



Spring Meadow Newsletter

Summer Term ~ June 2017

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back to the last half term of the year! Can you believe the summer holidays will be here in just over seven weeks? I hope you had a restful break with your children. Sadly, events in London a few weekends ago did overshadow the break. The school is addressing this through our assemblies on the British Values of tolerance and acceptance. Our aim is not to draw the children's attention to the issues unduly, but many of them will be aware and may have questions they want to ask which will be tackled with sensitivity.

Congratulations to our competition winners!

Spring Meadow is proud of the achievements of all our children but every now and then we have children who make us extra proud by taking part in competitions and achieving winning places. Recently, Tommy in Year 1, won the Vodaphone 'Design a Phone' competition - well done Tommy. Also, Esme (Year 2), Matthew and Ben (Year 1) are winners from the '501' short story-writing competition. There were 178 entries in the Key Stage One category and out of the 34 stories which will shortly be published, we have 3 of these talented authors! So well done to Esme, Ben and Matthew! Look out for this exciting anthology in your local bookshops over the summer. If your children take part in *any* external competition and win, please let their class teachers know and they will have a special mention in assembly and the next newsletter.

Attendance

As the summer months approach many of you will be thinking about your summer holidays. I would like to remind you that term-time holidays are never authorised, in accordance with our Attendance Policy, unless there are *exceptional* family circumstances eg a close bereavement abroad. If your child's attendance does drop to **below 90%** then it will be referred to the EWO (Education Welfare Officer), with whom we meet regularly. You will receive a letter from school drawing your attention to the importance of attending school regularly and the impact on your child's progress of having the equivalent of a half a day out of school a week.

Sunny Weather

We are officially in summer and currently the weather has been very hot. The children have been very good at remembering everything they need to protect themselves in this weather. The school does have the Safe Sun accreditation, which gives us access to information and resources to support children during the hot weather and we will put this onto our school website for your information.

Toys in Schools

At the moment, *FIDGET SPINNERS* and *LEGO* cards are very popular with our children. These are great toys, which do not cost a lot and can entertain your children for hours without them being fixed to a screen at home. However after careful thought, we are going to ask your children **not to bring any toys into school please**. We did explore having a Lego card club at lunch times, which was very successful initially but is now upsetting some of our children who either do not have the cards or do not have enough to swap. Our aim is to ensure that all children are happy at Spring Meadow. So, we are sticking to our blanket rule as from next week of **no home toys in school**, unless class teachers have requested them in for 'Show and Tell' sessions only.



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Dates for this half term

The half-term is a very exciting, very full one. There are a number of end of year events taking place that we would like you to put in your diaries. These dates have been sent out last half term:

Friday 16th June – Book Fair in the main hall 3:15 – 4.00 pm

Friday 30th June – Non-Uniform Day! Please bring a donation for the Tombola in exchange (for the Summer Fayre)

Saturday 1st July – 11am-2pm **Summer Fayre** on the Meadow (held jointly with Ely St Mary's Juniors)

Monday 3 July - Sports Day (Reception, Years 1 and 2)

Wednesday 5 July – Changeover Day

Monday 10 July - Nursery Sports day

Tuesday 11 July – Year 1 Education Visit to Mountfitchet Castle

Monday 17 July- Year 2 Production (2.15 pm)

Tuesday 18 July – Year 2 Production (10am)

Wednesday 19 July – Year 2 Production (2.15 pm)

Thursday 20 July - Year 2 Parents' Celebration Lunch with pupils

Friday 21 July – End of Year