



Dear Parents/Carers

I hope you have all had a relaxing and enjoyable Easter break, despite the rainy days! I am sure that we will see more sunshine once we return to school for the summer term!



The end of the spring term was very busy, and I would like to celebrate some of the great things that were happening in school.

The Easter services, performed by either our youngest or oldest pupils, were brilliant. The children presented the meaning of Easter in age-appropriate ways to our school community, including parents, visitors, and Reverend Gerda. Thank you to all those who were able to attend. It was truly a special event, and your children are evidently over-joyed to see so many family members supporting them. Thank you also for all the efforts from families in making Easter bonnets-a traditional event at Mary Dean's. Judging is always a difficult job, so hats are anonymised and we look for those who have had some child input; painting, drawing and sticking.

We have 2 winners per Foundation classes (2 x Nursery and 4 x Reception). Here are our Nursery winners.



Thank you to all the staff for planning and organising this event and ensuring our children are familiar with this important Christian festival and celebration of spring and new beginnings.

Spring Music Event

Mr and Mrs Dove and Mrs Williams organised the spring term music event for our pupils in the school choirs (KS1 and KS2) and those pupils who are learning to play an instrument with Mr Dove, during the school day. Again, it was a well-attended event, and the children did really well to show-case their talents to parents and visitors.

Thank you to these members of staff for planning and organising this event, which means so much to the children and parents and for ensuring that music continues to be a strength at Mary Dean's.



PTFA

I would like to take this opportunity, at the end of another busy term, to thank the PTFA members for all their hard work in raising funds for our school. I am sure you have seen the poster that was put out at the end of term from the PTFA through the school office and the huge sums of money raised which all goes to support your children in school. Please remember you can also follow them on Facebook for more information.

Parent Pay

Parents/carers should have received a number of reminders from the school office regarding parent pay and how to have this set up for the new term ahead. This will replace Teachers 2 parents as our new cashless system. Like with anything new, it will take some time to get used to, but please speak with the office staff should you have any problems moving forward.



School Uniform

Hopefully, we will move into warmer days soon and children will be able to wear our summer uniform, as described on the school website. P.E kit must be worn for P.E lessons. Your child's class teacher will inform you via class dojo their timetabled P.E lesson days so that you can ensure that P.E kit is brought into school on those days. You are also welcome to keep P.E kit in school for the week, hung on your child's peg, so that it is always available for lessons. This would be a good idea for those children who frequently forget to bring it.

Summer Term

The summer term is when statutory assessments are carried out. All children will need to be in school for the administration of tests unless they are unwell.

Year 6 SATs week is the week of 13th May.

Year 2 SATs are no longer compulsory, but we will continue to carry-out the optional tests to help confirm teacher assessments, carried out from everyday class teaching.

Year 4 Multiplication Tables checks are the week of 3rd June.

Year 1 Phonics screens are the week of 10th June.

The children have already spent a great deal of time practising for these tests and will continue to do so next term. We ensure that they are familiar with the presentation of the tests as well as demonstrate how they can do their best on the day. Practise also helps to boost the children's confidence and remove as much anxiety as is possible. Please speak with your class teacher if you have any concerns or would like some advice on how you can support your child at home in preparation for their tests.

**Our Achievers last week.
Well done!**



Congratulations!

And finally, I would like to congratulate Mrs Perkins on her 'baby news'. She intends to remain with us for the duration of the summer term before taking her maternity leave.



Thank you for your continued support.

Donna Wilson
Head Teacher

