

Primrose Hill C of E Academy

Growing a brighter future together

26th April 2024: Issue 27

This week started with world Earth Day. During worship, we discussed how we are stewards of the Earth and must look after it. This year the focus is on plastic pollution and how we can reduce our use of single use plastics. Did you know that every square mile of the sea has more than 46000 pieces of plastic in it? And more than 500 billion plastic bags were produced in 2023. We talked about how we can reduce our reliance on single use plastic by choosing products more carefully e.g. using reusable bags for our shopping; using bamboo toothbrushes; buying loose produce and using a reusable container to take it home in. If we all do our little bit we will have a big impact.

Events	
Monday 29th April	Governors meeting 6pm
Thursday 2nd May	Friends meeting 7pm at school
Monday 6th May	Bank holiday
Tuesday 7th May	Year 6 residential meeting at 5:30pm
W/B Monday 13th May	KS2 Sats
Friday 17th May	School Disco KS1 5-6pm KS2 6:15-7:30pm
Wednesday 22nd May	Reception 2024 meeting 5:30pm
Friday 24th May	End of term 5—3pm
Monday 10th June	Start of term 6—8:35am
W/B Monday 10th June	Phonics and multiplication testing week.
Tuesday 11th June	Cricket festival
Wednesday 12th June	Year 5 residential

Smartphone free childhood

You will have seen lots of conversations in the news recently about the age at which children should be given smartphones and the impact they can have on children.



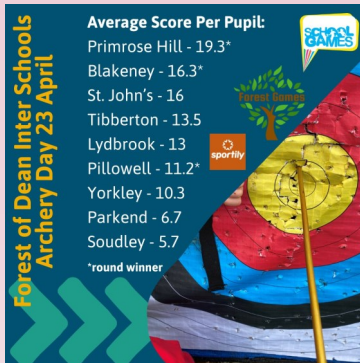
Technology presents many incredible benefits and opportunities, but how best do we navigate it at this critical stage of pre-teen development? We know this can be a controversial subject and there is no definitive answer – every parent wants to do what’s best for their child.

Ultimately, it remains a personal decision for each family and household. However, there is now [research Sapient-Labs-Age-of-First-Smartphone-and-Mental-Wellbeing-Outcomes.pdf \(sapienlabs.org\)](https://www.sapienlabs.org/research/Sapient-Labs-Age-of-First-Smartphone-and-Mental-Wellbeing-Outcomes.pdf) showing a clear link between the age a child receives their first smartphone and mental health issues in young adulthood. The harms from excessive smartphone use, as we know, are wide-ranging – from reduced self-esteem to disrupted learning, bullying, grooming and addiction. As well as the huge opportunity cost, the things children and teens are not doing because they are on their devices. An article by social psychologist Jonathan Haidt details the huge – and not yet fully appreciated – impact of society’s move from a play-based to a phone-based childhood.

As a school, we are getting more and more issues regarding children using phones inappropriately. If your child has a phone, I would encourage you to check their messages frequently and that appropriate settings are installed so they don’t have access to inappropriate content on line.

Archery

Following on from our archery taster day last week, a group of children went to Viney Hill on Tuesday to take part in an archery competition. As always, the children represented us exceptionally well and Primrose Hill won the event! Well done to all of the budding archers.



Tennis

Unfortunately, the tennis lady was unwell so we have had to postpone the lessons. We will try and find a new date when she is better.

Friends meeting

Our wonderful Friends of Primrose Hill are meeting on Thursday 2nd May at 7pm at the school. If you are able to spare an hour to help plan the summer fayre, it would be much appreciated.

Values Certificates

Oak—Tilly = Thankfulness

Elm—Jack = Perseverance. Jude and Elsie D = Courage

Chestnut—Orla = Courage. Tommy = Responsibility

Birch—Eren = Responsibility

Holly—Elsie, Bertie, Matilda, Olivia = Trust

Beech—William = Perseverance

Rowan—Lyla, Billy, Eva H, Eva P, Theo, Star, Saul and Daisy = Courage.

Attendance

The class with the highest attendance last week was Beech with a very impressive 99.43%

Securing the Shire

Attached to this newsletter is a flyer from The Sealed Knot society. They are an re-enactment society



who are dedicated to historical education about the period of the English Civil War. The 'Much Marcle' event is being held over the Early May Bank Holiday weekend and is an educational, fun filled day for the whole family.

Punctuality

A gentle reminder that learning is available from 8:35am every morning. We have a soft start to the day to try



and reduce traffic in the local area but getting your child to school as near to 8:35am as possible means they receive an additional 50 minutes of education a week! The doors close at 8:45am and we are seeing an increased number of children arriving after this time. Being late to school not only impacts on their educational outcomes, as they miss out on the valuable morning learning, it also impacts on their wellbeing as they have to enter a classroom where everyone else is already in the beginning of a lesson. If you need any support with punctuality please speak to a member of staff.

TTRS/Numbots Certificates

Oak = Sienna

Elm = Lexie

Chestnut = Oscar G

Birch = Eadie

Holly = Alice

Beech = Logan

Rowan = Eva P

House Points

Last weeks house points winners were Chestow, well done.