Diary Dates	
Monday 21 February – Friday 25 February	Half Term
Monday 28 February	Start of Term 4
Thursday 3 March	World Book Day
Monday 7 <sup>th</sup> , Tuesday 8 <sup>th</sup> Wednesday 9 <sup>th</sup> March	Parents Evening
Monday 11 <sup>th</sup> April – Friday 22 <sup>nd</sup> April	Easter Holidays
Monday 25 <sup>th</sup> April	Start of Term 5
Monday 25 <sup>th</sup> April	Swimming Lessons start for Brunel
Monday 2 <sup>nd</sup> May	Bank Holiday
Monday 30 <sup>th</sup> May – Friday 3 <sup>rd</sup> June	Half Term
Monday 6 <sup>th</sup> June	Start of Term 5
Thursday 21st July	End of Term

### World Book Day

We will be celebrating **World Book Day** on **Thursday 3 March**. Our focus this year will be stories and poems written by Roald Dahl and in the same way as last year, we will be asking the children to bring in a prop or item related to one of his books. Children will be asked to select one of the World Book Day books in the coming days to take home with them at the end of our book day activities.

And on the subject of books, please check at home to see if there are any books no longer being read at home that need to be returned to school in your child's book bag.



## Staff Changes at School

We were sorry to say goodbye to our long-standing lunch supervisor, Mrs Rae at the end of last year due to a move away from the area. We have welcomed Mrs Burge as a new lunchtime supervisor this week.

Meanwhile we said farewell to our student teachers Mr Gray and Miss French who have finished their placements. We are pleased to welcome two new student teachers this week, Miss Manley who will be supporting Mrs Finch in Nightingale Class and Miss Morley who will be assisting Mrs Dixon in Brunel Class.







Hornbeams Preschool update – Forest School Stay-and-Play to return Hornbeams continues to operate close to capacity with only a couple of spaces available for afternoon sessions and a waiting list for other sessions. If you have young children who you are hoping will join Hornbeams in the future please stay in touch with office staff and ensure your paperwork is returned as soon as possible as spaces are not guaranteed until this is in place and the first months fees have been paid.

With Covid-19 restrictions easing we are pleased to welcome families back to our Forest School Stay-and-Play sessions which are due to recommence after half term. The session runs from 9.30 until 11am on a Wednesday and is Suitable for walking toddlers up to 5 years. Drinks and healthy snacks are provided. £2.50 per family (£1 per extra child for childminders). Please remember to keep an eye on the Hornbeams Facebook page if there is bad weather.

#### Meditation

As part of our Personal, Social, Health Education we always start our lesson with time to focus on our breathing to settle our minds and bodies for the lesson. This is often followed by yoga movements which the children really enjoy.



#### Brunel's visit to the Arctic

This term, Brunel Class have been reading Shackleton's Journey by William Grill. In preparation for some journal writing, they spent a morning imagining they were at Shackleton's camp in Antarctica, with sound effects and low temperatures. After making some lunch, one of the class needed rescuing from the ice and then they were stuck in camp by a whiteout. Later, when the ice floe started to crack, they rowed lifeboats to Elephant Island to await rescue. The children enjoyed the role play and have some great ideas for their writing.







## Doodle Maths System Update

Doodle will be releasing an exciting update at the end of February which will improve the speed and performance, and create lots more exciting possibilities for questions! After the update, the minimum operating systems able to run the Doodle programmes will be:

- iOS iOS 11 or higher (currently iOS 10)
- Android OS 4.4 or later (unchanged)
- WebGL Firefox 52+ Chrome 57+, Safari 11+, Edge 16+ (unchanged)

Please make sure that the operating systems on any devices at home are updated to these ahead of the release so that your child(ren) can continue Doodling.

If you have any questions, please visit help.doodlelearning.com and click on the green icon to chat to their team.





# Newsletter and Key Dates



