

In Spires

April 2018

Eco & Rights Respecting Schools

Cash for Clobber and Old Shoes

Please remember to bring these in on Thursday 17 April and leave them in the hall. School will receive some payment for these as well as supporting those in need.



Attendance

The average attendance of pupils in Term 1 was 96%, this has fallen to 94% in Term 2.

I know a lot of children (and staff) were off sick with a severe flu/stomach bug and if this is the case then we do advise pupils to remain at home. However, an increasing number of pupils are taking time out of school to go on holiday. Teachers plan on a weekly basis and prepare photocopied sheets etc usually one day in advance. It is school policy not to send work home to pupils whilst they are on holiday as this places undue pressure on staff to prepare material in advance. A list of school holidays for 2018 – 2019 is on our website and I would ask parents to please plan family holidays in line with school holidays.

Please refer to the DENI publication “School Attendance Matters” which can be accessed at www.education-ni.gov.uk.

Internet Safety

Parents please talk to your children regarding online activity. We have included an information sheet about concerning apps. You may wish to check if these have been downloaded by your children on their phones.

Shared Education

Staff involved will meet this week to evaluate progress to date. Everything is progressing well and children are developing friendships as well as coding skills.

Congratulations

- To nine P4 pupils who received the Sacrament of Penance on 21 March.
- To Harry Keatley (P7) and Rebecca Greer (P5) on their recent Music Exams success.
- To Joseph Doyle and Luke Hawe (P5) who came second in the Barcelona Experience Cup.
- To our Hockey Team who reached the semi-final of the McCloy Cup.

Assessments P3 – P7

Standardised Assessments will begin on 16 April and continue most days throughout April for particular classes. Please ensure your child attends school daily.

Parents' Community

Save the date! A Quiz Night has been arranged on Friday 19 May in the Rugby Club. Come along for an enjoyable evening!



RSE

Our Relationships and Sexuality Education Programme begins again on the week commencing 30 April. A Parent Information Booklet will be sent home. This is a factual programme which builds upon the previous year's learning and encourages dialogue between parents and children at home.

Dates for Your Diary

9 – 11 April	P7 at Woodhall Residential.
17 April	P4 at Shared Education.
18 April	Parents' Community Meeting at 6.30 pm.
19 April	Cash for Clobber and Old Shoes Collection.
27 April	P3 at Oxford Island.
29 April	Bridge Mass P4



10 APPS TEENS ARE USING THAT PARENTS NEED TO KNOW



Calculator%

This app looks like a calculator but functions like a secret photo vault.



Omegle

A free online chat website that promotes chatting anonymously to strangers.



Yellow

This app is designed to allow teens to flirt with each other in a Tinder-like atmosphere.



Whisper

An anonymous app where the creators promote sharing secrets and meeting new people.



Ask.fm

Ask an anonymous question and get an answer. This app has been linked to the most severe forms of cyberbullying.



Hot or Not

Strangers rate your profile. Goal is to lead to a hook up.



Burn Book

Post anonymous rumors about people through audio messages, texts, and photos.



Wishbone

An app that allows users to compare kids against each other and rate them on a scale.



Kik

Messaging app. Kik has built in apps and web content that would be filtered on home computer.



Instagram

Many kids are now creating fake accounts to hide content from parents. Kids also like to text using Instagram because messages are deleted once a user leaves conversation.

FOR MORE INFO: APPSOLUTELYAPRIL.COM