



*Delivering an outstanding learning experience for all children so they flourish and thrive; enabling them to achieve their own individual excellence.*

17<sup>th</sup> February 2023

Dear Parents/Carers,

As we reach the halfway point of the academic year, we hope your children are enjoying the variety of learning opportunities at Excalibur.

### **Children's Mental Health Week**

On Monday 6<sup>th</sup> February, our children were invited to wear their favourite scarf during the school day. This helped to raise awareness of mental health and launch 'Children's Mental Health Week'. During the week, all classes took part in age-appropriate activities to help focus on our mental health. The whole school also enjoyed coming together to join our scarves to stretch around the school playgrounds. We then lifted our scarves and hands in a Mexican 'scarf' wave. This fitted in nicely with this year's theme: "Let's Connect". Please remember that you can visit our Mental Health and well-being page on our school website <http://www.excalibur.cheshire.sch.uk/page/mental-health-and-wellbeing/130459>

### **Safer Internet Day**

On Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> February, Excalibur celebrated Safer Internet Day with a variety of activities being completed throughout the school.

In KS2, this included class-based activities and a BBC live lesson focussing on the importance of staying safe online.

KS1 also took part in a variety of activities with the help of 'Smartie the Penguin'. Smartie had had a new tablet for his birthday and was allowed to use it at certain times of the day. They discussed how it was healthy for their adults to set time limits as it was hard to come off their device when they were so absorbed. The children helped Smartie decide what to do in a variety of scenarios. The children learnt an internet safety song with Mummy Penguin. Later, they created some internet safety posters to share the messages that they had learnt.

For more information about online safety, please visit our website where you will find a number of useful links: <http://www.excalibur.cheshire.sch.uk/page/parents-online-safety-area/6071>

### **Elf Run Fundraiser**

We are delighted to announce that, following our Elf Run fundraiser in aid of St. Luke's Hospice (Cheshire), we raised a superb £1052 for the charity. This is a truly impressive total and will have a positive impact on so many people who are supported by St. Luke's. Many thanks to everyone who donated – it is very much appreciated.

### **Year 3 & 4 Tag Rugby Tournament**

On Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> February 2023, a squad of Year 3 and 4 children competed in the Alsager Community Trust tag rugby competition at Alsager School. The team played well throughout, showing considerable improvement as the tournament progressed. Well done to everyone who took part.

### **Year 3 & 4 Dodgeball Tournament**

On Thursday 16<sup>th</sup> February 2023, children from Year 3 and 4 attended a dodgeball tournament at Alsager School. The team performed brilliantly, showcasing some superb dodgeball skills to compete against the other teams. Well done to everyone who took part.

### **OPAL**

Our outdoor area is continuing to develop and is becoming better and better equipped. We would like to thank you for your kind donations towards this. We are always striving to further improve this provision. If you have any toys or other items which you think would be suitable, please let us know by emailing [contact@excalibur.cheshire.sch.uk](mailto:contact@excalibur.cheshire.sch.uk) or speaking to a member of staff.

### **Parents' Evening**

As you will be aware, our parents' evenings are being held on Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> March and Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> March. Booking will be available from 1<sup>st</sup> March.

### **Safeguarding**

If you have any safeguarding concerns or need safeguarding advice, please contact the school or, alternatively, our website has links to useful phone numbers:

<http://www.excalibur.cheshire.sch.uk/page/supportservices/6049>

### **Safeguarding Team**

Mrs Jones - Designated Safeguarding Lead  
Mrs Rogers - Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead  
Miss McArdle - Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead  
Mrs Hilditch - Safeguarding Ambassador  
Noah - Safeguarding Ambassador  
Imogen - Safeguarding Ambassador  
Ewan - Safeguarding Ambassador  
Ava - Safeguarding Ambassador

### Support with the Cost of Living

With the current financial situation effecting families across the country, Cheshire East Council offer a variety of support, including a Cost of Living Crisis Team. For more information, please click on the following link: <https://www.cheshireeast.gov.uk/livewell/education-employment-and-money/money-matters/cost-of-living.aspx>.

We hope that you have a super half term break and we look forward to seeing you all back again on Monday 27<sup>th</sup> February.

### Diary Dates

Date	Event
02.03.23 – 03.03.23	Year 4 Standon Bowers Residential
10.03.23	FOE Meeting at 2:30pm
14.03.23	Parents' Evening
15.03.23	Year 1 Class Assembly
21.03.23	Parents' Evening
21.03.23	World Down Syndrome Day (gingerbread socks available to purchase)
21.03.23 – 27.03.23	Book Fair
27.03.23 & 28.03.23	Life Education Workshops
28.03.23 & 29.03.23	Year 2 Delamere Activity Centre
29.03.23	Y1 Brampton Park Museum
29.03.33	Reception Once Upon a Time Ball

Yours sincerely,

**Mrs Jones**  
Head Teacher

**Mr Hancock**  
Assistant Headteacher