

Small School Big Ideas

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A Nut Free School

14.1.22

Dear Parents

Thank you to all those who attended my 'Drop In' Session on Wednesday. It was great to catch up with you and I really welcome and value the chance to speak to you personally about aspects of school which are important to you.

A list of the remaining meetings for the Spring Term can be found in the table below. Please get in touch with the School Office if you wish to make an appointment.

Meeting Date	Time
26 <sup>th</sup> January	4.30pm to 6pm
9 <sup>th</sup> February	4.30pm to 6pm
2 <sup>nd</sup> March	4.30pm to 6pm
23 <sup>rd</sup> March	4.30pm to 6pm
6 <sup>th</sup> April	4.30pm to 6pm

**Three Days** I am pleased to tell you that the Local Authority and Governors have asked me to increase my work commitment from two days to three. I will be in school on Monday, Wednesday and Thursday.

**Parent Governor Elections** There is a Parent Vacancy on the Governing Body. I have sent a letter this week giving more details about the important work that Governors are involved in and how they contribute to our school community. If you are interested in taking up this position, please read the letter. It also gives detail about the election process and how you can apply.

**Filming the weekly newsletter** You might like to know that I am beginning to plan an additional approach to receiving the school weekly newsletter. I have created my own You Tube Channel and you can now see and hear me! Eeek! Just open up the link <https://youtu.be/fv4WETo2oAQ>

### Parking outside school

Further to my request last week about parking at 'pick up' and 'drop off' time, please can you make every effort not to stop on the yellow lines outside the school. This is for the safety of all children arriving at school. Also, please do not block residents' drives. We always try to be considerate of our neighbours. Instead, please could you park further down York Road in the direction of the camp or in

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the Village Hall car park. Can we also ask that if you are waiting in your car, please can you switch your engine off.

Staff and Governors have already started a parking patrol and I am grateful to them for taking this matter seriously. If you do park in what is considered to be a dangerous area, on yellow lines, or in front of a drive, you will be asked to move on. I am also considering organising a group of children to act as Parking Wardens and woe-betide you if you upset them!



### **Easter Service – change of date for your diary (1.4.22)**

We will be holding an Easter Service on **Friday 1st April** at St Matthew's Church starting at 2pm. The original date I mentioned last week clashed with the annual Y5 and Y6 residential.

### **If you can spare an hour**

Thank you to those people who responded to my plea for 'more hands on deck' in the classroom to support children's learning in KS2. Unfortunately we are suffering from a bout of staff sickness, as most settings are, meaning that I will not be able to get back to you to finalise details until teachers return.

A reminder that Maths sessions run from 11am to 12 noon every day and the role would vary from supporting a child, to working with a group, to being an extra pair of hands for the whole class. Thank you

### **School is 150 years old... in September**

You might have noticed that the dates for parents included a date stating that the school is 150 years old. It isn't actually 150 years old until the end of this September. I apologise for sending out incorrect information and getting everyone excited. We still plan to mark this special birthday, but later in the year, and will send out more details in the summer term.

### **Millbridge Farm Meeting**

I am looking forward to meeting residents of Millbridge Farm on Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> January at 10am at Vicky's house. The purpose of the meeting is for me to speak a little bit about the school and how you can best support your child's learning at home. It will also be an opportunity for you to get to know me a little bit better and ask questions related to school. Please make every effort to attend.

### **TT Rockstars (Message from Mrs Mann)**

Welcome back to another term of Times Tables battles! We are starting the new year with a new battle between the Staff and Whole School! All children will battle against all the adults who work in school to see who can be crowned TT Rockstar Champions...prizes and rewards are yet to be decided! All year groups are set times tables to their own age level and ability and certificates will be awarded to those who are the most valuable players and for effort over the week, so please do try to practise as much as possible over the week. Just a reminder that the battles run from Monday to Monday, this first battle started on Monday 10th January.

Here are some reminders as to why learning your times tables is so important and why we start learning them at such an early age:

### Why learning times tables is important

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Learning times tables is really important. After all, they're the building blocks of maths, and with your multiplications mastered, you can do anything! Here are just some of the ways in which memorising tables can benefit your child.

#### Learning one makes it easier to learn others

By starting with smaller times tables and gradually building up, children will learn number rules that'll make learning other tables much easier. For example, once you know your 2 times table, you can learn your 4 times table simply by doubling the answer.

#### They help with mental arithmetic

Memorising times tables makes it far quicker and easier for children to work out maths problems in their heads. Moving beyond using their fingers to work out answers, they'll be able to use their knowledge to quickly solve any multiplication questions.

By memorising their times tables, children will also become more accustomed to using their head to visualise answers for questions. This will help them to solve questions involving multiplication, addition, subtraction and division in their head, making the act of memorising multiplications a very worthwhile cause!

#### They help children understand other concepts

Beyond memorising times tables, learning and understanding how they work can do wonders for building children's knowledge of important mathematical concepts. These include fractions, percentages and even shapes.

As they become more confident with their times tables, they'll use this knowledge to spot other number relationships. For example, they'll realise to work out any answers for the 4 times table, they simply need to halve the equivalent answer for the 8 times table!

#### They can be used in real life

Knowing their times tables isn't just useful for weekly multiplication tests - they also come in handy outside of the classroom! How much would it cost to buy three comics which cost £2 each? Simply calculate  $3 \times 2$ ! Or how many chocolates are there in total if my four friends have five each? Work out  $4 \times 5$ ! The possibilities are endless.

#### They increase confidence

Perhaps most importantly, memorising their tables will give your child confidence in their own skills. This confidence will help them in SATs and other assessments, and ultimately, ease their move into secondary education.

### **Parent and Grandparent Dinners**

We are in the process of arranging with Mellors (the school meal provider) another couple of Parent and Grandparents dinner dates.

We are hoping for two dining opportunities per Key Stage. The suggested dates for KS1 parents are Thursday 10th February and Thursday 7th April. For KS2 we have set aside Thursday 17<sup>th</sup> February and Thursday 14th April.

I hope to confirm these details in the next couple of weeks. A reminder that the cost of an adult meal is £2.46.

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## Covid Secure Risk Assessment

Please use this link to the school website to read the updated School Covid Secure Risk Assessment. Thank you. <https://www.naburnschool.com/risk-assessments/updated-covid-secure-arrangements-january-2022>

## Easter Competition!

We will be holding a **NEW** annual event! The Easter Competition! This will take place on the morning of Monday 4<sup>th</sup> April. All children are invited to enter one of three categories per class. The categories are as follows:

- ❑ Making an Easter Garden
- ❑ Making an Easter Gift
- ❑ Creating a topical scene using **real** eggs as characters! E.g. “The Unicers ‘eggy’ Boat Race” could be a model of eggs in boats representing Oxford and Cambridge as they paddle down the Thames.

In the meantime, if you wish to know more, please come and see me or give me a ring. Still plenty of time for the children to design, prepare and create.

It would be great to have a local celebrity judge, so please get back to me if you know any suitable candidates in our community who might be interested. They will have the tricky job of judging who the chocolate prizes will be awarded to! YUMMY!

## BIG TALK

To keep children as safe as possible **Relationship Education** is now statutory in all Primary Schools, we are engaging the support of the specialist organisation BigTalk Education, who are a Social Enterprise recognised by national lead bodies and Government.

They work with 3 year olds upwards and have been involved in delivering age-appropriate education of this type for over 20 years. You will have received more information about the day that they are coming into school to work with our classes on Wednesday 2<sup>nd</sup> February. Please refer to that for more details. There will be a parent meeting first thing on that morning, so please make every effort to attend this. Thank you

Further information on the above can be found on: [www.bigtalkeducation.co.uk/parents](http://www.bigtalkeducation.co.uk/parents)

The new video Parent presentations <https://www.bigtalkeducation.co.uk/year-by-year/> are on this website – We will circulate the password one week prior to their visit.

## Picture News

**Story:** Chinese authorities have banned footballers from getting tattoos and instructed national team players who already have tattoos to remove them or cover them up to set a “good example”.

**Question:** Is it ever fair to judge others on their appearance?

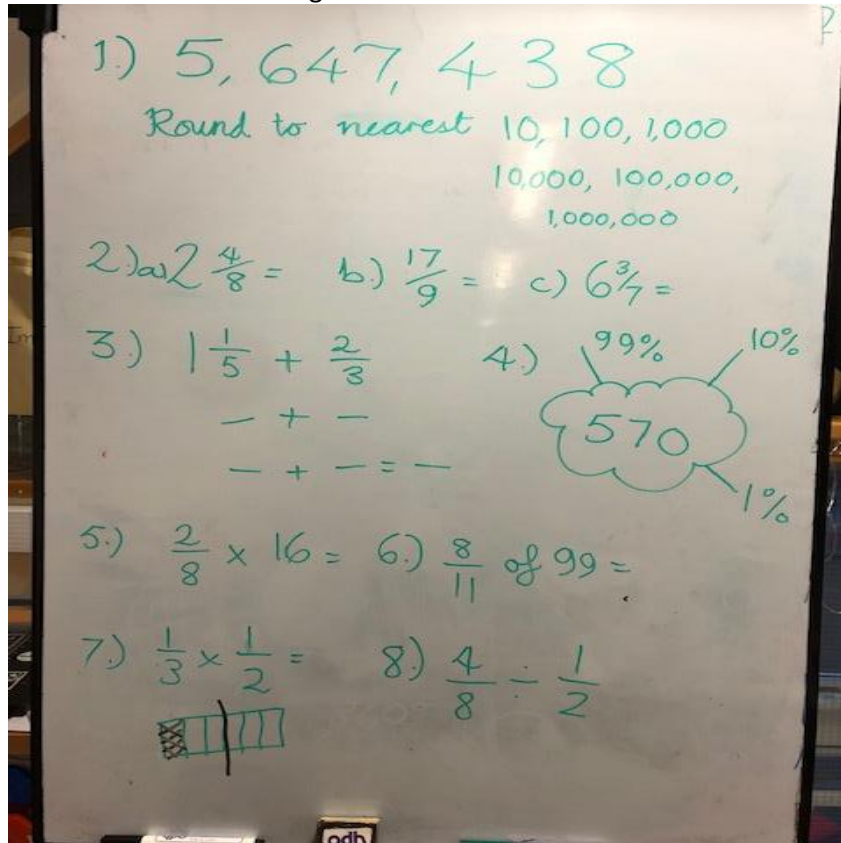
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### 'Ave a Go!'

The next 'Ave a Go' board! Please have a go.



### Stars of the Week

These are our sensational stars! Congratulations and thank you for all that they have added to our school this week.



I hope that you all have a lovely weekend and see you on Monday.

Best wishes

Jonathan Green  
Headteacher

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