



Send your child dressed for wintry conditions! We don't expect to have any problems, but will text if the weather is going to disrupt school.

20th January 2023

Important Dates:

Looking ahead:

Thurs 2nd Feb—Athletics Event at Trinity Primary School (KS2—group of children will be selected.)

Tues 6th & Wed 7th Feb—Bikeability (Y6—letters have been sent home)

Wed 8th and Thurs 9th Feb—Parents Evening (more info to follow later this term)

Fri 10th Feb – Dance Festival @Shrewsbury School (KS2—group of 12 will be selected)

Fri 17th Feb—End of Spring 1 (last day of this half term in school)

Mon 27th Feb—Start of second Spring half term

Tues 28th Feb—Creative Lego Workshop (all classes will be involved in creating a light up 'electro city')

Thurs 2nd March—Netball Competition (other schools attending) at Long Mountain

Extra-Curricular Clubs/Activities

KS2 Football—Mondays until 4.15pm

KS2 Netball—Thursdays until 4.15pm

Music/Uke club—**Thursday lunchtimes** (change of time) children who attend music club will be able to have lunch at 12 to enable them to attend club at 12.30pm.

Boardgame Club—Fridays until 4.15pm (places limited to 20, open to Class 2, 3 & 4—please email to book a place)

Please rebook your child(ren)'s place at boardgame club as we have had a big break.

Update from our Local Police

The last month has seen some further reports of burglaries and thefts in the area where quad bikes and Land Rover Defenders have been targeted. During the early hours of 31st December 2022 a Land Rover Defender 90 was stolen from a drive in Bishop's Castle. Offenders have entered the vehicle without a key and pushed it off the drive, they have then bump started it by pushing it down a bank. The offenders are believed to be a gang from the West Midlands area, enquires are ongoing and proactive work is being undertaken to target the offenders. In the early hours of the 13th January, two neighbouring farms on the outskirts of Minsterley were targeted and two Honda quad bikes were stolen from outbuildings. An investigation is still underway by the Serious Acquisitive crime team based at Shrewsbury Police Station around thefts of quads and plant machinery within Shropshire. If you do own a classic Land Rover Defender or a quad bike please always take some measures to make the vehicle as difficult as you can to steal.

Land Rover Monthly has some great advice on Defender security products here - <https://www.landrovermonthly.co.uk/articles/tested/best-land-rover-security-devices/>



Planned Teaching Strikes

Whilst we respect and support the right of teaching colleagues to take strike action, **we will not be closing any classes due to the planned national strikes.** All staff are acutely aware of the disruption experienced by children over the last years and want to make sure there is as much continuity as possible for all classes.

PTFA Update!

The PTFA met last week and have many exciting plans for the year ahead.

One date to save is **16th March, 2023** when The Lowfield Inn will be holding a quiz to raise funds for our school. More details will follow.

If you are keen to be involved, please do get in touch with Mrs Rowe or a member of the PTFA—you don't have to sign your life away, we welcome volunteers for specific events and would be delighted to hear if you have any ideas you would like to share.

Something to look forward to!

The PTFA have very generously funded a whole day workshop for everyone in school. The children will work together to create a light up Lego city; I can't wait to see the results!



Thursday's Skipping day was a great success! We have invested in a skipping rope and kit for all the pupils in school. One of our priorities is to promote healthy habits for life and introducing opportunities to skip for fitness will enable us to do this.

The children were encouraged to think about their **Personal Best** skipping count (number of skips in 2 minutes) and to focus on making improvements for themselves.

Skipping and Growth Mindset

Growth Mindset is a tool for learning and improvement. It argues there are two mindsets, fixed and growth. Children with a fixed mindset believe that traits such as intelligence, talent and personality are set in stone. They therefore avoid taking on challenges in favour of completing easier tasks to look clever. Children with a growth mindset believe qualities can be developed through dedication and effort. They are more likely to see setbacks as an opportunity and relish taking on difficult situations.

Skip2Bfit helps to develop this Growth Mindset in children. Every week the children will do a Skip2Bfit 2 minute skipping challenge and their score is recorded on the score. Before they do the challenge all the children are reminded of their last score and encouraged to improve. This will demonstrate that effort leads to improvement. Children realise that if they put effort in they can improve at skipping and if they can do this at skipping they can do this in their class work.

PE Kits and Uniform

Please make sure your child's PE kit comes to school on a Monday for the week ahead. While the weather is unpredictable, PE days may change so we would like it in all week.

Uniform

Please make sure your child has either a plain red sweater/cardigan or a Long Mountain branded sweater/cardigan. If you cannot afford one, please speak to us and we will provide one. Hoodies are not school uniform and children will be asked to change into a suitable jumper from our stock, if they do not have school uniform on when they arrive at school.

Grey or black school trousers, shorts or skirts are fine. Leggings are not suitable for main school uniform—especially whilst it is so chilly!

School shoes should be black (trainers are ok for PE but should not be worn as day-to-day school shoes). If you are waiting to purchase new shoes, please let your child's class teacher know so that we don't keep asking your child to change into their school shoes!

We do appreciate that the cost of living is really challenging and will try to support you if you are having difficulty purchasing suitable uniform. Please let us know if we can help.

Coats and Outdoor Shoes

Please make sure your child has a suitable coat for the weather—we want them to get out in the fresh air but if they cannot stay warm or dry, we may need to keep children without coats inside.

The school playground gets muddy and still has leaf matter on it. If you want to send outdoor shoes for your child to change into for breaktimes, please do. Make sure they are labelled with your child's name and that you talk to your child about putting them on for playtimes. We will remind children to change into outdoor shoes if they have them, but it is helpful if you reinforce this message at home.