

Frogwell Primary School Newsletter

27th March 2026

Dear Parents and Carers,

Parent Survey

Yesterday, we sent out our Parent Survey and would really value your feedback.

Your responses play an important role in helping to shape the future of the school, and we genuinely welcome your input. Whether it's highlighting what's working well or suggesting areas for improvement, every response makes a difference.

Reading and Phonics

Thank you to everyone who attended Mrs Snowden's reading and phonics sessions over the past few weeks. I have loved seeing so many Parents and Carers in school to join their children as Mrs Snowden read a story and the children showed off their phonics learning. We are loving seeing the children do so well across the school trying hard to read regularly and it was a particular joy to spend time with our youngest children's parents and carers.

Thank you to everyone for supporting your children in their reading, it really is one of the most impactful things you can do with your child to secure their success in all aspects of learning for their time here at Frogwell and beyond!

The National Literacy Trust reminds us of the key benefits of reading for primary-aged children. Over the next few newsletters, we will be focusing on some of these benefits and inviting you to pause for thought. We encourage you to consider what you can do in these areas to support and develop your child's reading.

Academic and Cognitive Development: Children who read often perform better in school, including in maths and spelling. It improves concentration, sharpens brain function, and aids in understanding complex text, which is crucial for tackling the full curriculum.

Vocabulary and Literacy: Reading exposes children to a broader range of language than everyday speech, strengthening their communication skills and increasing their word bank.

Social and Emotional Growth: Reading fiction helps children develop empathy by allowing them to experience the lives of other characters. It helps them understand their own emotions and cope with new or potentially stressful situations.

A message from our colleagues in Community Communications team

What's going on in Easter!?

Great news – the *I Can and I Am* bus, which will be visiting Ladyfield Church on Friday 10 April.

Doorstep Sports will also be running which normally runs on Fridays from 5pm to 6.30pm during term time won't be running on Good Friday. The session on Friday 10 April will look a little different and will start earlier at 4pm to align with the *I Can and I Am* bus sessions.

There won't be any sports provision that week, but there will be social activities and crafts, and the *I Can and I Am* bus

will be on site offering two bookable sessions for young people. Our children at school have recently been able to access the bus, so this is a great opportunity for anyone who missed it or would like another chance to take part. A flyer is attached to the newsletter.



Unity Lunch

A local community group in Chippenham is hosting a special event this holiday to celebrate unity, diversity and friendship—and all families are warmly invited.

Join them on Saturday 11th April, from 12:00–2:30pm, at Kingsley Road Community Hall for a relaxed and welcoming gathering. There will be an opportunity to share food from different cultures, so if you're able, please bring along a dish to contribute.

This promises to be a lovely way to connect with others and celebrate the richness of our community. All ages are welcome, and everyone is encouraged to come along and be part of it.

Further details can be found on the attached poster, and the organisers would love to hear from you in advance if you plan to attend – they can be reached at diversityinchippenham@gmail.com.

Attendance Overview

What is a good attendance percentage?

95 - 100% (less than 10 days absence in a year) is good attendance. 95% is the national average attendance rate for a child at primary school.

What is a poor attendance?

Anything below 95% attendance is worrying as your child has less chance of success. It makes it harder for the child to progress if they are missing key learning opportunities.

What will happen if my child's attendance falls below 95%?

Schools monitor pupil attendance every term. You may be sent a letter or you may be invited to a School Attendance Meeting at the school.

Isn't my child entitled to 10 days holiday or odd days off for long weekends?

No. The School may only authorise an absence in exceptional circumstances.

If pupils take unauthorised leave of absence in term time parents could be served a penalty notice by their local education authority.

Did you know there are 175 non-school days per year to spend on family time, visits, holidays, shopping trips etc.

What do I do if my child is not well enough to come to school?

If you feel that your child isn't well enough to come to school, you need complete the absence form on the school website or email us before 8.30am for each day a pupil will not be attending school with your child's name, year group and the reason why they are not in school.

Medical appointments should be made for after school wherever possible. We may ask to see evidence of medical appointments, if your child's attendance is poor.

What does authorised and unauthorised absence mean?

As a foundation school we must follow national legal guidelines which means that holiday requests during term-time cannot be authorised. Because of this, absences or persistent lateness which are not agreed with us, can incur a penalty notice. These penalties are through the local council and we have no control over how they are given.

We cannot guarantee that we will authorise a pupil's leave of absence during term time, as this is only done in exceptional circumstances. If you don't get permission from the Headteacher, the absence is classed as 'unauthorised' and this includes lateness. If you want to see if an absence can be authorised, you must contact school in advance and get permission from the Academy Headteacher.

What will happen if my child misses school?

We keep parents up to date with their child's attendance and confirm absences with them; this makes sure pupils are supported in their progress at school.

Our Attendance Team work really hard to support pupils and often identify patterns of non-attendance. They will always work with parents and carers to understand these patterns and see how they can be improved.

Exceptional Leave of Absence Form

If you require an exceptional leave of absence, please come into the school office to complete a form.

Update from The Parent Pond

A huge thank you to everyone who came along to support our Parent Pond Easter Bingo – it was a fantastic evening with some brilliant prizes up for grabs!

Together, we raised an amazing £485, which is a wonderful achievement.

We're already looking forward to our next event – the Spring Disco on Thursday 21st May. Tickets will be available after Easter, so keep an eye out!

We would like to wish all our families a very Happy Easter. We hope that you have a restful break. We look forward to seeing you on Monday 13th April.

Miss Woods

Diary Dates

Monday 30 th March – Friday 10 th April	Easter Holidays
Monday 27 th April – Tuesday 28 th April	Year 3 & Year 4 Residential to Grittleton House
w/c Monday 11 th May	SATS Week
Thursday 21 st May	Parent Pond - Spring Disco
Friday 22 nd May	TD Day – School closed to children
Monday 25 th May – Friday 29 th May	Half Term
Thursday 25 th June	Sports Day
Wednesday 1 st July	School Reports
Thursday 2 nd July	Art Exhibition 3:15 – 4:15pm
Friday 3 rd July	Art Exhibition 3:15 – 4:15pm
Wednesday 8 th July	Reserve Sports Day
Friday 3 rd July	Non-Uniform Day
Friday 3 rd July	Parent Pond – Fun Run
Friday 17 th July	Parent Pond – Summer Party
Monday 20 th July	Year 6 Leavers’ Party
Tuesday 21 st July	Year 6 Leavers’ Assembly
Wednesday 22 nd July	TD Day – School closed to children
Thursday 23 rd July – Monday 31 st August	Summer Holidays