

Here is a round-up of school news for the second half of the Spring:

New Play Equipment

We are looking forward to our new adventure play equipment being installed by Playdale during May half term (the ground is too wet this month).

We want to thank the Friends for funding this new equipment, they have been raising money for a number of years, to be able to afford to replace our old large equipment. We really appreciate their efforts. This weekend, we removed the old play structures and a lot of old under-grass matting. Many thanks to all who helped with this task- especially Mr Senior, who took the waste away.

Please ensure that your children are closely supervised before and after school on the playground when the installation takes place- the area will be out-of-bounds.

Once installed, we will be timetabling opportunities for classes to spend time on the equipment. In the Summer term, if you wish to remain on site after school and allow your children on the equipment **they must be supervised by you**. School is not accessible. We ask that all parents and children leave the site by 3.50pm, so that Cabin Crew can bring the children out safely.

The future of our Friends Committee is in peril, as the current dedicated parents who run the committee are unable to continue from this year. Every pupil in school benefits from the events and funds provided by the Friends and it would be a great shame and loss to the school if our PTA could not continue. The AGM will be held on Tuesday 25th April at school at 7pm- please do attend if you could help support the Friends Committee moving forward. You can contact them via their Facebook page or through school, should you have any questions about how the Committee is organised.

Red Nose Day

Friday 17th March is Comic Relief Day. Children can attend school in non-uniform, wearing red if possible, if they bring £2 to donate to this excellent charity. We look forward to a fun day!

Decorated Egg Competition

The School Council have asked that we hold a decorated egg competition this year, as we've not done so for a number of years. Pupils can design a decorated egg, which might be part of a scene or individual egg/s. We've had some 'cracking' entries in the past! Entries should arrive in school on Thursday 30th or Friday 31st March and the school councillors will judge each class, according to the most original idea and child's best efforts. There will be some Easter Egg prizes.

My Happy Mind

I hope that you have been able to access the My Happy Mind Parent portal and app, to support your child with well-being and aspects of mental health. The details for how to sign up are on the website: <https://www.christchurch.bury.sch.uk/documents/parents/home-learning/myhappymind-parent-portal-letter.pdf>

Childcare

Parents can get assistance with childcare costs through Tax Free Childcare. If you pay for before or after school club or nursery lunchtime cover please click link to see if you may be eligible

<https://www.gov.uk/tax-free-childcare>

We have not raised prices for our Cabin Crew, Before/After School Club for over 4 years. We will have to make an increase of 50p per session from September 2023, to keep the provision viable. The charges will be:

Revised Rates From September 2023 Before and After School Club		
7.45am – 8.30am	Morning Childcare Session Nursery	£4.00 per session
7.45am – 8.45am	Morning Childcare Session R - Y6	£5.00 per session
3.30pm – 4.30pm (Monday – Friday)	Afternoon Short Session	£5.00 per session
3.30pm – 5.00pm (Monday- Thursday only)	Afternoon Medium Session	£7.00 per session
3.30pm – 5.30pm (Monday- Thursday only)	Afternoon Childcare Session	£9.00 per session
3.30pm- 5.00pm (Friday)	Afternoon Medium Session	£9.00 per session
Revised Rates From September 2023 Nursery Lunchtime Cover		
11.30am – 12.30pm	Extended Free Entitlement (30 hours per week) Lunchtime Cover	£5.00 per session plus the cost of a school meal, packed lunches are acceptable. (In line with hourly club rate).

Useful dates for the rest of term:

Weds 15 th March 9am	Maple Class assembly Y5 parents are welcome to attend and visit the classroom after the assembly
Friday 17 th March	Red Nose Day £2 donation to wear non-uniform
Monday 20 th March 4-7pm Wednesday 22 nd March 4-7pm	Parents' Evenings N to Y6
March 20 th -24 th	School Book Fair open in the Hall after school daily and at Parents Evening. Cash purchases please.
Thursday 23 rd March 9am	Larch Class assembly Y3 parents are welcome to attend and visit the classroom after the assembly
Weds 29 th March	N/R visit to Blackpool Zoo
30 th and 31 st March	Decorated Egg Competition entries in
Friday 31 st March	Term Ends (usual time)
Monday 17 th April	Summer Term starts

Finally, Mrs Chester will be finishing at Easter, to start her maternity leave. We will miss her in school, but wish her all the best with welcoming her new little boy in May.

Thank you for your continued support,
Happy Easter
Mrs S Howard