckley	Parents only