

Dear Families,

Summer 1 is already well underway! Since returning from the holidays the teachers have commented on how the children are focused, engaged and ready to learn. Well done everyone, keep up the good work!

### Handwriting Wall of Fame!

As you are aware foundational skills of learning are crucial for children to be able to access the next steps in their education, and this year we have introduced a new handwriting programme called Letter Join. Every class is striving to improve their handwriting and the impact has been incredible. So much so, I have introduced a display in school called the, "Handwriting Wall of Fame!" Every Friday the class teachers select one pupil who has made the most progress or has made the most effort in improving their handwriting. Their work is displayed, their name is written on the wall, a Mrs Parr star is added to their book and they receive a membership card to officially welcome them to the Handwriting Wall of Fame! Congratulations to our inaugural members!

### The Children's Garden Competition

Before the holidays, the RRSAs launched a competition to design an inclusive garden for every child. The designs were exceptional and the ideas blew us away. As a result, we have taken different elements from every garden design and will be working over the coming months to change the paper into reality. But we need your help. On dojo next week the RRSAs will be sharing how you, as a member of our school community can contribute and get involved to make this social signature project become a reality.

### Brew Crew

Last term Miss Metcalfe undertook the Liverpool Half Marathon to raise money for the Matthew Lock ADHD Charity. Today Matthew's parents came to our Brew Crew event to talk about their experiences and offer support to our families. The event was well attended, lots of positive feedback was shared and Miss Metcalfe presented her fundraising cheque of £1366.98 to Matthew's family. Well done Miss Metcalfe what a wonderful achievement!

### Wall Climbing

On Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> April the PTA kindly funded a wall climbing experience for children in Years 2 – 6. The children loved the event and it was wonderful to see children stepping outside their comfort zones and getting to the top! This is the first of many wonderful experiences that we have planned for the children this term. Thank you to our PTA and everyone who supports all the events that raise the funds to undertake days like today.

Best wishes,  
Danielle Parr

### Safeguarding – Keeping safe online

The impacts of too much screen time is often reported on the news. In school, families often report about changes in their children when they are on devices too much. Evidence shows that excessive screen time can lead to physical and mental health issues, including eye strain, neck and back pain, disrupted sleep patterns, obesity, and reduced cognitive development.

### This week's focus is Managing Screen Time



### UNCRC Article 17: Every child has the right to reliable information.

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### Football – Come on Valewood!

On Monday 27<sup>th</sup> April at 3pm our football team will play their last league match of the season and it is a decider! The team that wins – win the league!

Please show your support for the team and stay behind after school to watch and cheer on our fantastic footballers. Thank you, Mr Hutson, for all your hard work with all of our football teams.

**Attendance Data: Whole School Target 97%****Last Week- School:**

	Attendance	No. of late marks
Reception	98.2	2
Team 1	99.2	3
Team 2	95.2	3
Team 3	96.1	2
Team 4	98.2	2
Team 5	97.8	0 (least lates)
Team 6	95.9	1

**Attendance Cup Goes to...**

Summer Term 1, Week 1: Team 4  
 Summer Term 1, Week 2: Team 1  
 Summer Term 1, Week 3: Team  
 Summer Term 1, Week 4: Team  
 Summer Term 1, Week 5: Team  
 Summer Term 1, Week 6: Team

**Attendance & Punctuality – WE CANNOT TEACH AN EMPTY SEAT!**

There may be times when your child cannot attend school as they are too unwell but there may also be times when they are a little under the weather and you maybe unsure. In 2024, DFE launched a nation-wide campaign called, “Moments Matter ...Attendance Counts.” So, if you are unsure if your child is, “Too ill for school” check out the NHS advice at <https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/>

**N.B. School gates open at 8.35am; children are expected in class at 8.40am and gates are locked at 8.45am. Please follow the one-way system.**

Please be aware that school staff can conduct a home visit if school is not able to contact parents/carers on a day when your child is absent from school/school has had no notification as to a child’s absence so please ensure your contact details are up to date on Arbor.

**Holidays in Term Time**

Holidays in term time will not be authorised. If you are planning to take your child out of school during term time a ‘Request for leave of absence’ form must be completed (the orange form) and returned to school so attendance processes can be followed. N.B. If staff suspect a holiday in term time is the reason for absence (and especially, when an international ring tone is heard, when calling) the Headteacher has the authority to change the reason of absence to ‘unauthorised’.

**TERM DATES for 2025-2026 are on our website and below...**

***Please be advised that holidays in term time will not be authorised.***

**OUR SCHOOL DAY IS FROM 8.40am to 3.15pm**

**SCHOOL TERMS AND HOLIDAYS 2025 – 2026**

	AUTUMN TERM 2025	SPRING TERM 2026	SUMMER TERM 2026
<b>Term commences</b>	Wednesday 3 September	Monday 5 January	Monday 13 April
<b>Mid-Term Holiday</b>	Monday 27 October to Friday 31 October	Monday 16 February to Friday 20 February	Monday 25 May to Tuesday 2 June
<b>Term Ends</b>	Friday 19 December	Friday 27 March	Thursday 16 July

**INSET Days:** Monday 1<sup>st</sup> September 2025  
 Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> September 2025  
 Monday 1<sup>st</sup> June 2026  
 Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> June 2026  
 Friday 17<sup>th</sup> July 2026  
 Monday 20<sup>th</sup> July 2026

## Important Dates (\*subject to change)

1 <sup>st</sup> May	Year 3 Forest School
1 <sup>st</sup> May	Year 5 Come Dine with Me 12.30pm
4 <sup>th</sup> May	Bank Holiday – School Closed
8 <sup>th</sup> May	Year 3 Forest School
8 <sup>th</sup> May	David Attenborough’s 100 <sup>th</sup> birthday
11 <sup>th</sup> May	SATS week
13 <sup>th</sup> May	Y4 residential trip to CHET
15 <sup>th</sup> May	Infant Awards Assembly 9am
15 <sup>th</sup> May	Year 3 Forest School
18 <sup>th</sup> May	Valefest Week
18 <sup>th</sup> May	Y3 Trip to Deva Roman Experience, Chester
19 <sup>th</sup> May	Rock Kids! Come to school dressed as a Rock Star!
21 <sup>st</sup> May	Junior Awards Assembly 9am
22 <sup>nd</sup> May	Finish for Half Term 3.15pm
22 <sup>nd</sup> May	Valefest Family BBQ 5pm - 7pm
1 <sup>st</sup> June	Inset Day
2 <sup>nd</sup> June	Inset Day
3 <sup>rd</sup> June	Return for Summer 2
4 <sup>th</sup> June	Soccer Boccia Aid
5 <sup>th</sup> June	Year 3 Forest School
12 <sup>th</sup> June	Own Clothes Day – Please bring bottle donations for the Summer Fair
12 <sup>th</sup> June	Forest School Book & Brew 9 - 10am
19 <sup>th</sup> June	Own Clothes Day – Please bring tombola and gift donations for the Summer Fair
22 <sup>nd</sup> June	Sports Day - Infants @9am
22 <sup>nd</sup> June	Sports Day - Juniors @10am
25 <sup>th</sup> June	Y6 and VPS Transition Day
26 <sup>th</sup> June	Y6 Transition Day Two
26 <sup>th</sup> June	Own Clothes Day – Please bring cake Donations for the Summer Fair
27 <sup>th</sup> June	Proms in the Playground and PTA Summer Fair 2pm – 5pm
29 <sup>th</sup> June	Sports Day Reserve
30 <sup>th</sup> June	Summer Book and Brew (session 1) 9am – 9.40am
30 <sup>th</sup> June	Summer Book & Brew (session 2) 9.50am – 10.30am
2 <sup>nd</sup> July	Y5 & Y6 Performance 2pm & 6pm
9 <sup>th</sup> July	Junior Awards Assembly 9am
10 <sup>th</sup> July	Infant Awards Assembly 9am
13 <sup>th</sup> July	Y6 Grand Day Out

14 <sup>th</sup> July	Celebration of Work Day and EOY Reports: 8.45am & 2.45pm
15 <sup>th</sup> July	Last After School Club session
16 <sup>th</sup> July	Y6 Leavers Assembly 9am
16 <sup>th</sup> July	Finish for Summer Holidays
16 <sup>th</sup> July	After School Club is closed
17 <sup>th</sup> July	INSET Day – Staff only to attend
20 <sup>th</sup> July	INSET Day – Staff only to attend