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## Spring Term Newsletter 2– 31st January, 2017

Dear Parents/Carers,

### School Terms & Holidays 2017/2018

At our recent meeting of the Governing Body we considered the holiday dates for next Christmas. The general feeling was that breaking up for Christmas on the 15<sup>th</sup> December as per the Gloucestershire County Council dates was not helpful to parents and that coming back to school on the 2<sup>nd</sup> January didn't give children the best chance of getting back into routine. We asked members of FOMS as well as parent governors for their thoughts and the consensus of opinion means that we have decided to extend the term until Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> December and return to school on Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> January. The extra day of holiday still owing, we will add on to the summer  $\frac{1}{2}$  term and along with an INSET teacher training day on Friday 25<sup>th</sup> May it will mean that children will have their last day of half term on Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> May and return to school on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> June. It might be worth having a look to see if a holiday running from Friday to Friday or Monday to Monday would save you money without having to take your child out of school. Please see attached copy.

We would really appreciate your co-operation over this as the rules for absence have been further tightened and children are now considered to be 'Persistent Absentees' if their attendance falls below 90%.

It may be useful for you to know what attendance figures mean for your child:

98% - 100% = Excellent

96% - 98% = Good

94% - 96% = Average

92% - 94% = Below Average/ Low

90% - 92% = Very Low

Under 90% - Persistent Absentee

### School Sport News

#### Athletics Tournament

On Monday 16th January Mrs Moore & Josh from Prostars took a team of children to an athletics tournament at Forest High School. We finished with a Bronze medal so really well done to the following children: Julia Uszok, Pippa Law, Daisy-Mai Hemms, Verity Townsend, Anya Boulton, Violet Williams, Ione James, Hanna Deering, Keira Brain, Eloise Keane, Lee Kibble, Fletcher Walby, Callum Read, Kai Leask, Luke Ochiltree, Ben Didcote, Tyler Kibble, Raph Barker and Liam Histed.



#### Girls Football Tournament

On Wednesday 18th January Mrs Moore & Mrs Williams took a team of girls to a football tournament at Dene Magna School where they played extremely well and came first. They went through to the next round which took place yesterday and finished in bronze medal position. Well done to Pippa Law, Lexi Bamford, Lacie Turner, Daisy-Mai Hemms, Leah Murrell, Ione James, Macy Walby, Violet Williams and Keira Brain. A big thank you to Mitcheldean FC Juniors who kindly lent the team their kit.



### After School Clubs **\*\* IMPORTANT CHANGES\*\***

Please remember there will be NO after school clubs w/c 6th February due to parents' meetings.

The last sewing club will take place this week and after half term this will change to Country Dancing club. Letters will be given to any children interested in attending.

After half term Josh's clubs will change to the following:

Monday lunchtime- Football Years 3 & 4

Monday after school- GPJ Years 5 & 6

Thursday lunchtime- Football Years 5 & 6

Thursday after school- Rugby Years 3 & 4

### Sainsbury's Active Kids

We are collecting Active Kids vouchers again this year.

Please collect as many as you can for us so we can exchange them for sports equipment.

The collection box will be located in the main school reception until the end of



### Earrings

Please can we remind you that only small plain stud earrings are to be worn in school. We have noticed a few children wearing a larger earrings with emblems on.

### E Safety Group

At the recent meeting of the E-Safety group we discussed having a bulletin board with useful information for parents and staff on our school website- we will be organising this shortly.

One of the most useful things we have come across is the helpline for on-line safety. This organisation can get things taken down from the net. You may not need it now but it may be useful to put the information in a folder- just incase you ever do need to contact them and add in other information as it becomes available.

We have also been made aware of a game some quite young children are playing called 'Roblox'. Parents may not be aware that this game involves children communicating with other players, who may be other children but could be predatory adults.



### Parent's Evening

These will take place on Wednesday 8th February and Thursday 9th February. Invitations to book a slot on line were sent out yesterday by text or email. If anyone has any problems booking then please call the office and we can book a slot for you.

### Thank You from Lakers School

#### Christmas Card Donations

"A huge thank you to everyone who donated their used Christmas cards for this year's 'Big Sort', in support of the Cobalt Unit in Cheltenham. We collected approximately 260kg of cards this year. Thank you to Mitcheldean Primary School and Steve Gooch Estate Agents who also supported our collection this year."

### Dates for your diary

6th February- Dental Health Survey for some R/Y1 children- letters have been sent out so you would know if your child has been selected.

8th & 9th February- Parents' meetings

10th February- Year 3 class assembly

13th- 17th February- HALF TERM

20th February- INSET—staff training day

21st February- Reception—Vision & Hearing tests- school nurse

Year 5 trip to Newent School for Bugsy Malone- packed lunch required.