**JANUARY 2020 - MID TERM NEWSLETTER**

**ParentPay Meal Booking Service** ([www.parentpay.com](http://www.parentpay.com)).

Don’t forget to book your child’s school meal via ParentPay. We would highly recommend that you book and pay (if applicable) for a week’s meals at a time. You can book as many meals as your child requires for the week. You can, of course, book as many weeks in advance as you wish. **Please note that this will be the only facility for booking school meals**.

On a couple of occasions, children have requested a different meal choice to the one that has been booked for them. Please can you ensure that your child is happy with the meal choice as the kitchen will prepare the meals that have been booked through the ParentPay system.

If you think you may qualify for free school meals, please visit <https://www.gov.uk/apply-free-school-meals> for more information and to find out how to apply on your local authority’s website.

**New Age Curling Event**

On Thursday 9 January 2020, a group of children from Year Three and Year Four travelled to Newent to take part in a New Age Curling Event. This was a new experience for us all and the children tried really hard and worked brilliantly as part of a team. The children had to aim curling stones, which were on wheels, at a target in the sports hall – there were no ice or brushes involved!! They scored points depending on where their stone landed. The children made us very proud and demonstrated great sportsmanship alongside many of our School Values. They all spoke in assembly about their experience and thoroughly enjoyed themselves. Well done to all of the children who were involved and many thanks to everyone who helped to transport the children to and from the event. This is very much appreciated as we would not be able to take part in these events without your continued support.

**Young Voices 2020**

Our school choir are looking forward to their trip to Birmingham Resort World for the Young Voices concert on **Tuesday 28 January 2020**. If your child is participating in this event, please ensure you have everything required on the checklist in the letter recently sent to parents.

**EPIC Martial Arts**

On **Wednesday 5 February 2020**, we have a coach from EPIC Martial Arts coming in to talk to us all about Martial Arts. This will be linked to our School Values and they will also talk about the importance of resilience. The coach will also carry out a demonstration to show us what Martial Arts involves.

**Safer Internet Day**

Safer Internet Day is on the **11 February 2020**. This is a day that will be celebrated globally with the theme: Together for a better internet. At Tutshill, we will be taking part in a range of activities in our classrooms from how to stay safe online, top tips for using social media and creating tutorials on the ipads for parents and carers to view during an online safety evening (date to be confirmed).

**PTA Update**

The time has come to announce that the next PTA event is a "School's Out!" disco, on **Wednesday 12 February**. It's at the usual times - gates open 5.20pm for KS1 Disco from 5.30 – 6.20pm and KS2 from 6.30 – 7.30pm.

We are excited to be setting up a new online facility, which we will be launching on **Monday 27 January**, where you can pay for events as well as sign up for volunteering. We will be trialling this new system for the disco and will let you know further details as soon as it is up and running.

Many thanks to all of you who have so far voted with the blue tokens for Tutshill PTA at Tesco. Voting remains in place until 31st March at Chepstow's main Tesco store, as well as at the Tesco Express in Bulwark. If we receive the most votes we will win £2000, if placed second; £1000 or £500 for coming third. All funds gained will be used to purchase equipment for your children to use in outdoor learning across the school.

Thank you all for your ongoing support.

**Year Six Residential Trip Payments**

We would like to remind Year Six parents that the full balance for the residential trip in July needs to be made by **Friday 22 May 2020**.

**Communications**

A polite reminder for parents and carers to ensure that regular attention is paid to the school calendar and all communications that are sent from school. All information that is needed can be found on the school website and on your child’s class page on eSchools.

**Contact Information**

Please ensure you advise the School Office of any changes to your contact details. It is vital that we have your up to date information for all correspondence purposes.

**School Emergency Closure**

As we approach the colder months, should severe weather conditions require us to close the school; we will notify parents and carers by means of an alert via the eSchools app. May we please urge any families who have not already installed the app to do so as soon as possible to ensure that they receive any such closure alerts. Please also ensure you add Tutshill School email addresses to your safe senders to help stop any emails going into your Spam/Junk folder. We will also notify any closures on the home page of our school website and to Gloucestershire County Council for inclusion in their Emergency School Closure List. At very busy times - e.g. during bad weather - the GCC closed school website can be overwhelmed by the number of visitors. To cope with this exceptional demand they have set up two other links. Please check the following links:

* [www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/closedschools](http://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/closedschools)
* [www.glosclosedschools.co.uk](http://www.glosclosedschools.co.uk)
* [www.glosclosedschools.com](http://www.glosclosedschools.com)

Parents can follow GCC on Twitter where they will put messages when there are mass closures. Follow the link and search for GlosCC: [Twitter](https://twitter.com/GlosCC)

**School Contact Details**

Telephone: 01291 622593

General email: office@tutshillcofe.gloucs.sch.uk

Attendance email: attendance@tutshillcofe.gloucs.sch.uk

PTA email: ptatutshill@gmail.com

**Diary Dates – At a Glance**

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| --- | --- | --- |
| **MONTH** | **DATE** | **EVENT** |
| **January 2020** | 28 | Young Voices Concert |
| **February 2020** | 5 | EPIC Martial Arts |
|  | 11 | Safer Internet Day |
|  | 12 | PTA Disco |
|  | 14 | Term 3 ends |
|  | 17 – 21 | Holiday Club |
|  | 24 | INSET DAY |
|  | 25 | Term 4 begins |
| **March 2020** | 5 | World Book Day |
|  | 12 | Rags to Riches Reusable Clothes Collection |
|  | 17 | Year 5 Trip to SkillZone |
|  | 20, 23 & 24 | Book Fair |
|  | 23 – 25 | Parental Consultations |
| **April 2020** | 3 | Term 4 ends |
|  | 6 - 9 | Holiday Club |
|  | 20 | Term 5 begins |
|  | 20 - 24 | Year 5 Bikeability Cycle Training |
|  | 23 | Year 5 Swimming Lessons commence |
|  | 27 | Year 2 Swimming Lessons commence |
| **May 2020** | 5 | Year 3 and Year 4 trip to We The Curious  |
|  | 8 | Bank Holiday |
|  | 11 - 15 | KS2 SATs |
|  | 22 | Deadline for full payment for Year 6 Residential Trip |
|  | 22 | Term 5 ends |
| **June 2020** | 1 | INSET DAY |
|  | 2 | Term 6 begins |
|  | 2 – 5 | Year 5 Trip to Cheltenham Science Festival (dates to be confirmed) |
|  | 17 | Year 6 Leavers’ Service at Gloucester Cathedral |
|  | 29 | Year 6 Induction Evening at Wyedean School |
|  | 30 | Year 6 Induction Day at Wyedean School |
| **July 2020** | 1 | Year 6 Induction Day at Wyedean School |
| 6 - 8 | Year 6 Residential Trip |
| 17 | Term 6 ends |
| 20 – 24 | Holiday Club |
| 27 - 31 | Holiday Club |