



COURAGE CARE COMPASSION

Fingringhoe Church of England (VA) Primary School

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Dear All,

I am sure you will have heard the media, this week, talking about “**screen time**”.



At least it's a change from the Brexit talk! As educators, we are very interested in how time on gadgets can affect your child. Please check the links and tips below. Questions to ask yourself are:

- Is your family's screen-time under control? Does screen-use interfere with what your family want to do? Does screen-use interfere with sleep? Are you able to control snacking during screen-time?

So, if parents feel like screen time is having an adverse impact on their children's life, what should they do? <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/health-47150658>

- Set some boundaries. You wouldn't let a nine-year-old walk alone down a busy road. Phone use is the same, if a child has a smartphone at a young age you need to be aware of the dangers on their behalf.
- If screen time is affecting sleep, meal time interaction, diet, and exercise then negotiate and make a deal. This might be that the phone is not used at the dinner table or in the bedroom, or before breakfast, or until homework is completed.
- Consider your own use, parents need to demonstrate controlled behaviour around screen time.

Attendance and Punctuality Matters!

There appears to be an increase in children arriving LATE into school. This is both unsettling for the children who are late and disruptive for those who are already in class. Even a few minutes every day can cause a negative impact on your children.

Please can we ask parents to ensure children arrive in school no later than 8.50am.

Gates are open daily from 8.40am

Upcoming Dates

PLEASE PUT THESE DATES IN YOUR DIARY...

Tuesday 12th February 2018 Parents' Evening 3:30-8:30pm

18th – 22nd February 2019 Half Term

Monday 25th February 2019 Non-Pupil Day
Tuesday 26th February First day back for pupils
Thursday 7th March 2019 World Book Day: Dress up as a character from a book
Friday 15th March – Red Nose Day – Crazy Hair Day
CHANGE OF DATE:
Friday 29th March 1:30pm TBC Talent Show
Friday 5th April 2019 Beech Class Take Over Easter Service in church 2pm (TBC)
Last Day of Term Two - 5th April 2019

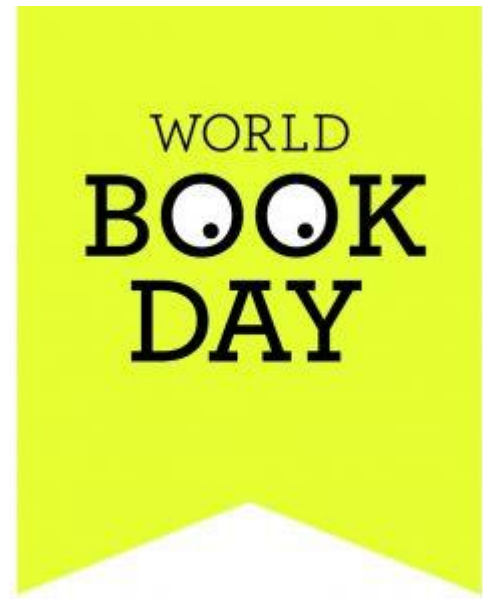
EASTER HOLIDAYS

Tuesday 23rd April 2019 First day of Term 3 Pupils in school
Week beginning 13th May 2019 Year 6 Test Week

Half Term 27th May – 3rd June

Tuesday 4th June First day back for pupils
25th – 28th June 2019 Mersea Camp
CHANGE OF DATE:
Thursday 4th July 2019 Sports Afternoon and PTA BBQ
Thursday 11th July 2019 Sports Afternoon and PTA BBQ (if postponed due to extreme weather)
Thursday 18th July 2019 1:30pm & 6pm Elm and Maple Classes Performance
Monday 22nd July 2019 PTA End of Term Party
Wednesday 24th July 2019 9:15am Leavers' Service Church & Last Day of Term Three

Next year's term dates are available on the school website. Please check them when booking your holidays.



Thursday 7th March **2019**

Your children have been sent home with some activities to carry out over half term in relation to World Book Day. 'Reach for the Stars' Challenge is a voluntary activity. We have several prizes for the children and each child who enters will have their work recognized in school. Completed work needs to be returned by Wednesday 27th February.

We look forward to seeing all the children's hard work.

The children are invited to dress as their favourite book character on Thursday 7th March 2019. Please bring in your book to share with the class.

ParentPay

We understand there has been some difficulty in making payments via ParentPay using some debit/credit cards.

ParentPay have been made aware of the problem, this has now been rectified. If you have been unable to make payments over the last week, please ensure you log on and check that your account is up to date.

All payments for MAPLE class trip are to be settled no later than Friday 15th February 2019.