



Dear Parents and Carers,

We are sure, like us that you are delighted to see the sunnier weather and lighter mornings/evenings as spring is now here. Can we please remind you to ensure your children have a water bottle in school, as the weather starts to get warmer.



Charity

Our wonderful Year 5 children worked hard to raise funds for a charity close to their hearts, the WWF charity. Dalton, George, Zac, Josh, Luke and Freddie sold cakes, scarves and set up table tennis challenges amongst other games. They raised just over £280 for their charity, and we are very proud of them.



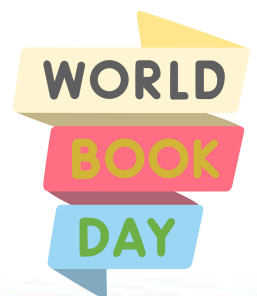
Our next group of children to fundraise are raising funds for Battersea Dog and Cat Rescue and will be selling their wares from March 25th.

We are also recognising the 40th anniversary of Red Nose Day on Friday, 21st March and details will follow in a separate letter.



World Book Day

World Book Day is on Thursday 6th March. We will be celebrating in school by inviting the children to dress up as their favourite character. The theme for this year's event is 'Read Your Own Way'.



Enrichment

We are eager to have as many pupils as possible join us for the Trust Choir event, and there are still spaces available in our choir.

Date: Tuesday 25th March

Rehearsal: Afternoon

Performance: Evening

This exciting event takes place at Woodville Halls in Gravesend, and features performances from all the schools in the Trust, centred around the inspiring theme of **Belonging**. Plus, don't miss the special performance by the Trust Staff Choir!

Choir Club Details:

When: Thursdays after school

Where: Dolphin Classroom

Sign-Up: Still open on Arbor

Don't miss this wonderful opportunity for your child to be part of something special. Sign up today and let's make this concert unforgettable! 🎵

Feel free to get in touch if you have any questions or need more information.

Aletheia Academies Trust Presents

'An Evening of Songs'

This year's theme is:

'Belonging'



Tuesday 25th March 2025

At 18:00

The Woodville, Gravesend



Excellence From All

Kent Music Summer School – Kent Music

KMSS courses are exciting and engaging, perfect for giving students an ensemble experience outside of their music lessons. They offer the opportunity to build on their love for music while expanding social and musical horizons.

The focus of the Summer School music courses is for young people to have fun while being encouraged and motivated to improve, supported by professional tutors and an experienced pastoral team. From new starters to experienced players, it's a place for everyone to enjoy themselves and enrich their summers, making friends and memories to last a lifetime!

KMSS offers something for all young musicians. Ability, experience and finances needn't be barriers to entry. All courses are audition-free, and generous financial assistance can be offered to students who meet the criteria.



Safeguarding

Washing Pods and Capsules - Child Accident Prevention Trust

Young children are vulnerable to all sorts of dangers in the home. One of the most present issues can come in the form of every day cleaning products. Some products, such as sink unclogger, can look like fruit juice. The thick consistency and similarity to apple juice in colour make it particularly enticing. However, one threat stands out from all others in this regard. The washing pod. Many washing pods bear a striking similarity to over the counter confectionary. For children the mistake can be easy to make, especially when washing pods may be kept in a lower location than other cleaning supplies. The Child Accident Prevention Trust has recently published a page that looks to offer guidance on this issue. If interested, please follow the link below:

<https://capt.org.uk/washing-pods-and-capsules/>

Diversity

Mandarin Club celebrated the Year of the Snake and spent their time together speaking and writing new phrases, listening to traditional Chinese music, completing a chopstick challenge, learning about Nian the dragon and making a snake mask. Children wore a red article of clothing or accessory to welcome the Lunar New Year and sampled a few traditional Chinese treats, including dumplings and boba. 新年快乐! Happy New Year!



On Wednesday 26th February, we had an inspirational visitor, who is also a parent of two of our children, Sarah Haskins. She is a member of England's Women's Amputee Team. She shared the challenges of getting to the World Cup in Columbia, and the exciting games that followed. England came 5th overall! Well done to Sarah and the team.



Achievements

We are very proud of Flo in Year 5, who has taken part in NSC (National Streetdance Championships) competition. She did extremely well, coming 3rd in her solo event, 4th in the doubles, 1st in the teams, 2nd in lyrical and 2nd in duos. Well done to Flo and the rest of her team.



MedwayGo Activities for the Easter Holiday

MedwayGo provides holiday activities and food for school aged children. It is free for children that are eligible for benefit related free school meals and there is some funding for children classed as vulnerable, for example children with SEND, looked after children and military families. If your child is not eligible for a free place, you can access paid places. Many providers offer places at a reduced rate, so all children have access to the programme.

<https://eequ.org/medwaygo>

Eligible children will be able to book and attend 4 activities across the Easter programme. Whilst enjoying physical and enrichment activities, children will also receive a hot healthy meal. There are a range of activities on offer from sports, theatre workshops, outdoor pursuits, music and more.

Families can start to explore activities on offer from next week and book from Monday 17th March at 10am. Please see the attached poster for the QR code.

Parking

I know you are probably as fed up with reading my pleas for considerate parking as I am writing them. Despite this, it was recently brought to my attention that parents are having to negotiate prams/pushchairs on the roads where there isn't enough space to pass on the pavement where cars are parked inconsiderately. In addition, we have recently received information from one of our neighbours that a car is parking on their drive. It is really essential for the safety of our children to park away from the school and to ensure that the paths are clear. I have also noticed a number of parents dropping their children off on the yellow zigzags outside the school gates. This is a parking offence, and if the CCTV car was here to record that a fixed penalty notice would be served.

The School Street initiative continues, and we are awaiting to hear further news, which we will share as soon as possible.



PTA

The PTA continue to support the school by providing additional resources for our children. The new iPads are proving to be a great success, and are supporting the children's learning in all areas – so thank you to the PTA for funding these.

The school discos were a resounding success, and great fun was had by all – adults and children alike. The PTA are also supporting the school with the Mothers' Day Tea which is coming up soon, and will keep you informed of other exciting events that are planned.

Finally

Can we please remind you to wash and send back any spare clothing that your child may bring home when they have had to borrow spare uniform in school.

Thank you for all your support as always, and let's look forward to a lovely spring/summer of success and events in school.

Yours sincerely

Mrs K Connolly
Head of School

Dates for the Diary

Please take a careful look at the following dates, all of which can be found on the Events Calendar on the school website, and make a note of any that may affect your child.

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>
Thursday 6th March	World Book Day
Monday 10th March	Yr 4 Ukuelele Festival - Central Theatre
Tuesday 11th March	PTA Meeting - 7.30pm
Wednesday 12th March	Class Photos
Thursday 13th March	KS1 Music festival - Central Theatre
Friday 14th March	Staff Development Day - Children do not attend
Tuesday 18th March	Yr 4 Musical Extravaganza - 2.00 pm and 5.30pm
Wednesday 19th March	Yr 3 Musical Extravaganza - 2.00pm and 5.30pm
Monday 24th March	PTA Mothers' Day Wrap
Tuesday 25th March	Trust Concert - Woodville Halls -5.30pm
Thursday 27th March	Yr 3 Trip to Kent Life
	Yr 5 Residential Parents Meeting - 6.00pm
Tuesday 1st April	Mother's Day Tea - 2.00pm
Wednesday 2nd April	Yr 6 Trip to Lion King
	Mother's Day Tea - 2.00pm
Friday 4th April	Last Day of Term - Finish 2.00pm

Have Your Say Meetings:

Monday 23rd June at 2.30pm





MedwayGo Easter Programme

Book a range of activities, from sports, swimming, theatre workshops, outdoor pursuits and more!

Monday, 14 April
Tuesday, 15 April
Wednesday, 16 April
Thursday, 17 April

Bookings open on
Monday, 17 March



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**A BETTER
MEDWAY**

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Partnership
Serving You

