

# Newsletter

Friday 8<sup>th</sup> April 2022



Dear Parents and Carers,

We have finally reached the end of the Spring term. It seems to have been a very long one but is in fact the shortest term of the year!

## Staffing



This week, we are saying goodbye to Miss Johnson, Ms Collins and Mrs Hope as they move on to pastures new. Once again I'd like to take this opportunity to thank all three of them for their huge commitment and contribution to Netherbrook over so many years. In total they have worked here for over 45 years between them! We wish them all the best for the future and hope that we will see them again.

We will be recruiting for two new EYFS TAs in due course to replace the vacancies opened by Ms Collins and Mrs Hope. We will use supply staff in the meantime. I'm pleased to say that Miss Millichamp from time for twos and Mrs Nock from part time nursery have agreed and are excited to be moving across into 30 hours Nursery to provide continuity and familiarity of staff for the children for the rest of this year.

After Easter we will welcome a new teacher - Mr Lord to Netherbrook who will be teaching in 6LJ with Mrs Lail for the rest of this school year. He will also be covering other classes around the school regularly so he should become someone that most children are quite familiar with during the summer.

## INSET Day.

As we prepare for a move to TEFAT we will be having one additional INSET Day for staff training and preparation for the transfer. This will be on Friday 27<sup>th</sup> May 2022 (the last day before half term). So school will be closed to children on this day.

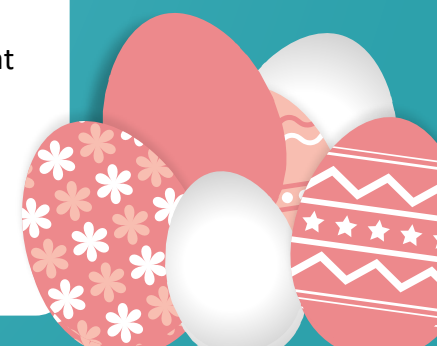
## 'Huggy Wuggy' INTERNET SAFETY WARNING

I've been notified about a potentially harmful internet video at the moment called 'Huggy Wuggy'. These videos appear on sites such as TikTok and YouTube etc. The character is a blue teddy with vicious teeth which sings about hugging and killing people. The character chases and threatens other characters. This may leave primary school age children scared and worried, so please keep an eye out for this as it may slip through any firewalls or filters you have set up on your home Wi-Fi.

THANK YOU

Thanks again for all of your support this term, it's been very positive. The children have worked really hard and it has been really pleasing to see the great progress being made in so many children's books and lessons. We will see you all back again on Monday 25<sup>th</sup> April at the usual time.

Have a great Easter.  
Mr Rawlings



## Academy Transfer

We have finally been given a confirmed date for our school to transfer to The Elliot Foundation Academy Trust (TEFAT). This will be on Wednesday 1st June 2022.

We are moving to the new academy trust because the Learning Link MAT was 'terminated' by the Regional School Commissioner over 12 months ago. This action is extremely rare and was caused by the poor leadership, incompetency and financially 'irregular' behaviour of the previous LLMAT Executive Leadership Team.

Please see the Express and Star front page article from July 2021 for more details. (Click this link)  
<https://www.expressandstar.com/news/education/2021/08/06/academy-trust-rapped-for-lavishing-cash-with-bosss-own-companies/>

And this is the termination notice from the Regional Schools Commissioner.  
[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/930181/Termination\\_notice\\_Learning\\_Link\\_Multi\\_Academy\\_Trust\\_.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/930181/Termination_notice_Learning_Link_Multi_Academy_Trust_.pdf)

Sadly, the executive leadership of the LLMAT was completely inadequate and in many ways was quite detrimental to Netherbrook and its pupils. Significant amounts of money were withheld for resources and staffing, new curriculum plans were forced upon us that were not fit for purpose, previous – effective systems – removed and staff training and CPD was decimated.

The Netherbrook school staff and leadership team worked tirelessly to ensure that our pupils received the best possible education throughout this period and as a result the school continued to provide a good education for its pupils – this was not easy and was made far more difficult than it ever should have been.

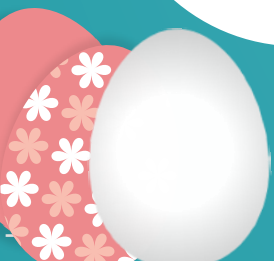


In June 2020, Headteachers from some of the four schools, the Governing Bodies and some LLMAT Members and ex- central team staff, took action to address these worrying concerns and 'whistleblow' to the relevant authorities about the actions of the previous executive team, eventually these concerns were acted upon and investigations launched by the Department for Education (DfE).

Following the termination notice, this situation has now been rectified with the recruitment of completely new LLMAT Trustees and a new interim LLMAT executive team (who have been excellent) nonetheless, LLMAT is no longer considered to be a viable academy trust by the DfE. I'd like to thank the current LLMAT executive team and trustees for their support in releasing funds and ensuring that we could put in place the curriculum measures that we knew were necessary to further improve the school since last summer. We have been able to buy new effective resources such as Rocket Phonics and other schemes and also recruit additional and more experienced staff as a result. It's quite early days, but these things are really making an impact.

Therefore, from Wednesday 1st June 2022, Netherbrook will be joining The Elliot Foundation. This is a very well regarded multi-academy trust that operates 30 schools across London, East Anglia and the West Midlands.  
<https://elliotfoundation.co.uk/about-us>

We look forward to a new and positive experience with TEFAT, which will enable the children of Netherbrook to continue to thrive and shine and achieve their full potential even better than ever. A meeting for parents to meet some of the TEFAT team, learn about the new academy trust and ask questions etc will be organised for after the Easter holiday.





## Dudley Wood Neighbourhood Learning Centre

Spring Savers – Become a Sustainability Detective

**Details:** Your challenge, should you choose to accept it, is to discover all things green at Dudley Wood Neighbourhood Learning Centre. There will be fun activities for all the family. Children come in your best disguise and parents, learn how to support your children in STEM activities. There is also an optional litter pick.

**Date:** [Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> April 10-12 or 1-3](#)

**Venue:** Dudley Wood Neighbourhood Learning Centre, Dudley Wood Road, Dudley Wood. DY2 0DB

**Cost:** FREE

**Contact:** 01384 818143 or email: [acl@Dudley.gov.uk](mailto:acl@Dudley.gov.uk)



## Easter Raffle

Well done to our Easter raffle winners.

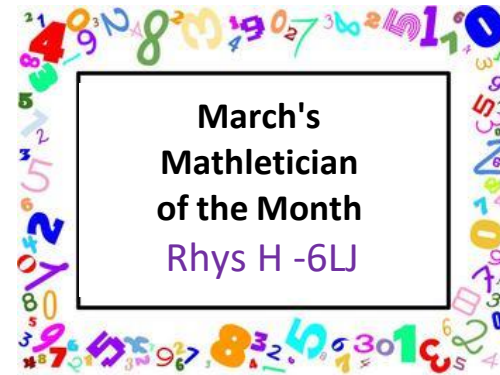
### KS1

- 1st- **298 pink** Lottie D
- 2nd- **294 pink** Mahish C
- 3rd- **330 pink** Billy C

### KS2

- 1st- **133 white** Skye S
- 2nd- **172 white** Jacob B
- 3rd- **141 white** Aron H

Thank you to Mrs Bowen and the School Council for selling the raffle tickets They raised **£134.60** in total.



**March's Mathlete of the Month**  
Rhys H -6LJ

Rhys has accumulated over 11,000 points this month - almost double the amount achieved by anyone else. This is really going to help his SATS preparation - great effort Rhys!



**Students of the week!**  
Jessica B, Harper H & Abdah M



## DATES TO REMEMBER

- 08.04.22** End of Term
- 11.04.22- 22.04.22** Easter Holiday
- 25.04.22** School reopens to pupils
- 26.04.22** Year 4 Parents maths meeting @ 3.30pm in the hall
- May 2022**
- 02.05.22** May Day Bank Holiday
- 05.05.22** Voting Day
- 09.05.22** SATS Week
- 16.05.22** Reception Vision Screening
- 24.05.22** Sports Day KS1 am –KS2 PM (TBC)
- 25.05.22** EYFS Sports Day (TBC)
- 27.05.22** Inset Day- School closed to pupils
- 30.05.22 - 03.06.22** Half Term
- June 2022**
- 08.06.22- 10.06.22** Year 6 Kingswood Residential
- July 2022**
- 21.07.22** Break up for Summer

