Diary Dates and Newsletter Contents

IMPORTANT DATES FOR YOUR DIARY
INSET Days (school closed to pupils)
Monday 24th February
Monday 20th April
20th & 21st July

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>February</th>
<th>March</th>
<th>April</th>
<th>May</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Half term holiday - 17th-21st</td>
<td>Nelson class assembly - 4th</td>
<td>Easter holidays - 6th-17th</td>
<td>Half Term - 25th-29th</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>INSET day 24th</td>
<td>NEW! World Book Day - 5th</td>
<td>INSET Monday 20th April</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Back to school Tuesday</td>
<td>Cutty Sark assembly - 11th</td>
<td>Back to school Tuesday 21st</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25th</td>
<td>O’Malley assembly - 18th</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>English Open Lessons for</td>
<td>Galleon assembly - 25th</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>parents/carers w/c 25th</td>
<td>w/c 23rd - Spring Challenge Wk</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RSE parent meeting - 26th</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>June</th>
<th>July</th>
<th>TBC</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Back to school after half</td>
<td>NEW! Transition Fridays - 3rd, 10th</td>
<td>Year 4 Sleepover</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>term - Monday 1st</td>
<td>Last day of term - 17th</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NEW! Sports Day 30th June</td>
<td>INSET days (school closed to pupils) 20th</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KS2 9:45am-12pm</td>
<td>&amp; 21st</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KS1 1:30pm-3pm</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Page</th>
<th>Newsletter Contents:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Headteacher’s Termly summary and news</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Pupil Voice News Morning start - feedback</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>IMPORTANT - Attendance Reminder School Office Updates</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Introduction from our Maths Leaders</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Well Being Update New project for families! Holiday Clubs at Invicta</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>Governor News</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>Inclusion Update</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Dear Parents and Carers,

Following on from a busy, busy Autumn term, we’ve not been resting on our laurels this first half of spring. We are really proud to share our news with you all that we were successful in achieving the Well Being Award for schools when all our evidence was verified at the end of January. The reviewer described our school as “exceptional” in terms of its commitment, action and sustainability in relation to the wellbeing of children, staff and families. She was a very experienced reviewer having reviewed 700+ schools and ours is one of the best she’s ever visited! We are really pleased and will of course be continuing our work and efforts to ensure children, staff and family well being is at the heart of all that we do.

We are also extremely pleased to let you know that the construction of our Edible Playground is now complete!

We will be starting planting after half term and we already have 12 parents signed up with offers of support which we are REALLY grateful for! We will be setting up a parent/carers garden group next term, if you would like to be involved (a little, or a lot) please get in touch via email or leave your details at the school office. The completion of our Edible Playground will support so many learning opportunities for our pupils and families, we can’t wait to get started! It has also been so lovely seeing the children’s reactions as they see the garden taking shape - it’s even supporting our current termly challenge: ‘How and what can we learn from others to broaden and share our personal geographies?’ as the children explore where they come from and their local Geography, which includes our school!

Following the success of our Edible playground, I wanted to give all parents/ carers the opportunity to see the slides shared at the recent parent council meeting where we shared news on how our refurbishment is progressing (click here). We are currently still awaiting planning permission from Greenwich council to be able to progress with the development of our sports
pitch and second playground, but hope this will have a positive outcome very soon so we can get started!

Thanks to all families who purchased tickets for our Pop-Up cinema fundraiser rounding off this half term. We hope it will be a great success! All money raised will go towards our next fundraising drive, to raise some money for stage lighting and curtains for our hall.

And lastly from me as a reminder, please join us for our parent/carer consultation on our Relationships and Health Education curriculum on Wednesday 26th February at 2:45pm. This is a mandatory part of our curriculum from September 2020; all are welcome.

Mrs. Jodie Cawte, Head of Invicta Deptford
j.cawte@invictaprimary.co.uk

---

**Pupil Voice News**

The School Council took a trip to the Town Hall in Woolwich to meet the Mayor of Greenwich; Mick Hayes. We took part in a debate to see if the school holidays should be shorter. All of the School Councillors got to ask the Mayor questions that had been put forward by their classes. He was really impressed with the questions from the children and said they were the best questions he had ever been asked! After the debate, each child tried on the Mayors chain - it was really heavy!

We have been thinking about online safety as it was Internet safety day on 11th February. The School Council will also be helping share online safety messages when we celebrate Online Safety Week in school 9th - 13th of March.

Ms Scott, Senior Assistant Head of Invicta Deptford
l.scott@invictaprimary.co.uk

---

**SCHOOL MORNING ARRANGEMENTS - FEEDBACK**

We would like to thank those families who have stopped to give us feedback about the new morning entry arrangements for pupils from 8:45am. We have had nothing but positive feedback from families about how calm and easy the drop off is now children don’t have to wait and line up in the playground in the morning. The teachers too have reported how calm and
productive the start of the day is and children are in class and ready to learn by the time school starts at 8:55am, meaning no learning time is wasted which is great!

Can I please remind all families that **school does start at 8:55am** when we ring the bell and this is when children should be in class. We shut the gate at 9am every morning to make sure no parents are left in the playground. If you arrive at school after 9am please sign in via the school office. **Please can I ask for all children to be in school on time** as when they are late they miss the important first part of their lesson which can make it difficult for them to settle in to their day.

Thank-you,

_Mrs Cawte, Head of Invicta Deptford._

---

**IMPORTANT REMINDER ABOUT ATTENDANCE:**

Following on from the start to the school day, unfortunately, attendance figures at our Deptford site have dipped this year, and we are trying hard to ensure we meet our 96% attendance target for all our pupils. We understand that the winter season is often a time for snuffles, coughs and colds, but unless your child is really unwell with the flu, a fever or bad chest, please still send your child to school when they have a small cold.

Please also **arrange non-emergency doctor and dentist appointments outside of school time.** We understand this may be unavoidable in some cases but all GPs and dentists should be able to offer appointments after 3:30pm, some even have appointments before school starts and we ask that you request these slots where possible.

Here are a few facts to remind you about!:

- **For Pupils a day off school is 5 hours and 25 minutes missed learning**
  - So, in just one school year......
  - 95% attendance = 2 weeks missed
  - 90% attendance = 4 weeks missed
  - 85% attendance = 6 weeks missed
  - 80% attendance = 7.5 weeks missed

The picture becomes much worse over five school years.....

- 95% attendance = 9.5 weeks missed
- 90% attendance = 19 weeks missed (this is **half a school year** missed!)
- 85% attendance = 28 weeks missed
- 80% attendance = 38 weeks missed (this is **a whole school year** missed!)

---

**School Office Updates**

**Communications Survey**

It was great to see some positive results, and some “even better if” comments, so thank you to all those who completed the survey!

The response rate was high and here are the headline stats:
64% of those respondents rate our communication as good/excellent
75% tell us our main communication method of text works for them
46% of families would like to see texts and emails used for all communications.

Thank you to all of those who said they would be part of a focus group, this is arranged for next half term.

Payments
Thank you to all of our parents/carers for utilising Parent Pay to pay for school activities/items. Can we please ask for all outstanding debts to be settled before the start of the half term. The Office team will be reviewing all family accounts over half term. The debts outstanding may be for after school clubs, breakfast club and lunches. Please contact the office before the end of this term if you need to discuss payment plans.

Spring Term 2 Prices
School Dinners
All children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 are eligible for Universal Free School meals, but all those in years 3-6 pay for their school lunch at £2.50 per day, which will be £12.50 per week. For the second term 25th Feb - 3 April = £72.50. Please can you pay half termly in advance. The item is on parent pay for you to pay now.

If you believe you may be eligible for free school meals in Years 3-6 please bring in your NI, DOB and name into the office and we can check on our tracker.

One weeks notice is required for a change to packed lunches and unfortunately we cannot accommodate part week packed lunch and part week school dinner options.

Breakfast Club
This is run in house by our own staff.
The hours are 7.45-8.55 for £6.50 per day. Payment is required half termly in advance for this via parent pay. Please be aware that the serving of breakfast ends at 8.30am. Places cannot be allocated to families with outstanding debts therefore please ensure these are cleared before returning on 25th February.

Breakfast Club Charges:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Days per week in attendance</th>
<th>Daily Rate £</th>
<th>Spring Term 2 Total cost</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>£6.50</td>
<td>£39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>£6.50</td>
<td>£78</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>£6.50</td>
<td>£117</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>£6.50</td>
<td>£156</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>£6.50</td>
<td>£195</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Please note the term is 5 weeks and 4 days.

Late Pick Up Charges
Due to the increasing number of children being picked up late from school, late pick up fees will apply from 3.30pm for children from Year 1 - Year 6, and from 3.15pm for reception children and nursery children.

Charge/Rate: £5 for every 15 minutes.

If notification is received (call to the office) of a late collection (for example train delay, traffic jams etc) a 15 minute grace period will apply.

Families who regularly collect their children late may consider applying for a place at the after school club Energy Kidz: www.energy-kidz.co.uk

Please contact our School Business Manager with any queries relating to this: kate.fry@invictaprimary.co.uk

All of the above items are on parent pay for you to pay! Thanks again for your prompt payments, and please contact the office if you need any help.

The Office Team
Kate Fry, School Business Manager
kate.fry@invictaprimary.co.uk

Introducing our Maths Leaders at Invicta...

Hello! For those of you who don’t know us, we are Mr. Clutterbuck and Miss Clark and we teach in Drake and Victory classes at our Deptford site. We are the school Maths Leaders and we love maths! A lot of parents have been asking about ways to support their children in learning maths this half term. One way you could help at home is to look at our Maths Visual Calculation Policy. It’s a guide that visually shows the core maths content that we teach at Invicta. At the start are examples of the key maths concepts and then the maths content for each year group. If you aren’t sure where to start, you could look at the maths mastery language. Ever heard your child talking about an addend or divisor? Want to know what the terms mean? Take a look! INVICTA CALCULATION POLICY

Mr. Clutterbuck and Miss Clark
Maths and Deputy Math Leaders
r.clutterbuck@invictaprimary.co.uk a.clark@invictaprimary.co.uk
Well-being Update

As Mrs. Cawte mentioned, we are delighted to let you know that the Wellbeing Award for Schools verification last month went incredibly well! Thank you to all our parents and children who have taken an active part in the process and thank you to all our school community for getting involved in starting the conversation about mental health. Our commitment to everyone is that we will continue to drive the conversation forward. If you’d like to get involved, please contact me.

Maria Crescenzo
Assistant Head, EYFS
m.crescenzo@invictaprimary.co.uk

New Project for Families!

We would love to get parents involved in a new project involving sharing stories in their own and other languages. We all know there are many benefits of reading and storytelling, including immersing children into a world of creative thinking and innovative ideas as well as having fun, developing their language skills and communication.

Are you bi-lingual or do you speak another language? Would you like to come into school and read a story or poem to your child's class in your first language or a language other than English?

If you would like to support us in connecting cultures, communities and experiencing different worlds then please email me: a.cudmore@invictaprimary.co.uk providing your language details and any resources that you would like to share as we are in the process of organisation.

Thank you and Best wishes.

Angela Cudmore, Learning Mentor
a.cudmore@invictaprimary.co.uk

HOLIDAY CLUBS RUNNING AT INVICTA DEPTFORD:

Feb Half Term:
19th-21st Feb
Rock School
For ages 5-12 years
9.30am - 4.30pm daily
£70 (£30 concession) full course
Invicta Primary, Benbow St, SE8 3HD
Rock out with us this half term! Based on the smash hit film and West End musical School of Rock, your children will stick it to the man telling our own tale of Dewey and his raucous music students! Culminating in a performance in costume and make up for friends and family.
https://www.montagetheatre.com/shop/deptford-rockschool/

Easter Hols:
6th, 7th & 8th April
9.30am - 4.30pm
£25.00 per day

Tiptoes and Tappers are excited to announce an Easter Workshop. They will be hosting a fun packed 3 days of dance, drama, singing and easter crafts with special “Cats the musical” workshops from a former cast member Kate Hanks.

“These fun packed days will give your child the opportunity to learn new skills, boost confidence, help co-ordination and make new friends, all whilst having fun in a safe and creative environment.

All Tiptoes & Tappers staff are DBS checked and first aid trained and hold qualifications in their field of expertise”
https://tiptoesandtappers.co.uk/easter/

PE & Healthy School’s Report

The Year 4 Tug-of-War team took part in the Greenwich Schools Tug-of-War Competition at Plumstead Manor on Tuesday 4th February. This was their first experience of a tug-of-war competition and the team of CJ Abraham, Adeolu Bamgboye, David Olatokun, AJ St Hilaire-Moore, Petar Dechev, Lexi Nelson, Nayanika Sethumadhavan, Tiffany Yucel, Janiah Olaleye and Megan Sales performed superbly finishing in third place!
Swimming Lessons
Swimming lessons will continue the first week back after half term, please see the timetable below to find out when your child’s lessons are.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Monday Swimming</th>
<th>Tuesday Swimming</th>
<th>Wednesday Swimming</th>
<th>Thursday Swimming</th>
<th>Friday Swimming</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3A Drake Class</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3B Golden Hinde Class</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2A Deman Class</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2B Cutty Sark Class</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>4A Darwin Class</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

PE Lessons
Please see the PE timetable below to find out when your child’s PE lesson is.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Monday PE</th>
<th>Tuesday PE</th>
<th>Wednesday PE</th>
<th>Thursday PE</th>
<th>Friday PE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3A Drake Class</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4A Darwin Class</td>
<td></td>
<td>3B Golden Hinde Class</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2A Deman Class</td>
<td>1A Nelson Class</td>
<td>1A Nelson Class</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2B Cutty Sark Class</td>
<td>1B Victory Class</td>
<td>1B Victory Class</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
PE Kit should consist of Black/Dark Blue shorts or track suit bottoms, a White T-shirt and suitable trainers.

Healthy Snacking
Recently we have noticed the children in the school have been bringing in increasing unhealthy snacks. Items such as chocolate, sweets and crisps should not be brought in as a snack. Below are some ideas for healthier snacking:

Ideas for snacks/ lunches:

- whole /pieces of fresh fruit: banana, apple, pear, satsuma, raspberries, strawberries etc
- fruit pots or fruit kebabs of sliced/chopped fresh fruit e.g. melon, berries apple
- Canned fruit in natural juice e.g. peaches, pears, pineapple
- Dried fruit without added fat, sugar or salt e.g. apricots, sultanas
- Salad pots
- Crudites, vegetable sticks with dips
- Vegetable accompaniments: tomatoes, raw vegetables such as carrots, peppers, cucumber and celery
- Yoghurt or fromage frais (plain or fruit)
- English muffins (not american cake-style muffins)
- Plain currant/raisin bread
- Toast with spread, bread rolls with cheese, tuna etc
- Toasted bagels, crumpets
- Sandwiches, bagels, rolls, pitta bread, baguettes with fillings
- fillings/toppings: cheese, hard boiled egg, houmous, tahini, sliced meat (unprocessed), bacon, meat or fish paste, tinned fish
- Wraps e.g. mexican bean
- Pasta salads

Ideas for drinks:

- Tap water
- Skimmed or semi-skimmed milk
- Fruit juice or vegetable juice
- Plain yoghurt drinks
- Plain soya, rice or oat drinks (enriched with calcium
- Fruit and/or vegetable smoothies

Mr. Waller, PE and Healthy Schools Leader
b.waller@invictaorimary.co.uk
Governor News
Parent governor elections:
As you will be aware we held an election for a parent governor last month. The contest was an extremely close one! There were 313 votes cast and the final result was:
Cat Conway 110
Daren Wallbank 107
Katherine Pile 96
Thank you very much to the 3 candidates who stood and to everyone who voted, and congratulations Cat!
Thank you too to the office staff for organising such a smooth voting process.

Mo Wiltshire, Chair of Governors
m.wiltshire@invictaprimary.co.uk

Inclusion Update
It has been another exciting term in the world of inclusion at Invicta. After successfully re-verifying our Dyslexia Friendly Status just before Christmas, this term we have gained the Well-Being Award for Schools. I am extremely proud of everyone who has supported the gaining of these awards and it is great to be acknowledged by outside agencies for all of the hard work that everyone puts in to make this school so inclusive.

This term we also ran our first SEND parent support group. It was a really lovely morning and felt like a trusted and open space for parents to share their experiences. During the session we discussed topics for the future and I have confirmed guest speakers for the next two sessions. The first guest is Roz Weeks who is the head of SEND outreach services for Greenwich and is going to be focusing on the ASD diagnosis journey on 2nd March. Our second confirmed guest is from Greenlights and is going
to be talking about supporting challenging behaviour on 4th May. If you could not make the first session, please feel free to come to any future ones that you can attend and if you have any further suggestions for guests, please do get in contact!

As always, please check out Greenwich local offer for things to do with your children during half term. There is information on here regarding SEND friendly groups and activities. Have a lovely half term!

Miss Heath
Assistant Head for Inclusion
r.heath@invictaprimary.co.uk