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Newsletter 17

Monday 23rd January 2023

**Please remember that this Friday, 27th January, is a school in-service training day and the school will be closed for all pupils.**

Clubs start this week. Please remember that if your child has been fortunate in being allocated a place, then there is an **expectation that they will attend each week.**

Due to an administration error linked to Parents Evening week, all clubs will now finish a week earlier than advertised, the week beginning 13th March.

Apologies for the error.

### Parent Governors

Dr Joanna Jayne Bucknall and Hana Lockhat were successfully elected as parent governors.

### Nursery Places 2023/24

Our very popular nursery, which has an excellent reputation, is finalising applications for September. We admit children in the Autumn term after their third birthday. We provide 15 hours care in either morning or afternoon sessions.

In addition, since September 2017, we are able to offer 30 hour free provision for parents who are eligible for this funding.

In brief, the free full-time provision is for working parents who both earn more than approximately £150 a week.

For single parents it is just the one parent who needs to be earning.

For more information please refer to:

[www.gov.uk/30-hours-free-childcare](http://www.gov.uk/30-hours-free-childcare).

It recent years the school has spent nearly £200,000 on the facilities which makes the Nursery a very special place for children to start their learning journey.

If you require more information or an application form please visit the office.

We are also accepting forms for 2024, so please do not delay.



**Believe and Achieve**



## Nellie the School Dog: A Pup Update

Nellie has been very busy over the course of the year so we thought we would update you on all the wonderful things she's been up to since September. Coming back to school after the summer holidays can be an anxious time for some children. Nellie has supported these children, causing a welcome distraction when some pupils are reluctant to come through the doors. They are met with a wag of a tail from Nellie who encourages them to come in and take her for a quick walk before going into class. The children leave her with a smile and Nellie gives them a sloppy kiss.



If children are particularly upset, Nellie will be there to cuddle and stroke as she licks away salty tears.

During a normal working day, Nellie will work alongside small groups of children with Mrs Hall, learning how to be a dog mentor. The Dog Mentor programme has built upon the benefits of the human-animal bond by providing children positive experiences with dogs that can help them educationally, developmentally, emotionally and socially. This has proven to have a positive impact on children in all areas including promotion of their self-esteem, greater empathy, more engagement with peers and better behaviour. She will also be walked by small groups of children, who may find a full day of studying a challenge and need a little break. They enjoy teaching her new tricks and seeing how fast they can run with Nellie on the MUGA pitch.

Nellie also enjoys being read to by individuals or groups of children. She doesn't judge when mistakes are made or the expression isn't in the right place- she'll just lie down and listen.....

After a busy day at school she will go home a very tired, but very happy dog.

We have been notified that there is a proposed crack down around illegal or irresponsible parking that will be running over the following few months.

Hot spots highlighted include the Craft Centre car park, Caldwell Road, the area outside the church and the entrance of the Gibbs factory.

Please, for the sake of all our children, along with your wallet, park responsibly and ensure that you are always cautious around pedestrians.

Thank you

