

THE EDWARD RICHARDSON PRIMARY NEWSLETTER

"Love to learn and learn to love."



WHAT'S GOING ON?

IT'S ALL GO!

It continues to be an exceptionally busy time at school (even more so than usual) as we put plans in place that will support the long-term strength and richness of our school. Schools do not grow or evolve in isolation, and I never take for granted the encouragement, support and kind words we receive from our community. They genuinely matter.

We are well underway with our transition from ParentMail to Arbor. There is still time to move across before the cut-off date of Sunday 22nd February. Please be aware that some Arbor emails are being filtered into Junk folders, so it's worth checking there if you've not received anything. If you experience any difficulties at all, please pop into the office and see Maddi: she is ready and braced!

As we approach the end of the first half of the Spring term, I would like to wish you a brilliant half term break, whatever your plans may be. And as always, if anything is unclear or you need our support, please do get in touch. We are proud to be more than 'just a school'.

RUMOURS* (*not Fleetwood Mac!)

We are aware that some inaccurate information is currently being shared on social media regarding the proposed SEND Hub.

For clarity, the school swimming pool was closed following two independent professional inspections, which identified significant structural and safety concerns. This decision was taken on health and safety grounds, and was made well before any plans for a SEND Hub were discussed.

The proposed SEND Hub would utilise the existing spare classroom and is not connected to the former swimming pool site.

The area previously occupied by the swimming pool is intended for the development of our Wellbeing Hub. This was never the original location for it, but was selected after careful consideration of the newly available space.

We fully respect that members of our community will hold different views. However, we kindly ask that opinions are not presented as established facts. When inaccurate information circulates, it causes upset within our school community.

Short Version: Please be careful with circulating inaccurate information!

THANK YOU, MRS MILLER!

Mrs Miller has taken the decision to step down from her role as Forest School Leader. I am sure you will join me in thanking her for the dedication, passion and energy she has brought to this aspect of school life. Forest School has been a valued and enriching experience for our pupils, and that is in no small part due to her commitment.

As Forest School requires a specifically trained and qualified leader, we will not be able to offer the full Forest School programme until we are able to appoint a suitably qualified replacement. Recruiting for this role takes time, and we are committed to ensuring that any future appointment meets the high standards we expect.

In the meantime, outdoor learning will continue to form an important part of our curriculum. Our staff remain passionate about learning beyond the classroom, and children will still benefit from meaningful outdoor experiences that utilise the Forest School area.

Whilst this is understandably disappointing news, we remain optimistic and will keep parents informed as we move forward.

Short Version: Thank you, Mrs Miller, for being so brilliant.



SPOILER ALERT: THERE'S A DISCO IN MARCH!

For an (unannounced) upcoming PSFA disco, tickets will be priced at £5 per child. Before anyone raises an eyebrow, we'd like to reassure you that this is an **all-inclusive cost**. The price covers the running costs of the event, the supervision required (effectively providing an hour of childcare), as well as a drink and snacks for each child.

There will be no additional charges on the night unless children wish to purchase an optional glow stick.

We are always mindful of keeping events affordable, but we also need to ensure that activities cover their costs and remain sustainable. Full details soon!

BE SAFE ONLINE!

This week, we celebrated Safer Internet Day in school. As part of our ongoing support for families, we have a dedicated [Online Safety](#) page on our school website. This includes clear, practical guides and straightforward advice to help you support your child in navigating the online world safely.

We know that the digital world can sometimes feel overwhelming. It's massive, fast-moving and not always easy to monitor. However, small, consistent conversations at home make a significant difference.

If you are ever concerned about your child's online safety, or are unsure how to manage a particular situation, please do get in touch. We will always do what we reasonably can to support you.

Short Version: Be safe online!

