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Issue 8 25<sup>th</sup> January 2018

### Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope by now you have had the opportunity to read our OFSTED report which came through to us this week. Having spent the majority of the 2 days of inspection with the team reviewing the school, I was very pleased that the process was very well run, and that the conclusions drawn were entirely in line with what I and the leadership team considered. There are many positives highlighted within the report, but I think the message that was repeated most often throughout the inspection was how warm and beneficial the relationships of children with staff are. Our strapline of Success Through Wellbeing was seen interwoven in so many of our practices, and as a school leader that gives me great pride. We care deeply about the wellbeing of our children and young people and know from our discussions with you that we cannot see any kind of progress unless this is right - be that physical, medical, social or emotional wellbeing. Our staff are fundamental to making this a reality, and I would like to take this opportunity to recognise what a great job they do, and what an impact they have.

Should further proof have been needed of this, it came in the shape of a rather unusual snow event on Tuesday afternoon when the largest snowflakes I can recall seeing landed in the High Wycombe area at about 2:45 pm. The town descended into transport chaos, and once again I was hugely grateful to a large number of staff who stayed beyond their contracted hours to provide a reassuring and safe space for the children while we worked out solutions. Our last pupil left the school at 8 pm. I have to acknowledge how committed the vast majority of taxi companies were too, as they battled through traffic to pick the children up. Back to OFSTED - my humble thanks to all parents who either spoke to an inspector and/or completed the online survey. Inspectors noted how many of you had recognised a big change in your children since coming to the school. **Bradley Taylor (Headteacher)** 

### **Spring Term 2019 dates**

Half term Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> February – Sunday 24<sup>th</sup>
February
End of Spring term: Friday 5<sup>th</sup> April

# **PLEASE NOTE**

SCHOOL WILL BE SHUT TO PUPILS ON THE FOLLOWING INSET DAYS: MONDAY 28<sup>th</sup> AND TUESDAY 29<sup>th</sup> JANUARY

Dates for your diaries:

Wednesday 30<sup>th</sup> January (Downley) and 6<sup>th</sup>
February (Cressex), 9:15 am – PPP workshop, run
by Claire May

Thursday 31<sup>st</sup> January - TACPAC workshop
(Cressex), run by Hannah Goldsmith

Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> (Downley) and 12<sup>th</sup> (Cressex) February
– Epilepsy workshop, run by school nurses

Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> February 4-7 pm – Parents' Evening

Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> February – Rainbow/Little Wings

Stay and Play (Cressex site)

Monday 11<sup>th</sup> March 12:30 – 3 pm - Everyday 1<sup>st</sup>

Monday 11<sup>th</sup> March 12:30 – 3 pm - Everyday 1<sup>st</sup> aid (Downley site)

# Message from Bridget Ledson, Chair of Governors

I write from a Governing Body perspective on our recent Ofsted visit. At their verbal debrief they were impressed by our dedication and the time we spend in it, asking sometimes difficult questions to both support and challenge the leadership teams. We all share in congratulating Bradley, the staff and the whole school for a great GOOD result. Two of the three Ofsted inspectors are former SEN heads which makes their praise all the more meaningful. What a fantastic end to the week.

Bridget Ledson Chair of Governors

#### News from around the school

#### Rainbow

We have been continuing with our theme of Transport and the different classes have started looking at transport related to water. As part of this some of our classes have been exploring the theme related to Pirates. It has been great to hear and see the lovely work the classes have been producing. This week brought some great excitement mixed with some anxiety when the snow fell. It was great for some of our children to get out and explore the change in weather. We are really proud with how all the children coped with the change. For some this included staying later in school with staff members. Next week I am leading a TACPAC training session for parents and carers. This is something that is used regularly within the department and has been a great success for many of our children. I hope you are able to join me on Thursday. Hannah

#### **Little Wings**

This week despite the snow classes have managed to link up with Rainbow classes to complete some activities linked to kindness. This has included sharing things with a friend and playing outside. They continue to enjoy taking part in activities related to our theme transport. Bumblebee class are making great progress with swimming and getting much more confident in the water. Reminder Stay and Play 13th February. David

#### **Treetops**

This week has been kindness week where classes have been working with pupils in other departments. This included sharing snack with a friend, doing some art activities, Tac Pac and sharing a computer. Classes continue to be enjoying lots of their learning out of school which has included attending Heritage House, going to Booker Gym and catching the bus into town. David

#### Coppice

Over the Spring Term Coppice and Gemstones departments will be coming together to create beautiful art to be displayed at an Art Exhibition at the Downley Site on Thursday 28th March. Classes will be pairing up to create a piece of art collaboratively, as well as design their own pieces. We look forward to sharing it with you! Claire

#### Gemstones

Hello All, thank you for everyone's support and understanding during the snow period. Seeing all of the pupils and classes back, they carried on from where they left off beautifully. This term, the classes are learning about Invaders and Settlers, following on an aspect of learning from that period that the pupils have not covered previously. So expect communication about our themed invasion day soon! Can I also say a big thank you and congratulations to everyone involved during our recent Ofsted visit. The pupils' routine and support was not affected and our nurturing ethos was clearly witnessed, impressing the Inspectors with the individual relationship and support we provide. Thank you Pali.

#### Woodlands

Woodland and Gemstone department have joined together for some 'Buddy Week' activities including creating seed cakes for the birds, interacting during assembly, engaging in a music session and taking part in a joint sensory story. Amanda







To book a place on the First Aid Workshop, please fill in the application form which is on our website and return to the school office.



# **Epilepsy Information Session for Parents**

Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> February Downley site Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> February Cressex site 10:30 am -12

## All parents welcome



**Run by our School nurses** 

Q & A session
Information on medication
Discover things to do at home to
support your child.