



Jesus said, 'I am the way , the truth and the life.' -
John 14:6

Love Courage Friendship

**St. Francis Catholic & Church
of England Primary Academy**

Newsletter 29

9th May 2025

01983 857449

office@stfrancisventnor.org

Dear Families

As we approach the end of another busy week, I'm delighted to share some wonderful moments and important updates with you all. Our school continues to buzz with activity and achievement, and I'm incredibly proud of the hard work and dedication shown by our children and staff.

This week, we were thrilled to host our VE Day picnic on the school field, welcoming families to join us in commemorating this significant historical event. It was heartwarming to see our community come together, sharing stories, food, and creating memories. These moments of connection are precious, reinforcing the strong bonds between our school and families. Thank you to everyone who participated and helped make this event so special.

As we look ahead, our Year 6 children are intensely focused on their upcoming SATs. Their determination and resilience in preparing for these assessments have been truly impressive. The dedication shown by both our children and teachers during this time is commendable. I have every confidence in our Year 6s and know they will approach next week's tests with the same enthusiasm and diligence they've demonstrated throughout their time at St Francis. Let's all rally behind them, offering our support and encouragement as they take this important step in their educational journey.

I'm also delighted to share a particularly proud moment for our school. During a recent peer review, the exceptional behaviour of our children was specifically noted and praised. This recognition is a testament to the values we instill and the positive learning environment we cultivate together. It reflects not just on the children themselves, but on the entire school community - parents, teachers, and support staff alike. Your continued support in reinforcing good behaviour at home plays a crucial role in this success, and for that, we are deeply grateful.

These highlights - from community events to academic preparation and exemplary behaviour - showcase the vibrant, supportive, and ambitious spirit of St Francis. Each day, I witness the growth, kindness, and enthusiasm of our children, and it reinforces my belief in the bright future ahead for each of them.

As we move forward, let's continue to work together, celebrate our achievements, and support one another. Your involvement and support are invaluable, and together, we're creating an environment where every child can thrive.

Thank you for your ongoing commitment to our school community. Here's to many more successes and memorable moments in the weeks to come.

The big question last week was:

What do you think makes someone special?

'I'm special because I have good friendships and I help people every day' Daniel, YR

'Making good choices' Kitty, Y1

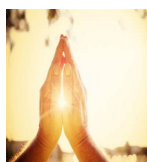
'When people let you play with them' Dixie, Y2

'I think being nice makes someone special because everyone deserves to be treated the same.' Lizzy, Y3

'Their quality time with you' Lucy, Y4

'You doing you and being unique' Samuel, Y5

'I think their personality makes them special because everyone has different minds and if we were all the same then it would be boring.' Ava, Y6



The big question this week is:

Is it ever ok to break the rules? Why? Why not?

Kind Regards
Mr Craig

Important Dates

12th May - SATS Week

16th May - Year 6 Cinema Trip

23rd May - PTA Break the Rules Day

23rd May - Break up

24th May - Messy Church - 3pm—5pm

2nd June - Return to school

2nd June - 7th July , Every Monday -Yr 6 Swimming @
Waterside

3rd June - Class Photos

3rd June - Reception Starters 2025 information session
4pm—5pm

9th June - Phonics Screening Week

19th June- PTA Film Night Times - TBC

24th- 27th June—Yr 6 Trip to Paris

2nd- 4th July - Yr 4 Little Canada Trip

8th July - School Transition Day

8th July - PTA End of Year Disco

8th—9th July - Bikeability - Yr 6

10th July - DCAT Enriched - Hurstpierpoint College

10th July - Yr 6 Leavers Service - Portsmouth Cathedral

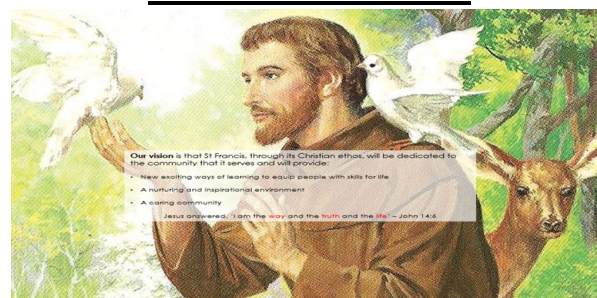
11th July - Sports Day

16th July - Reception Trip to Blue Reef Aquarium

23rd July - Year 6 trip to Houses of Parliament &
Westminster Abbey

24th July - Last Day of the school year

Our School Vision

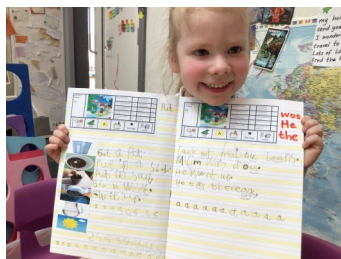


Beatrix Potter Class News

This term, Reception have continued to find out about different festivals around the world whilst comparing similarities and differences. We compared some of the May Day traditions with some of the other festivals we have explored over the year. We found out that traditionally May Day was when people would welcome in the Summer. After watching a short clip of Morris dancing, we were eager to all have a go! A 'May Queen' was chosen to wear the floral headpiece as well as an accordion player and we all wore wrist or ankle bells along with dancing scarves.



In Literacy, we have been focusing on what a sentence needs and remembering to use finger spaces between our words, a capital letter at the start and punctuation at the end. This week, we wrote our own versions of Jack and the Beanstalk.



In Maths, we have been focusing on the composition of numbers within 10, doubles within 10 and subitising (quickly seeing a quantity without having to count).



During Exploration Time, Reception have particularly enjoyed developing their gross and fine motor skills with our new monkeys bars, washing and pegging up clothes and our weaving station!



Stars of the Week



Phoebe -Yr R



Ada-Rose -Yr 1



Oliver -Yr 2



Rose -Yr 3



Etienne—Yr 4



Maddie-Rae-



Andrii -Yr6

House Points



Polar bears - 302

Tigers - 301

Pandas - 191

Snow Leopard - 120



Class Attendance

Congratulations to Year 3 Class for having the highest class attendance this week.

Year 3 = 98.8%

Year 2 = 98.6%

Year R = 98.4%

Year 6 = 98.1%

Year 4 = 96.6%

Year 5 = 95.2%

Year 1 = 94.8%





VE Day Picnic



At The National College, our WakeUpWednesday guides empower and equip parents, carers and educators with the confidence and practical skills to be able to have informed and age-appropriate conversations with children about online safety, mental health and wellbeing, and climate change. Formerly delivered by National Online Safety, these guides now address wider topics and themes. For further guides, facts and tips, please visit nationalcollege.com.

10 Top Tips for Parents and Educators

FOSTERING A SENSE OF BELONGING

Feeling a genuine sense of belonging is essential for the emotional and social development of children and young people. Belonging significantly boosts self-esteem, resilience, and mental wellbeing, reducing feelings of isolation and anxiety. This guide provides practical strategies for parents and educators to cultivate inclusive environments, enhancing both academic outcomes and overall happiness among young people.

- CELEBRATE INDIVIDUAL DIFFERENCES**
Acknowledge and celebrate the uniqueness of every child. Promoting diversity and inclusion creates an environment where differences are valued rather than dismissed. This acceptance empowers children to confidently express their knowledge and feelings, fostering a robust sense of belonging within both school and home settings.
- CONSISTENT COMMUNICATION**
Regularly communicate and actively listen to children, sharing genuine interest in their thoughts and experiences. Creating open communication channels helps young people feel heard and valued. This approach not only builds trust but also reinforces children's perception of themselves as a vital part of their school, social, and community.
- MEANINGFUL PARTICIPATION**
Give children opportunities to actively participate and contribute, whether in classrooms, at home, or in community activities. Meaningful participation helps children feel their input matters, reinforcing a sense of purpose and value. Including them in decisions and responsibilities enhances their self-worth, promoting a deeper sense of belonging and inclusion.
- FOSTER STRONG RELATIONSHIPS**
Support and encourage positive relationships between peers, educators, and families. Strong, healthy relationships significantly impact a child's sense of belonging, providing emotional support and reducing feelings of isolation. Facilitate social interactions through group activities, teamwork, and collaborative learning to strengthen these vital connections.
- CREATE INCLUSIVE SPACES**
Design environments that reflect diversity and are welcoming for everyone. Inclusive spaces where all children feel comfortable and supported can dramatically improve their feelings of safety and acceptance. Consider classroom displays, books, and resources that celebrate various cultures, abilities, and backgrounds to visibly reinforce inclusivity and belonging.
- MODEL POSITIVE BEHAVIOUR**
Adults play a crucial role by demonstrating inclusive, empathetic, and respectful behaviours. Modelling positive interactions and attitudes sets a clear standard for children to follow. Children are likely to replicate inclusive behaviours, creating a supportive community atmosphere where everyone feels accepted and valued for who they are.
- BUILD EMOTIONAL LITERACY**
Teach and encourage emotional expression and understanding among children. Developing emotional literacy enables young people to recognise and manage their feelings effectively. An emotionally intelligent environment is better equipped to handle conflicts and foster a deeper sense of belonging and interconnectedness within groups.
- SUPPORT PEER MENTORSHIP**
Encourage peer mentorship or buddy systems within educational settings. Peer support enhances feelings of connection and security, reducing feelings of isolation. When children support one another, they naturally build community bonds, nurturing a supportive culture where belonging and learning thrive.
- RECOGNISE EFFORTS REGULARLY**
Consistently acknowledge children's contributions and achievements, however small. Recognition reinforces a child's understanding that their presence and efforts are important. Celebrating individual and collective successes helps create a positive environment where children feel acknowledged, motivated, and deeply connected to peers and adults around them.
- ADDRESS BULLYING PROMPTLY**
Swiftly address any incidents of bullying, ensuring a safe and secure environment for all. Creating a culture where incidents are swiftly and effectively addressed reinforces trust, security, and a sense of belonging for everyone involved.

Meet Our Expert
Anna Johnson is Director of Inclusion Education and Director for Wellbeing and Family Services at Leigh Trust. With extensive experience in research, mental health, and education, she is the regional educational leader across the UK in developing inclusive, resilient, and supportive learning environments. Anna is also the lead expert for mental health at The National College.

#WakeUpWednesday **The National College**

Source: nationalcollege.com/guides/fostering-a-sense-of-belonging

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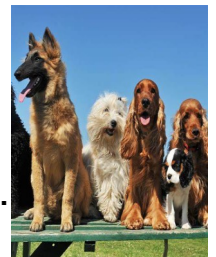
Outstanding Library Books

There is a large number of library books that have not been returned, please can you have a good look for them and return them to the office.

Messages will be sent out to parents with the titles of the books.

Dogs on school site.

As much as we love dogs, please do not bring them on to the school site. Thank you.



Missing Football Kit.

There is a large amount of the school football kit missing, please can you have a good look for any items and return them asap to the office.

Thank you.



As the weather is warming up please can you ensure your child has sun cream applied before school and they bring a water bottle and hat to school every day. Thank you



FREE COURSES AND WORKSHOPS

0-19 years service

Start for Life Offer

Antenatal Courses
Breastfeeding Support
Stay and Plays

Healthy Eating
Understanding baby/child development



Suitable from Pregnancy – 2 years

Parenting Support

Language Skills
Emotional Development

Understanding Teen development
Understanding all Behaviours
School Preparation



Suitable from 2-19 years

ELIM (Early Language Identification Measure)

Do you have a child aged between 2-2.5 years. Scan the QR code to complete our language measure. You will be contacted offering you appropriate information and support if needed.



Suitable from 2-2.5 years

Contact us

Email iowfamilycentres@barnardos.org.uk
Or call us on 529208, 617617 or 408718

Family Hubs in NEWPORT, RYDE, and SANDOWN
Family Centres SHANKLIN, VENTNOR, COWES,
EAST COWES and WEST WIGHT



Join the PTA!



PTA news

Join the PTA!



The PTA are busy planning some exciting events for the children this year, below are some events for the children to look forward to.

Friday 23rd May - 'Break the rules day' - Children can pay £1.00 per rule they break.

Rules to break :

Chocolate in lunch box.

Squash instead of water.

Wear your own clothes.

Crazy hair.

There will also be a cake sale at break time.



Thursday June 19th - Film night (after school) with Popcorn and Hotdogs £2.00 per child.



Friday 11th July - Sports day - Ice cream for the children after the races. £1.00 per child.



Tuesday 8th July - End of term Disco with AJ, £5.00 per child, to include sweets and a drinks.



September - PTA Coffee Morning for new and existing parents.



October - 'Light Rave' to tie in with Diwali and possibly a Colour run.



November - Christmas Craft Workshops



These are just a few events that are planned and there will more to follow plus a very exciting Christmas treat.

If you would like to join the PTA please contact the office.

Term Dates 2024-2025

Term Dates 2024 - 2025

SEPTEMBER 2024	OCTOBER 2024	NOVEMBER 2024
M 26 2 9 16 23 30 T 27 3 10 17 24 W 28 4* 11 18 25 T 29 5 12 19 26 F 30 6 13 20 27 S 31 7 14 21 28 S 1 8 15 22 29	M 7 14 21 28 T 1 8 15 22 29 W 2 9 16 23 30 T 3 10 17 24 31 F 4 11 18 25 S 5 12 19 26 S 6 13 20 27	M 4* 11 18 25 T 5 12 19 26 W 6 13 20 27 T 7 14 21 28 F 8 15 22 29 S 2 9 16 23 30 S 3 10 17 24
DECEMBER 2024	JANUARY 2025	FEBRUARY 2025
M 2 9 16 23 30 T 3 10 17 24 31 W 4 11 18 25 T 5 12 19 26 F 6 13 20 27 S 7 14 21 28 S 1 8 15 22 29	M 6* 13 20 27 T 7 14 21 28 W 8 15 22 29 T 9 16 23 30 F 10 17 24 31 S 4 11 18 25 S 5 12 19 26	M 3 10 17 24* T 4 11 18 25 W 5 12 19 26 T 6 13 20 27 F 7 14 21 28 S 1 8 15 22 S 2 9 16 23
MARCH 2025	APRIL 2025	MAY 2025
M 3 10 17 24 31 T 4 11 18 25 W 5 12 19 26 T 6 13 20 27 F 7 14 21 28 S 1 8 15 22 29 S 2 9 16 23 30	M 7 14 21 28 T 1 8 15 22* 29 W 2 9 16 23 30 T 3 10 17 24 F 4 11 18 25 S 5 12 19 26 S 6 13 20 27	M 12 19 26 T 6 13 20 27 W 7 14 21 28 T 8 15 22 29 F 9 16 23 30 S 3 10 17 24 31 S 4 11 18 25
JUNE 2025	JULY 2025	AUGUST 2025
M 2* 9 16 23 30 T 3 10 17 24 W 4 11 18 25 T 5 12 19 26 F 6 13 20 27 S 7 14 21 28 S 1 8 15 22 29	M 7 14 21 28 T 1 8 15 22 29 W 2 9 16 23 30 T 3 10 17 24 31 F 4 11 18 25 S 5 12 19 26 S 6 13 20 27	M 4 11 18 25 T 5 12 19 26 W 6 13 20 27 T 7 14 21 28 F 8 15 22 29 S 2 9 16 23 30 S 3 10 17 24 31

Development Day Holiday Bank Holiday * first day after break # last day before break

Bank and Public Holidays 2024/2025

Christmas Day 25 December 2024
Boxing Day New Year's 26 December 2024
New Year's Day Holiday 1 January 2025
Good Friday 18 April 2025
Easter Monday 25 May 2025
May Day Holiday 28 May 2025
Spring Bank Holiday 25 August 2025
Summer Bank Holiday

Next Years Term Dates 2025-2026

Term Dates 2025 - 2026

SEPTEMBER 2025	OCTOBER 2025	NOVEMBER 2025
M 1 8 15 22 29 T 2* 9 16 23 30 W 3 10 17 24 T 4 11 18 25 F 5 12 19 26 S 6 13 20 27 S 7 14 21 28	M 6 13 20 27 T 7 14 21 28 W 8 15 22 29 T 9 16 23 30 F 10 17 24 31 S 4 11 18 25 S 5 12 19 26	M 3* 10 17 24 T 4 11 18 25 W 5 12 19 26 T 6 13 20 27 F 7 14 21 28 S 1 8 15 22 29 S 2 9 16 23 30
DECEMBER 2025	JANUARY 2026	FEBRUARY 2026
M 1 8 15 22 29 T 2 9 16 23 30 W 3 10 17 24 31 T 4 11 18 25 F 5 12 19 26 S 6 13 20 27 S 7 14 21 28	M 5* 12 19 26 T 6 13 20 27 W 7 14 21 28 T 8 15 22 29 F 9 16 23 30 S 3 10 17 24 31 S 4 11 18 25	M 2 9 16 23* T 3 10 17 24 W 4 11 18 25 T 5 12 19 26 F 6 13 20 27 S 7 14 21 28 S 1 8 15 22 29
MARCH 2026	APRIL 2026	MAY 2026
M 2 9 16 23 30 T 3 10 17 24 31 W 4 11 18 25 T 5 12 19 26 F 6 13 20 27 S 7 14 21 28 S 1 8 15 22 29	M 6 13* 20 27 T 7 14 21 28 W 8 15 22 29 T 9 16 23 30 F 10 17 24 S 4 11 18 25 S 5 12 19 26	M 4 11 18 25 T 5* 12 19 26 W 6 13 20 27 T 7 14 21 28 F 1 8 15 22* 29 S 2 9 16 23 30 S 3 10 17 24 31
JUNE 2026	JULY 2026	AUGUST 2026
M 1* 8 15 22 29 T 2 9 16 23 30 W 3 10 17 24 T 4 11 18 25 F 5 12 19 26 S 6 13 20 27 S 7 14 21 28	M 6 13 20 27 T 7 14 21 28 W 8 15 22 29 T 9 16 23 30 F 10 17 24 31 S 4 11 18 25 S 5 12 19 26	M 3 10 17 24 31 T 4 11 18 25 W 5 12 19 26 T 6 13 20 27 F 7 14 21 28 S 1 8 15 22 29 S 2 9 16 23 30

Development Day Holiday Bank Holiday * first day after break # last day before break

Bank and Public Holidays 2025/2026

Christmas Day 25 December 2025
Boxing Day New Year's 26 December 2025
New Year's Day Holiday 1 January 2026
Good Friday 3 April 2026
Easter Monday 28 May 2026
May Day Holiday 31 May 2026
Spring Bank Holiday 28 August 2026
Summer Bank Holiday

Spring/Summer Menu



WEEK 1

STEP 1

Choose from...

Main

Vegetarian

Combo

STEP 2

...and to finish!

Bread and Salad will be available at Lunch Times

MONDAY

Cheese & Tomato Pizza
to go with
Side Salad, Homemade mixed potato wedges

Cheese & Tomato Pizza
to go with
Side Salad, Homemade mixed potato wedges

Jacket Potato
with choice of fillings
Baked Beans, Grated Cheese, Cheese & Beans, No Topping

Pasta
with choice of fillings
Homemade Tomato & Basil Sauce, Grated Cheese, No Topping

Apple & Date Cake

Fresh Fruit Pot, Yoghurt, Cheese and Biscuits, Jelly

TUESDAY

Beef Lasagne
to go with
Homemade Garlic Bread, Peas

Roasted Veg Lasagne
to go with
Homemade Garlic Bread, Peas

Jacket Potato
with choice of fillings
Baked Beans, Grated Cheese, Cheese & Beans, No Topping

Wrap
to go with
Side Salad
with choice of fillings
Grated Cheese, Ham Salad, Tuna Mayo

Banana Loaf

Fresh Fruit Pot, Yoghurt, Jelly

WEDNESDAY

Roast Chicken
to go with
Broccoli, Carrots, New Potatoes

Quorn Roast
to go with
Broccoli, Carrots, Roast Potatoes

Jacket Potato
with choice of fillings
Baked Beans, Grated Cheese, Cheese & Beans, No Topping

Pasta
with choice of fillings
Homemade Tomato & Basil Sauce, Grated Cheese, No Topping

Chocolate Orange Cake

Fresh Fruit Pot, Yoghurt, Cheese and Biscuits, Jelly

THURSDAY

Sausage Pasta Bake
to go with
Sweetcorn, Homemade Tomato & Basil Bread

Cheese & Onion Pasty
to go with
New Potatoes, Sweetcorn

Jacket Potato
with choice of fillings
Baked Beans, Grated Cheese, Cheese & Beans, No Topping

Wrap
to go with
Side Salad
with choice of fillings
Grated Cheese, Ham Salad, Tuna Mayo

Carrot, Apple & Lemon Drizzle Cake

Fresh Fruit Pot, Yoghurt, Jelly

FRIDAY

Battered Pollock Fillets
to go with
Chips, Peas

Quorn Sausages
to go with
Chips, Peas

Jacket Potato
with choice of fillings
Baked Beans, Grated Cheese, Cheese & Beans, No Topping

Pasta
with choice of fillings
Homemade Tomato & Basil Sauce, Grated Cheese, No Topping

Ice Lolly

Fresh Fruit Pot, Yoghurt, Cheese and Biscuits, Jelly

Please speak to a member of the Catering Team or view relishschoolfood.co.uk for Allergen Information

School Uniform

The uniform at St Francis is:

- Grey trousers/skirt/pinafore/ Blue & white gingham dresses for the summer
- White Polo (with logo if possible) Years R, 1, 2
- White button through shirt/blouse and tie Years 3, 4, 5 & 6
- School Sweatshirt/Cardigan with logo
- Grey socks/tights
- Black School Shoes (not trainers or boots)

PE Kit is:

- White Logo T Shirt
- Navy PE shorts
- Plimsolls / Trainers

Hair longer than shoulder length should be tied up at all times this applies to both boys and girls and hair accessories should be subtle (no big bows/ ribbons please)

For safety reasons children should not wear any jewellery in school. However if your child has pierced ears, small studs may be worn. These will need to be removed for P.E lessons and if your child goes swimming.

We are proud of our school and its uniform, please help us to keep looking smart.

PE Days:

Monday - Years 5 & 6

Tuesday - Reception

Wednesday - Year 3

Thursday - Year 2 & 4

Friday - Year 1

**Please remember PE kit
MUST be worn to school
on your child's PE day.**

**PE kits should be brought
in for all after school sports**

School Information

School starts at 8.30am and finishes at 3.00pm. Please ensure your child is dropped off in plenty of time for the start of the day and that you collect your child promptly at the end of the day or after their club.

Attendance

If your child is absent from school please ensure you contact the school office promptly in the morning, you can leave a message on 857449.

Break and lunch boxes

A reminder that children should bring a healthy snack for break (no chocolate) and a healthy balanced lunchbox, thank you.



2KM KIDS FUN RUN! (START LINE 11AM!)



SPONSORED BY
DARK STAR RUNNING CLUB

**GET YOUR
TRAINERS ON!**

AND JOIN US FOR OUR FAB 2KM
KIDS FUN RUN!
MEDALS FOR ALL OUR RUNNERS!



ALL PROFITS RAISED WILL GO TOWARDS THE UPKEEP AND ONGOING IMPROVEMENTS TO GODSHILL PLAY PARK

GODSHILL

Play Fest!

2025

FREE ENTRY!
DONATIONS WELCOME!

Fuelled by fun and kindly sponsored by

30th ANNIVERSARY

SOVEREIGN
Bringing Imagination Into Play

**CELEBRATING CHILDREN,
PLAY AND FUN FOR ALL!**

SATURDAY 31ST MAY 2025
11AM - 4PM
GODSHILL PLAY PARK, CENTRAL MEAD

COME ALONG FOR LOTS OF MERRIMENT, MUNCHING AND MINGLING ON THE MEAD!

Limited pre-booked accessible parking ONLY!
We are on a main bus route! If coming by car please consider car sharing and park responsibly.



Corf Scout Campsite

Open Day

Corf Road, Shalfleet, PO30 4NT

Saturday 17 May 2025

10:00am - 4:00pm

All welcome. Bring the family. Many activities.

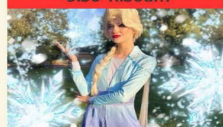
Refreshments. Parking £5 per car. Free entry.

Sorry, no unaccompanied children & no dogs (except assistance dogs).



Story Time with...

Wednesday 14th May
9.30-11.30am



Wednesday 21st May
9.30-11.30am



Wednesday 28th May
9.30-11.30am



Wednesday 4th June
9.30-11.30am



Included in your entrance or
all 4 story times for £22



PRESENTS.....



**BASKET
BALL**

CAMP

YOUTH AGE
5-18

**JOIN
NOW!**

MAY
30th & 31st
10am - 4pm

WEST WIGHT
SPORTS CENTRE,
Moa place,
Freshwater

COST..
1 Day £30
Both days £50
Inc T-shirt

Book at...

<https://spond.com/invite/CZOUJ>

The next PTA fundraising event is Break the rules day !!

Friday 23rd May - 'Break the rules day' - Children can pay £1.00 per rule they would like to break. There will also be a cake sale at break time.

There will be a stall outside the main office after school from Monday 19th -Thursday 22nd May selling Coloured hair spray, chalk combs, tattoo sleeves, bobble hair braids and other exciting items in readiness for the day, there will also be passes on sale for the rules they would like to break.



Rules to break :

Chocolate in lunch box.



Squash instead of water.

Wear your own clothes.



Crazy hair.