



News on the Ninth May 2023



All pupils attending the Coronation celebrations received a keep-sake Coronation badge. We hope to have created a memorable experience for the children to go alongside all of your family celebrations.

Here are a few snaps that we would like to share with you:



Nursery



Reception





Year 1





Year 2



Year 3



Year 4





Year 5



Year 6





Thank you to the PTA for providing the sunflower seeds which all children have now taken home. We encourage them to nurture their seed by keeping the compost not too wet and not too dry until it can be planted into a larger pot or out in the garden (after the danger of early morning or overnight frost). We will be asking the children how their sunflowers are doing and encourage them to measure the growth. Seedlings usually appear after 14-21 days – so don't give up on it!

Walk to School Week

During Walk to School Week we encourage the children to use active modes of transport to get to school. This can be walking, cycling, scooting, wheeling or parking and striding.





Please find below this Month's reading recommendations!

EYFS

Nursery – Let's Play, Little Rabbit by Jorg Muhle

Reception – Shark in the Park Nick Sharratt

Key Stage 1

Year 1 – Goodnight Everyone by Chris Haughton

Year 2 – Don't Look in this Book by Samuel Langley-Swain

Lower Key Stage 2

Year 3 – The Boy Who Grew Dragons by Andy Shepherd

Year 4 – My Brother is a Superhero by David Solomons

Upper Key Stage 2

Year 5 – Beetle boy by MG Leonard

Year 6 – The Nowhere Emporium by Ross Mackenzie



After School Clubs

Clubs start week commencing 8th May, the last week of clubs will be week commencing 19th June. No clubs on Monday due to Bank holidays.

KS1 CLUBS

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
	KS1 Multisports 20 Places Please collect from Nursery entrance 4.15pm		KS1 Striking & Fielding 20 Places Please collect from Nursery entrance 4.15pm	KS1 Football 20 places £4.50 per session Run by Premier Sports Please collect from Nursery Entrance
			Gardening Club Year 2 Please collect from main office at 4.15pm	

KS2 CLUBS

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
			Gardening Club Year 3,4,5,6 Please collect from Main office at 4.15pm	KS2 Football 20 places £4.50 per session Run by Premier Sports Please collect from KS2 playground

				KS2 Rounders Club 20 places Please collect from KS2 playground 4.15pm
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Online Safety

Online gaming

Playing games with their friends online is incredibly popular with children. The most popular online games which children are using in the juniors are Minecraft, Roblox and Fortnite. All of these games have the option of communicating with other players – by voice or text.

Already at school we have heard of numerous incidents of children receiving mean / hurtful comments from unknown players, friends of friends and even their friends. All these games offer parental controls to restrict and monitor the type of communication that can take place. By default, there is not usually much restriction set. If you haven't done so recently, please check the settings on your children's games.

Also, face to face, children can usually tell when a comment that they have made has caused offence or has been misinterpreted. They can then quickly apologise or clarify what they meant. Over internet games, where this reaction can't be seen, some children don't realise that they have caused upset, or think about how they 'come across'.

We always recommend that children use devices in a room where they can be monitored – not only to keep them safe but also so they can be guided by an adult when their comments could be misinterpreted. Visit <https://www.internetmatters.org/> for how-to guides regarding eSafety for most devices and games.

Online Safety Monthly Theme

May's Online Safety focus is 'Self Image and Identity'. At home, please could you have a discussion with your child regarding this area.

In EYFS and KS1, it could be discussing what to do if something happens that makes them feel sad, worried, uncomfortable or frightened.

In Lower KS2, we have been discussing how people can represent themselves in different ways online and not to fully trust everything as how it appears.

In upper KS2, discussing how to make responsible choices about having an online identity.

Diary Dates

May	
9 th – 12 th	Year 6 SATs & breakfast club
10 th	
11 th	
12 th	
15 th – 26 th	Year 3 Swimming
15 th – 19 th	Walk to School week
16 th	Class photographs
16 th	School Partnership Coffee Morning 9-10am
18 th	
23 rd	Isabel Hospice children's book sale
23 rd	Paradise Park Nursery visit
19 th	
26 th	Year 2 Chiltern Air museum visit
26 th	PTA doughnut sale
29 th – 2 nd June	Half Term
June	
5 th	INSET day – children do not attend
8 th	Young carers Paradise Park visit
13 th	Reception class Beach Trip
15 th	Year 3 Sculpture Walk at Herts Uni 9.30-12.00
20 th	Reception trip to Southend
23 rd	Year 1 field studies council trip
26 th – 30 th	Sports week
26 th	Reception and KS1 sports afternoon 1pm -3pm
27 th	KS2 Sports afternoon 1pm – 3pm
29 th	Reception and KS1 sports afternoon 1pm -3pm (contingency)
30 th	KS2 sports afternoon 1pm -3pm (contingency)
July	
1 st	Summer Fete
13 th	Transition day – Year 6 attend secondary school and all children move up to meet their next teacher

13 th	Open evening – parents are invited into school to view the school including children's next classes. 3.10pm -4pm
14 th	French Culture Day
18 th	Year 6 BBQ 4-6pm
19 th	Year 6 Bell ringing 9am
19 th	Last day of term for Nursery children
20 th	Last day of term 12.30pm
21 st	INSET day

Term time holidays

We are unable to authorise term time holidays. Absence can only be authorised if a child is unwell. If however, the number of unauthorised sessions reaches 15 or more within 2 terms, the local authority may issue you with a Penalty Notice. The Penalty Notice requires parents to pay a fine of £60 within 21 days. If this is not paid within the time limit, the penalty rises to £120 which must be paid within 28 days.

Term time holidays have a negative impact on friendships and learning. Please avoid taking your child out of school. Term time holidays are not authorised. Absence requests can only be authorised if there are exceptional, unrepeatable circumstances. Section 7 Education Act 1996 places a duty on parents to ensure that their child of compulsory age attends school.



Commonswood Primary & Nursery School is a Safeguarding School

We are an Encompass School working with external agencies to support children who are victims of domestic abuse.

'All schools have a clear responsibility placed on them by the Children Act 1989 and by guidance from the Department of Education to safeguard the welfare of all their pupils. In doing so schools are expected to consult with Social Services if they believe there is a possibility that a child may be suffering from abuse or neglect.'

If you have any concerns about children please contact 0300 123 4043.

Mrs G Seymour (Designated Senior Person), Mrs S Manning (Deputy Designated Person), Mr S Burt (Deputy Designated Person for eSafety & Mrs D Lindsay-Hill (Deputy Designated Person), Miss K Dean (Designated Senior Person) Chair of Governors Mrs Julie Noakes