W/E 06th January 2023

Dear All,

I hope you had a lovely break and are enjoying a fantastic new year.

Term started on Tuesday for the staff with our Inset Day, at which our training included fire safety and manual handling (how we all love these compulsory courses)! It was great to see the children back on Wednesday and to hear about their presents, their trips and the time spent with their families. It has been amazing to see how quickly the children have settled back into the pattern of work here at school. I have thoroughly enjoyed spending time in all the classrooms (some would call it work avoidance).

Very exciting news for later in the term in that we have Christabel Blackburn coming in to speak to the children, discuss her art, look at the children’s and judge a portrait competition (more on this to follow). You may have seen Christabel before, she was the winner of Sky’s The Portrait Artist of the Year in 2019.

A couple of dates coming up this term. Firstly, we will be inviting you in to classrooms on Wednesday 8th February from 3 – 4pm. This will be an opportunity for your child(ren) to share their work with you and for you to see their progress this academic year. Secondly, this term’s parent consultations are being held on 15th & 16th March. Bookings will be made available nearer the time. Please be aware that if, at any stage in the academic year, you want an update or advice about the learning of your child(ren), please contact Lou and we will arrange for their class teacher to get in touch.

Have a great weekend,

Nigel

**Guitar Lessons**

Alister Chester, will be continuing guitar lessons this term: new pupils are welcome. Group lessons will run every Tuesday from 3:30 – 4:30pm and will offer children the opportunity to learn the key skills required as a guitarist, as well as how to play some of their favourite songs, all in a relaxed and fun environment. Please speak to Lou for more details.

**Recommended Theatre Performance**

Actor Mark Carey will be performing his one-man play *Into The Breach* at the Sherborne Studio Theatre. The play is suitable for anyone 9 years old and above and is both enjoyable and educational.

There are three performances:

* Friday 27th January at 7.30 pm
* Saturday 28th January at 2.30 pm and 7.30 pm.

Tickets are available via the Amateur Players of Sherborne website (https://www.aps-sherborne.co.uk/into-the-breach.html), where you can also find more comments and full reviews. Adult seats are priced between £10 and £12, and under 16s can attend for only £5

**Request for Support**

Lisa and the KS1 team have asked for support for the following events geared around their Local Area (farming) topic.

* Tue 28th Feb from 9:15 – 10:30am - **Tractors and farm machinery** in school car park
* Fri 24th Mar from 1:30 – 2:45 - **Farm Animals** on the school’s court

If you are able to help, please contact Lisa via the school office in the New Year.

**Key Dates**

8th February - Celebrate Our Own Learning in classrooms

15th & 16th March - Spring Term Parent Consultation (details to follow)

7th – 9th July - Year 5 Sleepover

**Key Year 6 Dates**

9th – 12th May - KS2 SATs

22nd – 24th May - Year 6 Residential

12th July - Year 6 Performance

19th July - Leavers Service