

# THE



# BELL

Working together -Together things work

Week Commencing: 9 September 2013

Lunch Menu Week 3

Dear parents,

Welcome back to the Autumn Term. A special welcome to all the new parents and children. I hope you and your children enjoy our school. I hope everyone had an enjoyable Summer. It is good to see all the children wearing the correct uniform and looking smart. Please remember the correct PE kit too- red t-shirt and black shorts. It is great to see so many children cycling or scooting to school. However can I remind parents that children should only be riding in the section of the playground near the wooden travel shelter not around the rest of the playground. Also children must dismount at the gate when arriving at school and push their bike or scooter to the racks. We have had some near misses recently where smaller children have nearly been hit by children on bikes. Thank you for your help with this matter and I hope your children enjoy their time here.

Sean Sibley

## HEADLICE

We have a problem with headlice, particularly in Reception Class. We urge parents to check their child's hair regularly and treat accordingly.



## ALLPAY CASHLESS DINNER MONEY SYSTEM

Parents of new children should have received a letter from Allpay. Even if your child is not currently having school dinners, we recommend you activate your child's account. If you have misplaced your letter, please call at the school office where we can request a replacement copy from Allpay

## 'Celebrating Creativity in Whittington'

Saturday 14 September 10am to 4pm  
and Sunday 15 September 2pm to 4pm

In Whittington Church

There will be a display of local craft work and organ music played by local musicians, also children's craft activities, a plant and produce stall and refreshments. **Entry is free. Please pop in and have a look**

Entries for the Children's Competition (a picture or any piece of craft work celebrating some part of Whittington life) should be clearly labelled on the back or the base with the child's name and age and a contact telephone number and taken to Whittington School, the Church or the Rectory by Thursday 12 September.

If you have any craft work you would be willing to lend us for our display, please bring these to Church between 4pm and 6pm on Thursday 12 September or contact Kath Griffiths, 01691662116, keith.j.griffiths@btinternet.com



## Parent Support Advisor

From time to time we all experience periods of difficulty or feel overwhelmed by demands placed on us in our busy lives. Sometimes we encounter challenges or problems in our family life that would benefit from professional advice or guidance.

Within school we have a resource aimed at providing a first step to finding out what help and support may be available to address any such concerns. This service is designed to 'signpost' and provide a way forward for those wanting to discuss problems and explore solutions or raise awareness so that support can be made available. Anyone wanting to use this service should contact the school office to make an appointment with Mrs Grice, the Parent Support Advisor.

## Brass Lessons



We have some spaces available for children in year 3 and above to learn a brass instrument. Lessons are taught in school on a Monday morning by Mr John Proctor. If you would like more information, please call at the school office and we will pass your details on to Mr Proctor.

ECO NEWS...Children in years 3 and 4 have been picking beans and spinach today which have been growing in our garden over the Summer.

## DIARY DATES—The First Week Back

### Monday 9 September

- 8.35am DEXYS IS ON ALL WEEK . Children can come in at 8.30am but no earlier please.
- 3.15—4.30pm Multisports Club with Mr Walker for children in Years 3 and 4. £28 for the whole term
- 5.00pm Meeting for parents of children in Year 6 who are going to Condover Hall this month. (No children please)

### Tuesday 10 September

- PM Violins for children in years 4 and 5
- 3.15—3.30pm Library open
- 3.15—4.15pm Fencing Club for children in years 4-6. Children will be working towards their gradings. £35 for the whole term. Register your child and pay at the office. 18 spaces available- first come, first served!
- 3.15—4.30pm Football Club for children in years 5 and 6. Free

### Wednesday 11 September

- 10.30am Children in Years 3 and 5 going swimming at Oswestry Leisure Centre. Back in time for lunch.
- PM Sports Coaching for children in years 1 and 2
- 3.15—4.30pm J H Coaching—Football Club for all year groups. £20 for this half term

### Thursday 12 September

- 12.00—12.30pm Cross Country with Miss Mansfield for years 3—6
- 3.15—4.15pm Art & Craft Club for children in Years 1 and 2 (10 spaces, priority will be given to those children who have not attended previously)
- 3.15—4.30pm Multisports Club with Mr Walker for children in Years 1 and 2. £30 for the whole term)

### Friday 13 September

- 11.00am EWO (Education Welfare Officer) coming in to check registers for attendance and punctuality
- 3.15—4.30pm Gymnastics for children in Years 3-6. £15 for the whole term. Register your child and pay at the office. 18 spaces available-first come, first served!

## DIARY DATES

### September

- Tuesday 17 Nearly new uniform sale 3.00—3.45pm. We have lots of 'new' stock so please come along!  
Thursday 19 Eco Team to Acton Scott Working Farm Museum all day  
Monday 23 SENCO Surgery with Mrs Watkins 3.15—4.00pm. Please make an appointment at the school office  
Friday 27 1.30pm Harvest Service at the Church  
Monday 30 Residential trip to Condover Hall for children in Year 6

### October

- Friday 4 Children in Year 6 return from Condover Hall  
Thursday 10 Marches Open Event 9.30am—11.30am and 4.00—8.00pm  
Friday 11 Children in years 1 and 2 going to Blists Hill in Ironbridge- £9 per child  
Monday 14 SENCO Surgery with Mrs Watkins 3.15—4.00pm. Please make an appointment at the school office  
Thursday 24 Break up for Half Term  
Friday 25 PD Day. Children do not attend school

### November

- Monday 4 Children return to school  
Wednesday 6 9.15am Church Service  
Friday 8 Rugby Tournament  
Thursday 14 3.45pm Cross Country at Moreton Hall

### December

- Thursday 5 1.30pm Christmas Nativity (dress rehearsal) in the church  
Friday 6 1.30pm Christmas Nativity in the church  
Friday 20 Children break up for Christmas

## Changes to School Attendance Regulations from The Department for Education

### The amendments to the Education Regulations are:

*'leave of absence shall not be granted unless—*

*(a)an application has been made in advance to the proprietor by a parent with whom the pupil normally resides; and .*

*(b)the proprietor, or a person authorised by the proprietor in accordance with paragraph (1), considers that leave of absence should be granted due to the exceptional circumstances relating to that application.'*

**This means that as of 1 September 2013 there has been a change in the School Attendance Regulations. Where there used to be the option for headteachers to grant leave of absence for the purpose of a family holiday during the term time in 'special circumstances' of up to ten days in a year, this has been removed.**

**Headteachers are now only allowed to authorise any leave of absence when an application has been made in advance and it is felt to be for an exceptional circumstance; the annual family holiday would not be deemed an exceptional circumstance.**

**Shropshire Council**  
**School Terms and Holiday Programme**  
**School Year 2013 / 2014**

	August 2013							September 2013							October 2013							November 2013							December 2013						
Monday								2	9	16	23	30	7	14	21	28	4	11	18	25	2	9	16	23	30	4	11	18	25	2	9	16	23	30	
Tuesday								3	10	17	24	1	8	15	22	29	5	12	19	26	3	10	17	24	31	6	13	20	27	4	11	18	25	31	
Wednesday								4	11	18	25	2	9	16	23	30	6	13	20	27	4	11	18	25		7	14	21	28	5	12	19	26		
Thursday	1	8	15	22	29			5	12	19	26	3	10	17	24	31	7	14	21	28	5	12	19	26		8	15	22	29	6	13	20	27		
Friday	2	9	16	23	30			6	13	20	27	4	11	18	25	1	8	15	22	29	6	13	20	27		9	16	23	30	7	14	21	28		
Saturday	3	10	17	24	31			7	14	21	28	5	12	19	26	2	9	16	23	30	7	14	21	28		10	17	24	31	8	15	22	29		
Sunday	4	11	18	25	1			8	15	22	29	6	13	20	27	3	10	17	24	31	9	16	23	30		11	18	25	1	8	15	22	29		

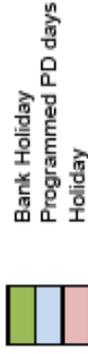
38 days

	January 2014							February 2014							March 2014							April 2014							May 2014																							
Monday								3	10	17	24	3	10	17	24	31	7	14	21	28	4	11	18	25	1	8	15	22	29	5	12	19	26	2	9	16	23	30	6	13	20	27	3	10	17	24	31	7	14	21	28	4
Tuesday								4	11	18	25	4	11	18	25	1	8	15	22	29	5	12	19	26	2	9	16	23	30	6	13	20	27	3	11	18	25	1	8	15	22	29	5									
Wednesday	1	8	15	22	29			5	12	19	26	5	12	19	26	2	9	16	23	30	6	13	20	27	3	10	17	24	31	7	14	21	28	4	12	19	26	3	10	17	24	31										
Thursday	2	9	16	23	30			6	13	20	27	6	13	20	27	3	10	17	24	31	7	14	21	28	4	11	18	25	1	8	15	22	29	5	13	20	27	4	11	18	25	1										
Friday	3	10	17	24	31			7	14	21	28	7	14	21	28	4	11	18	25	1	8	15	22	29	5	12	19	26	3	10	17	24	31		14	21	28	5	12	19	26	3										
Saturday	4	11	18	25	1			8	15	22	1	8	15	22	2	9	16	23	30	5	12	19	26	3	10	17	24	31	9	16	23	30		15	22	29	6	13	20	27	4											
Sunday	5	12	19	26	2			9	16	23	2	9	16	23	3	10	17	24	31	6	13	20	27	4	11	18	25	2	9	16	23	30		16	23	30	7	14	21	28	5											

34 days

	June 2014							July 2014							August 2014																				
Monday								30	7	14	21	28	4	11	18	25	2	9	16	23	30	6	13	20	27	4	11	18	25	2	9	16	23	30	
Tuesday								1	8	15	22	29	5	12	19	26	3	10	17	24	1	8	15	22	29	5	12	19	26	3	10	17	24	31	
Wednesday								2	9	16	23	30	6	13	20	27	4	11	18	25	2	9	16	23	30	6	13	20	27	4	11	18	25	1	
Thursday								3	10	17	24	31	7	14	21	28	5	12	19	26	3	10	17	24	31	7	14	21	28	5	12	19	26	3	
Friday								4	11	18	25	1	8	15	22	29	6	13	20	27	4	11	18	25	1	8	15	22	29	6	13	20	27	4	
Saturday								5	12	19	26	2	9	16	23	30	7	14	21	28	5	12	19	26	2	9	16	23	30	7	14	21	28	5	
Sunday	1	8	15	22	29			6	13	20	27	3	10	17	24	31	8	15	22	29	6	13	20	27	3	10	17	24	31	8	15	22	29	6	

34 days



Total - 190 Days

PD Days: 2 September 2013  
 25 October 2013  
 11 April 2014  
 18 July 2014

21 July 2014 - Optional PD day, can be changed at discretion of Headteacher or changed to Twilight sessions. Where an additional PD day is planned on a teaching day it will be necessary to allocate a further pupil day from holiday days to maintain the 190 pupil days.

**Holiday Authorisation Calculation Chart**

Name ..... Year ..... Class .....

The merits of each individual request should be evaluated by providing answers to the following questions and scoring accordingly.

As of 1 September 2013 there has been a change in the School Attendance Regulations. Where there used to be the option for headteachers to grant leave of absence for the purpose of a family holiday during the term time in 'special circumstances' of up to ten days in a year, this has been removed.

Headteachers are now only allowed to authorise any leave of absence when an application has been made in advance and it is felt to be for an exceptional circumstance; the annual family holiday would not be deemed an exceptional circumstance.

	<b>Points possible</b>	<b>Points</b>	
When is the holiday planned for? These points relate to a request for anytime in September.  <b>September</b> is the beginning of the academic year and full attendance is vital if the children are to establish themselves academically and in terms of friendship groups.	Reception Year 1 Year 2 Year 3 Year 4 Year 5 Year 6	7 points 4 points 4 points 4 points 4 points 4 points 4 points	
Student's attendance level is? (up until Autumn half term use the % figure from the previous year.)	Less than 87% Less than 90% Less than 94% Less than 95%	7 points 5 points 4 points 3 points	
How close is the student to an Assessment or an examination? Year 1 Phonics test Year 2 SATs Year 6 SATs  * No leave of absence will be granted during the Year 6 SATs week in May.	More than 16 weeks 8 – 16 weeks 2 – 8 weeks Less than 2 weeks Year 6 SATs week	1 point 2 points 3 points 4 points 7 points	
Has leave of absence been granted in any previous <b>Academic Year</b> ?		4 points	
Any special mitigating or aggravating circumstance which indicate that a holiday should be authorised or not authorised contrary to score indicated above.	Subtract or add 2 points		
Details of mitigation/aggravation			
Total			
<p>Leave for a family holiday where the total is 7 points or more <b>should not be authorised</b></p> <p>The only exception to the above may be where there are, in the opinion of the Head Teacher, 'Exceptional Circumstances' including Religious and Cultural considerations; (add comment in mitigation/aggravation box.) If the Local Authority has begun legal proceedings holiday should <b>NOT</b> be authorised.</p> <p><b>DELETE WHERE APPROPRIATE: REQUEST APPROVED/REQUEST DENIED</b></p>			
Completed by ..... Date .....			