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A quick message from Mrs Cameron:


What a wonderful return to school!

It has been brilliant to return to whole school assemblies and to see the whole school at once. We've had a visit from Rev. James this week, who came to talk to us on Shrove Tuesday, and held our own pancake tossing competition.

The children really enjoyed dressing up for World Book Day and getting the chance to complete some book-based activities as well as having the opportunity to hear some new stories from their teachers.

On the theme of getting back to normal, our sports organisers are busy arranging fixtures for the rest of this term. It is great that children are able to compete again. We are also currently talking to our wider club providers for the Summer Term. We hope to bring you news of this soon.

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### Notices

#### Parents' Evenings

We are excited to be able to hold Parents' Evenings in person for the first time in many terms. Following mixed preferences at a recent parent forum meeting, we are looking to offer both in-person and remote options during the school year.

The arrangements will be slightly different to normal, with Year 3, Year 4 and Blossom appointments taking place in the hall, and, to allow for better spacing, Year 5 and Year 6 appointments taking place in the Year 6 classrooms. Access to appointments will be through the beautiful school courtyard. We ask that parents and carers only come onto the school site immediately before their appointment time, and we will be requesting that all attending appointments wear a face covering.

After your appointment, there will be an opportunity to view some of your children's books.

#### Welcomes and goodbyes

This week we have welcomed Mrs Jones, who is joining Carrington Junior School as an HLTA. She has a large amount of experience, having worked for several years in other local schools in a similar role. She will mainly be working in Year 4 and Year 3, but will also support learning in other classes across the school from time to time.

This week we also say goodbye to Mr Gull, who is moving on to an exciting new job at a local secondary school. We wish him every success for the future.

Mrs Buckley will be joining us next week and will be working alongside Mrs Carr in the school kitchen.

### Reading volunteers in school

As we move towards the Summer Term, we will be holding some updated training for reading volunteers. If you are able to give an hour or two to school on a regular basis, and are interested in being a volunteer, please email the school office to be added to the list for this.

### Covid-19

Since the start of term, the Covid-19 regulations have been relaxed by the Government. As mentioned in the update prior to half term, we are continuing to maintain good ventilation and hygiene measures. There is no longer a requirement for regular testing as a precaution.

We are asking parents and carers to keep their child at home if they are presenting with coronavirus symptoms, these include:

high temperature;

new continuous cough;

or loss of, or change to, normal sense of smell or taste.

Children with these symptoms should stay at home immediately and arrange a COVID-19 test.

### Events in Ukraine

Many parents and carers have been asking us how to support their children with questions and worries about the situation in Ukraine. Please find within this message a selection of links which you can use to support your child at home:

- *BBC Newsround has a number of good pieces. For example*
- - <https://www.bbc.co.uk/newsround/60417806>

*"One Newsround presenter, in a radio interview, underlined that you can't hide children from all the harsh realities of the crisis in Ukraine. We adults should be truthful, he advised: confirm for example that, yes, they heard right, there are children in Ukraine hiding out in underground stations rather than learning in classrooms - but there is no need, he said, to show them the more horrific footage circulating on social media (or on adult news)."*

- *These links may help with supporting children in age-appropriate ways: [Talking to Children about Ukraine](#) and [Talking to Children About War](#).*
- *Books for Big Ideas – a list of five suggested picture book titles that can be used to explore some of the associated themes in a primary school setting. ([link here](#))*

We will be continuing to support children in school if they come to us with questions or worries and will be doing some work linked to the theme of peace later this term as a whole school.

### Dates to be aware of:

Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> March\* – **Parents' evening** - 4pm-7pm  
\*Mr Shand -Thursday 10<sup>th</sup> March

Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> March- **Parents' evening**- 3:30pm-6pm

Wednesday 16<sup>th</sup> March – **Year 6 Victorian Day**

Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> March – **Year 3 Discovery Centre**

Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> March – Year 5 and Year 6 choir- **ECHOES performance** at the Royal Albert Hall

Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup>/ Thursday 7<sup>th</sup> April- **Year 4 Easter performance** – in person

Friday 8<sup>th</sup> April – **PTA mufti day** – bring £1