



# Parent/Carer Newsletter

## Quote of the Week

"It is never too late to be what you might have been." – *George Eliot*

### Key Dates for Parents/Carers

- Monday 2nd May – Early May Bank Holiday
- Monday 9th – Friday 13th May – KS2 SATs Week
- Monday 9th – Tuesday 10th May – Year 1 trip to Odds Farm
- Wednesday 11th May – Nursery Toilet training workshop for parents  
(9.15am – 9.50am)
- Monday 16th – Friday 20th May – KS1 SATs Week
- Wednesday 18th May – Year 6 trip to The Cambridge Theatre
- Thursday 19th May – Nursery AM trip to Whipsnade Zoo
- Friday 20th May – Nursery PM trip to Whipsnade Zoo
- Monday 23rd – Friday 27th May – Art Week & Book Fair

### Important Information

Dear Parents/Carers,

I hope you all had a great break and are ready and rearing to go! Lovely to see the sun shining and the pupils running into school this morning.

I hope those of you who celebrated Easter, Passover and Vaisakhi had a great time with your loved ones, and those of you who are still participating in Ramadan, I hope it is going well...not long left now! It was lovely to see so many parents reading the Easter messages on the love hearts.

#### Vaisakhi

On Wednesday 27th April, we will be having an interactive presentation for both Upper and Lower Primary covering the topic of 'What is Vaisakhi' and the significance it has for Sikhs. The 5 K's will be covered in there too...the Five Ks are five items that Guru Gobind Singh commanded Sikhs to wear at all times.

They are:

1. *Kesh* (unshorn hair and beard since the Sikh decided to keep it)
2. *Kangha* (a comb for the kesh, usually wooden)

3. *Kara* (a bracelet, usually made of iron or steel, but sometimes gold)
4. *Kachera* (a white undergarment)
5. *Kirpan* (a small curved sword of any size, shape or metal)

The presentations will be age appropriate and delivered by an external person; Nirmal Singh. He is a local Sikh scouts' leader as well as hosting school visits at the local Gurudwara.

Guru Gobind Singh established the institution of Panj Piare (5 beloved) while founding the Khalsa on the day of Baisakhi in 1699. Addressing a large gathering, he asked for five heads for sacrifice. Five men responded to his call and the Guru baptised them and called them Panj Piare. This was a very endearing sacrifice from the 5 men which has led us to think about sacrifices. Each year group will be creating a display on orange fabric where the children will be writing down their individual sacrifices - these will be displayed for parents to see on Friday.

Over the holiday period we have had a new IT/STEM hub fitted where the old library was previously situated. I look forward to sharing this with you shortly. The new library has been moved into its own space, which is working really well.

#### Hydroponic Investigation

Last term our focus on British Science theme was on 'Growth'. We asked each year group to investigate a big question: *Does my food grow best in water or soil?* They were given herb seeds to grow hydroponically, which involved placing a seed in spring water with nutrient solution (feeding them on mineral nutrient salts dissolved in water) and comparing it with the process of planting a herb seed in multi composite soil. During this investigation the children had an opportunity to take this experiment home to maintain this experiment over the Easter Break. The results were astonishing!

The herb seeds in the soil flourished very quickly and were much easier to maintain. However, the herb seeds that were grown hydroponically were not very unsuccessful and many children found this process much harder for the seed to flourish as the plant needed lots of spring water that is aerated. Many children found that herb seeds were more delicate than others and concluded that certain herbs work better in certain processing conditions than others. More importantly the children discovered that planting isn't an easy process and their appreciation for the process of growing plants became more apparent after this experiment.

There are number of key dates to be aware of above, including those regarding pupil's exam dates. Year 6 SAT's week cannot be moved, pupils must be in each day to sit them alongside all other pupils nationally.

As always, Year 6 teachers will ensure that the pupils are looked after – they have been speaking to them about managing any nerves and what to do if they need any help. A breakfast will be provided for Year 6 pupils that week, so that they can meet up and relax before the test.

Year 2 SATs and the Year 4 Multiplication tests will take place in May and the Phonics Screen Check for Year 1 (and some Year 2 pupils) will take place in June.

And finally, I would like to wish those of you celebrating Eid a very Happy Eid-Ul-Fitr 🌙. Please remember that next Monday will be a bank holiday so another shorter week!

Miss Mehat





## Messages & Reminders

### Polytunnel Planting

With the sun shining and the weather getting better, we will begin to start planting out. This year the theme is the Queen's jubilee and will be looking to plant things that are red, blue, white and purple. Please message me on Teams to let me know if you are able to join us every Wednesday between 2-3pm! It would be great to see as many parents as possible!

*Miss Nawaz*

### Computer Club

Just a reminder that after school Computer Club does not start back until next week

*Front Office Team*

### Manners

I wanted to say a big well done to the Reception classes on their exceptional manners over the past few weeks in the lunch hall. Credit to the parents and teachers.

*Ms Purvis - Canteen*

### Greetings

To continue our celebration of languages spoken in our school please use the Tagalog greeting of Kumusta. Please take this opportunity to discuss where The Philippines are on a world map.

*Mrs Patterson*

### Squid

Squid have recently added a new feature to the Web Portal (not currently available on the app) that will allow parents & carers to transfer their funds to another purse on their account. Please see the guide attached overleaf.

*Front Office Team*

# How to transfer funds between sQuid purses & users

## A guide for parents & carers

### 01 Log in to your sQuid account

Enter your **username** and **password**, and click **Login** to access your **sQuid account**. Next, click on **Top up** in the navigation bar and then select **Balance Transfer**.



### 02 Select the user and purse

Use the **dropdown menu** to select the user and purse you want to transfer funds **from**, and then the user and/or purse you want to transfer the funds **to**.



### 03 Enter amount

You will have the option to either transfer the **entire** purse balance or **part** of the balance.

To transfer the **entire** purse balance, click the **Transfer All** button.

To transfer a **specific** amount, go to the **Enter Amount to Transfer** box and enter the required amount.

The **amount** to be transferred will be **displayed** in the Transfer box. To **confirm you want to proceed**, click the **Transfer** button.



### 04 Confirmation

A message will be displayed on-screen stating that **"Your balance transfer has successfully been submitted for review. Funds could take up to three days to appear on your purse."**

Once the transfer has been processed the balance on the applicable purse will be updated.

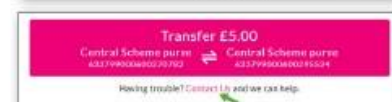


### 05 Manage your transfers

To view your balance transfers, simply click on the **"View my balance transfer history"** link.

Here you will see all processed and pending transfers, together with the purse details, date and time the request was made and the date and time the request was processed.

If you need any assistance in making a transfer or have any questions, please contact the **Customer Service team** via the **Contact Us** link at the bottom of the screen.







## Awards & Honours

### STARPUPILS OF THE TERM

Name	Class	Reason for Winning
Areena	Nursery AM	For beginning to use her words and kind hands, to express her needs and feelings.
Aayat	Nursery PM	For growing in confidence during group time and being such a happy, cheerful member of nursery
Tarik	Reception – Wales	For always following the school rules and striving for excellence in learning
Nadhra	Year 1 – Spain	For always putting her best effort into her learning and for making great progress in her phonics.
Ashar	Year 2 – Tonga	For coming to school every day with a new positive attitude. He always makes kind choices and his eagerness to learn and produce the best quality work he can inspires all.
Navroj	Year 3 – South Africa	For making good all-round progress this term. She has flourished into a confident and enthusiastic member of Y3. She is always ready and keen to learn.
Hibba	Year 4 – Cuba	For making huge progress across all subjects, especially maths. Also, for her positive attitude towards independent learning
Daniel	Year 5 – Argentina	For consistently having a positive attitude and making exceptional progress in reading and maths.
Saim	Year 6 – Sri Lanka	For demonstrating enthusiasm and perseverance in all subjects across the curriculum

### STARREADERS

Name	Class	Reason for Winning
Ismail	Nursery	For his amazing sound knowledge and oral blending.
Amina	Reception – Scotland	For learning all her set 1 sounds and confidently reading words.
Zain	Year 1 – Italy	For learning all his Set 2 sounds and making excellent progress in his reading.
Malak	Year 2 – Fiji	For making exceptional progress in phonics and always showing resilience when reading.
Anayah	Year 3 – Egypt	For making good progress and reading out aloud fluently using prosody
Subharn	Year 4 – Canada	For massively improving his scores in his star reader tests and for his ability to deduce and infer from a text.
Fahhad	Year 5 – Peru	For making great progress and using new vocabulary throughout other subjects
Shazfa	Year 6 – Philippines	For taking her time over what she reads and focusing on understanding the text.



## MATHSSTARS

Year group	Class	Name
Rayyan	Nursery	For making excellent progress in the Star Maths Assessments
Lovepreet	Reception – England	For making excellent progress in the Star Maths Assessments
Harjeet	Year 1 – Poland	For making excellent progress in the Star Maths Assessments
Lilly	Year 2 – Australia	For making excellent progress in the Star Maths Assessments
Isa	Year 3 – Ethiopia	For making excellent progress in the Star Maths Assessments
Kyan	Year 4 – Mexico	For making excellent progress in the Star Maths Assessments
Fahhad	Year 5 – Peru	For making excellent progress in the Star Maths Assessments
Ruby	Year 6 – China	For making excellent progress in the Star Maths Assessments

## MATHLETICS

Top Scorer (Lower Primary)	Sagan Year 3 – Egypt
Top Scorer (Upper Primary)	Saranyan Year 5 – Peru

## CRACKING TIMESTABLE

Name	Class
Most Improved Class (Lower Primary)	Year 3 – South Africa
Most Improved Class (Upper Primary)	Year 4 – Cuba

# MANNERS OF THE MONTH

<b>Best Manners (Lower Primary)</b>	<b>Japveer</b> Reception – England
<b>Best Manners (Upper Primary)</b>	<b>Shazain</b> Year 6 – Philippines

# PESTARS

<b>Name</b>	<b>Class</b>
<b>Zaki</b>	Year 1 - Spain
<b>Yousef</b>	Year 2 - Tonga
<b>Javairea</b>	Year 3 - South Africa
<b>John</b>	Year 4 - Mexico
<b>Alayna</b>	Year 5 - Brazil
<b>Gurnoor</b>	Year 6 - Sri-Lanka





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School...

