



SCHOOL NEWS

Holiday Clubs | Ramadan | Staffing update | Dates | Sports | Phonics

Holiday Activities

We break up today for a week. Monday 23rd is an in-service training day so the children do not return to school until Tuesday 24th February. I hope you all have a great half term break.

If you are looking for Holiday Activity Clubs (some funded for children in receipt of means-tested free school meals and some aimed especially at children with SEND) please click on [this link](#)

Staffing update

Class 1H: Mrs Edale, known to the children from her many stints as a supply teacher here, will be covering Thursdays and Fridays for the Spring 2 half term. Mrs Heathcote will remain the class teacher Monday to Wednesday.

Class 5KC: Mrs Kay has decided to resign from teaching. Mr Cope will continue to cover Mondays and Tuesdays next half term. We wish Mrs Kay all the best in her future career.

Ramadan

For many of our families, thoughts will be turning to the holy month of Ramadan, starting during the half term holiday. As in previous years we would only support children starting to try to fast for part or all of the day if they are in year 5 or 6 and have their parents' full support. Even then, we will monitor how they are doing and, in consultation with parents, advise them to break their fast and try again another day if they are really struggling. If your child is in year 5 or 6, wants to try fasting and you support them in this, please let us know just how much of a commitment you want them to attempt. Please understand that there are reasonable adjustments we can make but it is still expected that they take as close as possible to a full part in school life. May you all have a peaceful and blessed month.

Dates for next half term

Monday 23rd Feb: Inset training - school closed to children
 Tuesday 3rd & Thursday 5th March : Parents' Evenings
 Thursday 5th March: World Book Day
 Thursday 12th March: Year 2 Chester Zoo trip and 8 Y5 boys singing with the Halle
 Friday 13th March: Holi colour run
 Monday 16th March: Y1 trip to Staircase House
 Friday 20th March: Comic Relief and Downs Syndrome Day
 Monday 23rd March: Eid celebrations
 Wednesday 25th March: Easter Bonnet parade
 Friday 27th March: Break Up for Easter



Phonics

Phonics and spelling lessons for children from Reception to Year 4 will all be taking place straight after morning registration after the holidays. Phonics is the vital first step in teaching children to become confident, fluent readers. Our new programme is having a really positive effect on the speed at which children learn all of the letter-sound relationships they need in order to read. Currently, a significant minority (sometimes close to 10% of the school) are late. Please prioritise getting your child to school on time. This will be even more important now that phonics will be starting straight after the register.

Golf

Children from 3/4 competed in a Tri-Golf tournament this week against other local schools. Randall, Joanna and Brayden were selected for

special badges for showing a passion for the game. Well done to all who represented Etchells so well.




MASIA PROJECT

Now recruiting U9s, U10s & U11s girls for the 26/27 Season

We teach players to **SEE** the game – not just play it.



HOW WE TRAIN

- **Early Solutions** – spot patterns before the ball arrives
- **Scanning & Awareness** – constant pictures, faster decisions
- **Movement & Rotations** – angles, overloads, third-player options
- **Positional Play** – spacing & support (not ball-chasing)
- **Tempo Control** – calm under pressure, play through it

📍 DBS checked • Safeguarding • Girls programme • Structured curriculum

DM 'TRIAL' – LIMITED SPACES
info@masiaproject.co.uk



Athletics

27 year 5 and 6 pupils took part in a Sportshall Athletics tournament on Monday, with special Spirit of the Games awards going to Alina and Finley.

Attendance

Here are the top three classes this week for attendance. Well done to 5L for having the highest attendance this week.

Class	Attendance
5L	98.9%
1P	98.1%
3/4TL	97.6%

Please ensure your children are in school every day on time. Every day counts.

Kind regards,
Stuart Kelly
 and the Etchells staff

