

Newsletter

Spring Term

Date: 01.04.22

Special Easter edition

An Exceptional Place to Flourish

Though your beginning was small,
your future will flourish indeed.
Job 8:7



Our school attendance target is:

96%

Actual attendance this academic year:

92.55%

Attendance this week:

| | |
|--------------|-------|
| Reception | 97.07 |
| Year 1 | 84.29 |
| Year 2 | 85 |
| Year 3 | 85.33 |
| Year 4 | 98.57 |
| Year 5 | 92.50 |
| Year 6 | 88.33 |
| Whole school | 90.47 |

Winning year groups:

| | |
|--------------------------|-----------|
| Gold – 1 st | Year 4 |
| Silver – 2 nd | Reception |

Headteacher's note

It is Easter time!

We hope the children enjoyed their Easter egg treat. Unfortunately Dr Lawson could not be here dressed up as the Easter Bunny, due to COVID.



We had a few things planned to celebrate Easter at school:

- Reverend Sam Brazier-Gibbs held the planned Easter service at school, instead of at St Nicholas church.
- All pupils got an Easter egg.
- We had an Easter Bonnet Parade with an Easter egg and bunny as prizes.
- There was a raffle for a Giant Milk Chocolate Bunny.
- All staff got an Easter egg as a gesture of well-being and appreciation. |

We wish everyone in our school community a blessed Easter, as we reflect on the true meaning of Easter (not just the Easter bunny and eggs) – The death and resurrection of Jesus Christ.

Attendance continues to be mandatory for all pupils of compulsory school age and schools should communicate clear and consistent expectations about attendance. We are **really concerned** about the attendance figures at school, especially compared with the previous three years for the same period: **1 September – 1 April.**

| Academic year | Period average attendance | Number of persistent absence pupils (below 90% attendance) |
|---------------|---------------------------|--|
| 2018/2019 | 95.17 | 4 |
| 2019/2020 | 94.60 | 7 |
| 2020/2021 | 93.68 | 24 |
| 2021/2022 | 92.55 | 22 |



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Big questions of the week:

| | | |
|-----------|--------|---|
| Reception | Year 1 | What is similar and different about a table and chair? |
| Year 2 | | If you had to be one colour, what colour would you be? |
| Year 3 | | Would you rather be 6 metres tall or 6cm? Why? |
| Year 4 | | Are computer games good for us? |
| Year 5 | | Should the school holidays be made shorter so that we can spend more time learning? |
| Year 6 | | One day, will computers replace teachers? |

Value this half-term



Achievers of the week

| | | Reader of the week | Writer of the week | Mathematician of the week | Scientist of the week | Star of the week |
|-----------|--------|--------------------|--------------------|---------------------------|-----------------------|------------------|
| Reception | | Ethan | Evie-May | Brooke | River | Alice |
| Year 1 | Year 2 | Cassidy | Phoebe | Charlie | Kai | Amelia V |
| Year 3 | Year 4 | Freya | John-James | Talia | Barney | George |
| Year 5 | Year 6 | Sebastian | Corey | Laila | Charlotte | Finlay |

House Points:

| | | Ants | | | Badgers | | | Locusts | | | Lizards | | |
|--------------|--------|------------|---|----|------------|---|----|------------|---|----|------------|---|----|
| Reception | | 61 | + | 9 | 59 | + | 10 | 61 | + | 7 | 57 | + | 8 |
| Year 1 | Year 2 | 152 | + | 18 | 117 | + | 21 | 179 | + | 12 | 199 | + | 15 |
| Year 3 | Year 4 | 244 | + | 37 | 216 | + | 50 | 219 | + | 37 | 222 | + | 37 |
| Year 5 | Year 6 | 234 | + | 33 | 251 | + | 52 | 261 | + | 53 | 244 | + | 37 |
| TOTAL | | 788 | | | 776 | | | 829 | | | 819 | | |

Welcome

We are very excited to welcome Miss Lauren Seeley, who will be joining Dr Walker's C of E Primary School on 25th April, as part of the permanent teaching staff.

Miss Seeley is a very experienced teacher in both EYFS and Key Stage 1 and holds both an EYFS Teaching Qualification and QTS.

She will be joining Miss Adams to team teach years 1 and 2 in helping our pupils to achieve well and close the attainment gap.



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Best Friends of the week

These pupils are the class buddies, helping other pupils in class.



Reception



Years 1 and 2



Years 3 and 4



Years 5 and 6

Spring Term Sports Stars



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Pupils will receive their badges after the Easter holiday, as Dr Lawson would like to hand these out.

Pupils who have reached the school's **96% target** will get a Great Attendance badge.

A big congratulations to the following pupils who have a **100% attendance** for both Autumn and Summer terms:

- William ((Reception)
- Dotty (Year 1)
- Eva (Year 1)
- Freya (Year 4)
- George (Year 4)

Attendance Badges

| | Autumn term | | Spring term | |
|------------------|---|--|--|---|
| | Great Attendance | 100% | Great Attendance | 100% |
| |  |  |  |  |
| Reception | Acer Amelia-Rae Scarlett | Brooke Ethan Madison Molly William | Archie Ethan Florence Knightley Lucas Madison Molly Rafe River | Alice Dylan Acer William |
| Year 1 | Teddy C | Alice C Dotty Eva | Alice C Amber Cassidy Jacob Jude Teddy C | Dotty Eva Sienna |
| Year 2 | - | Henry R | Brooke Henry H Maci | - |
| Year 3 | Freddie R John James Maxwell | Barney | Barney Diggy John James Ralph | - |
| Year 4 | - | Freya George | Sienna | Archie Freya George |
| Year 5 | Ava Dylan Freddy G | Sebastian | Harrison Harrison M Mason Naomi Sebastian | Chloe Dylan Finlay Freddy Freya Lara |
| Year 6 | Alby Ayla-May | - | Kaiden | Alby Corey Laila Riley |



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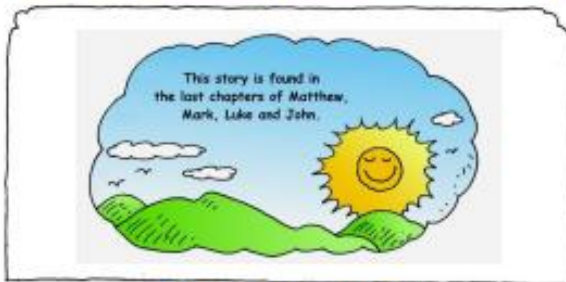
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THE Easter story

Print Free: www.lambsongs.co.nz

By Jill Kemp

Illustrated by Richard Gunther



In the Bible we can read the good news about the very first Easter. This is what Jesus' friends saw.



Jesus had twelve special friends who went everywhere with him and saw the miracles he did. They listened to his stories about God.



One day Jesus said to them, "It will soon be time for me to go away, but first some sad things will happen, but I will come back again."



Jesus went into the garden to pray. He knew it was time for him to die on the Cross. The soldiers came to get him.



Jesus was put on the cross on the top of a hill. Soldiers stood guard. His friends were sad.



When Jesus died they put him in a cave tomb with a big stone across the door. Soldiers stood guard.



On the third day God rolled the stone away. The soldiers were frightened and they ran away.



Then his friends saw Jesus! "See I am alive again, just as I told you," Jesus said. "Go and tell your friends the good news."



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What is the meaning of Easter?



Is it wrong to celebrate the Easter bunny coming to town with candy and Easter egg hunts? Not at all, but we must also remember this holiday's Biblical significance.

All too often we get caught up in the things of this world and lose sight of truth. That truth, during Easter, is Jesus' resurrection.

As we enter the Easter season, even if you choose to do an egg hunt or dye hard-boiled eggs, please don't forget to place Jesus at the heart of your celebrations. While the Easter bunny may come bearing chocolate bunnies, 2,000 years ago Jesus died bearing our sins to offer us eternal life.

Easter from a Christian perspective:

- **Easter** is the holiest period of the Christian calendar.
- It is a time for Christian believers to reflect in the magnificent sacrifice the **Lord Jesus Christ** made on the Cross and to celebrate His Resurrection.
- Easter is always observed on a Sunday in the spring. It can fall on any Sunday between March 22 and April 25.
- Many Christians usually spend time at church in thought, prayer and celebration of Jesus Christ's life, and may get together with friends and family for a special meal.
- In many churches, Easter follows a season of prayer and fasting called **Lent**.
- Lent is observed in memory of the 40 days Jesus is said to have fasted, or gone without food, in the desert.
- Lent begins with Ash Wednesday. This day gets its name from the practice of putting ashes on the foreheads of the faithful as a symbol of the season.
- The week before Easter Sunday, is known as **Holy Week**. During this week, Christians remember the events they believe took place at the time of Jesus' death.
- **Palm Sunday** recalls the entrance of Jesus into Jerusalem shortly before his death.
- **Holy Thursday** marks the **Last Supper** of Jesus with his disciples, or followers.
- **Good Friday** remembers the crucifixion, when Jesus was killed by being nailed to a cross.
- Christians believe that Jesus was resurrected on the third day after his death. **Easter is therefore a celebration of new life.**
- On Easter, Christians attend special church services.



Folk customs:

- The name Easter may come from Eostre, an Anglo-Saxon goddess. In ancient times, an annual spring festival was held in her honour.
- A number of popular folk customs are also associated with Easter. These have to do with **rabbits** and **coloured eggs**, which are ancient symbols of new life.
- For many the meaning of Easter have been commercialised with easter eggs, chocolate bunnies and hot cross buns.
- In some countries, children color eggs and then the eggs are hidden for them to find.
- According to tradition the Easter Bunny also leaves eggs and candy for children on Easter morning.



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Some interesting facts:

| | |
|--|---|
| <p>Why do we eat Easter eggs?</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A lot of us may chomp on chocolate eggs at Easter, but originally eating eggs was not allowed by church leaders during the week leading up to Easter (known as Holy Week). • So any eggs laid that week were saved and decorated to make them Holy Week eggs that were then given to children as gifts. • Victorians adapted the tradition with satin-covered cardboard eggs filled with Easter gifts. • This has now developed into the tradition that many people enjoy today. |
| <p>Why are Easter eggs made of chocolate?</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The first chocolate eggs appeared in France and Germany in the 19th Century, but they were bitter and hard. • As chocolate-making techniques improved, hollow eggs like the ones we have today were developed. • They very quickly became popular and remain a favourite tradition with chocolate-lovers today. |
| <p>What's the Easter Bunny then?</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The story of the Easter Bunny is thought to have become common in the 19th Century. • Rabbits usually give birth to a big litter of babies (called kittens), so they became a symbol of new life. • Legend has it that the Easter Bunny lays, decorates and hides eggs as they are also a symbol of new life. • This is why some children might enjoy Easter egg hunts as part of the festival. • It doesn't do all the work alone though! • In Switzerland, Easter eggs are delivered by a cuckoo and in parts of Germany by a fox. |

Sources:
www-bbc-co-uk.cdn.ampproject.org
www.kids.britannica.com
www.joydigitalmag.com
www.thesyrinx.com

Apologies for the change to the Easter Service.

Many thanks to Reverend Sam Brazier-Gibbs and Miss Lesley Wallis, who had everything arranged at St Nicolas church. Unfortunately we had to rearrange things, due to staff COVID absences.



Easter Service at school

Congratulations
and Thank You!

Pupils participated in an Easter Bunny raffle which raised an amazing £50!

Congratulations to: Thomas who is the special winner of the Giant Milk Chocolate Bunny.



Our fantastic staff were also sent home with an Egg as a thank you for their tireless work this term.

We hope staff and all of our Dr Walker's families have a wonderful Easter break



Last Day of Term
Easter Treats!



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Red Class Easter and Spring Activities



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Fun Facts about Easter

Easter

FACTS



The history of Easter began in the 2nd century.

Happy Easter!

Easter is the oldest among Christian holidays.



The Easter Bunny sprung to life from legends.

As per the Bible, Jesus Christ was not alone on the day of the Resurrection.

Eastern and Western Christian would celebrate Easter at different times.

Easter comes after forty days of Lent in the Christian calendar.

The Holy Week before Easter Sunday has dedicated names and recognitions.



The concept of the Easter bunny giving eggs and candies traces its origin in Germany.



Western Christianity observes Easter on the first Sunday after the first full moon following the spring equinox.



In Polish folklore, the Virgin Mary offered eggs to the guard soldiers of Christ on the cross.



The official flower of Easter is the white lily.



Easter in medieval times involves throwing an egg in churches.

THE FIRST RECORDED USE OF DECORATED EASTER EGGS WAS IN THE 13TH CENTURY

The tradition of bunnies on Easter originated from Protestant communities in Europe.

Easter in the U.S. is celebrated by leaving children Easter baskets on the morning of the holiday.

Greek Orthodox followers paint their Easter eggs with the color red.

In some European nations, people burn Easter fires.



Pretzels also used to join in the Easter celebrations.

THE TRADITION OF EGG PAINTING IS CALLED THE 'PYSANKA'



Early egg dyes were made using natural materials.

Easter in the UK by the numbers

65% of people think of **CHOCOLATE** when asked about Easter

Just **12%** think of Jesus

£56 - The value of **CHOCOLATE EGGS/PRESENTS** received by the average child

£25 of Easter treats are from **PARENTS**

£31 of Easter treats are from **FRIENDS** and other **FAMILY MEMBERS**

80 MILLION Easter eggs are sold annually in the UK



The average child will consume **8 EGGS AND 8,000 CALORIES** this Easter

Children tend to eat their treats **OVER 4 DAYS**

78% of parents **PURCHASE EASTER EGGS** for their children

43% of parents also give their children **MONEY AS AN EASTER PRESENT**

27% of parents admitted eating their **CHILDREN'S EASTER CHOCOLATE**



@StatistaCharts Source: vouchercloud.com

i100

from The INDEPENDENT

statista

Source: www.statista.com/chart/3372/easter-in-the-uk-by-the-numbers/



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**Reception
Easter Bonnets and winner!**



**Years 1 and 2
Easter Bonnets**



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**Years 3 and 4
Easter Bonnets**



**Years 5 and 6
Easter Bonnets and winners**



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**Partnership with
Ashlyns School
Catering
and
Lunch Menu**



The new stove has been installed and our kitchen is back to normal.

Thanks to our wonderful cook, Miss Charles, for being so resilient in seeing to it that we had great lunches this week.



We are very excited to be teaming up with Ashlyns after the Easter Holiday, who will be managing our school's catering and setting the menus – [click here to view the full menu on the website](#)



Here is a bit of information about Ashlyns:



ASHLYNS

'Feeding our Future' evolved through a partnership between Defra and Ashlyns, and was orchestrated by our very own Gary Stokes, Project Manager for Ashlyns, developing into what it is today.

From its origins as a small, caring farm based business involved in the supply of good food and support to schools in the provision of a high quality school meals service, Ashlyns is developing and emerging as a dynamic, proactive company with the experience and commitment to continue to build on a reputation for efficiency, professionalism and integrity whilst maintaining that friendly 'hands on' approach for which we are so well known.

Grounded in the belief that we work in complete partnership with the school and with the ethos that together with can make a real impact and a considerable difference in the whole school meal experience, we strive to maintain throughout an adherence to the moral and ethical principles on which Ashlyns is founded, and our team of professional staff, in touch with educational issues facing schools today, work to forge effective relationships with school staff to attain our mutual goals.

A commitment to using locally sourced, organic where possible, and environmentally sound raw ingredients for our meals cooked entirely on school premises is at the heart of our vision, and our practice.

Our children deserve great school dinners they enjoy eating and that are healthy as well. We work with schools in innovative ways to ensure that children are not only fed well but are food wise too. Food tasting sessions with parents, assemblies, sessions in class are all part of our whole school approach.



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Dr Walker's Primary School - Summer Menu 2022 - Week 1

Option 1

Option 2

Dessert

| Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday |
|--|---|--|---|---|
| Chicken Korma served with Wholemeal Rice & Broccoli | Homemade Beef Lasagne served with Homemade Garlic Bread & Mixed Salad | Roast Chicken with Sage & Onion Stuffing served with Roast Potatoes, Seasonal Vegetables & Gravy | Beef Burger in a Bun served with Pasta Salad & Sweetcorn | Battered Cod served with Oven Chips & Garden Peas |
| Chickpea & Vegetable Curry served with Wholemeal Rice & Broccoli | Macaroni Cheese served with Homemade Garlic Bread & Mixed Salad | Cheese & Leek Quiche served with Roast Potatoes & Seasonal Vegetables | Meat Free Burger in a Bun served with Pasta Salad & Sweetcorn | Sweet Potato, Red Pepper & Lentil Risotto served with Garden Peas |
| Freshly Cut Fruit or Organic Fruit Yoghurt or Vanilla Shortbread | Freshly Cut Fruit or Organic Fruit Yoghurt | Freshly Cut Fruit or Organic Fruit Yoghurt or Iced Chocolate Sponge | Freshly Cut Fruit or Organic Fruit Yoghurt | Freshly Cut Fruit or Organic Fruit Yoghurt or Ice Cream |

Week commencing - 18th April, 9th May, 6th June, 27th June, 18th July, 19th September, 10th October

All of our meat is Farm Assured and is locally sourced. Our fish is Marine Stewardship Council approved.

Available Daily ...
Jacket Potato with filling
Wholemeal bread
Choice of salads
Water



This QR code can be read by any barcode scanner app on your smart phone to access the allergen and nutritional data.

ASHLYNS
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28 February – 1 April

80% 5 OF OUR CHILDREN ARE NOT EATING ENOUGH VEGETABLES

80% of our children are not eating enough vegetables with a third eating less than one portion of vegetables a day. Perhaps most alarming is that 50% of parents say they have given up even trying.

With the support of schools across the UK we are turning this around using advertising and marketing to inspire kids to veggie loving habits they will keep for life, and in turn share with their children.

Through a unique partnership between Veg Power, ITV, Channel 4 and Sky, plus the support of supermarkets, growers, devolved and local government, the Eat Them to Defeat Them campaign is bringing about real changes in children's attitudes towards vegetables.





Initiative: Eat Them To Defeat Them



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| | | | |
|--|--|----------------------------|--|
| <p>Big GoReadathon</p> | <p>Thank you to everyone who has returned their sponsor money and forms today, if you still have yours at home please be sure to send it in by Friday 22nd April.</p>  | | |
| <p>COVID update</p> | <p><u>Email sent on behalf of the NHS - Vaccinations for 5 to 11 year olds</u></p> <p>From next week, parents and carers of all 5 to 11 year olds will be able to book a COVID-19 vaccination for their child. The national booking service will open for this age group on Saturday 2 April 2022, with the first appointments available from Monday 4 April 2022 onwards.</p> <p>Appointments will be available in larger vaccination centres and some community pharmacies. Larger vaccination centres will also offer whole family appointments so that already eligible adults and older children who are not fully vaccinated can take advantage of the ‘evergreen’ offer and have a vaccination at the same time as their 5 to 11 year old.</p> <p>Appointments for 5 to 11 year olds who are not ‘at risk’ will also be available at some GP-run sites. If your GP is offering the vaccine, they will contact you. Please do not contact them.</p> <p>Vaccinations are already available for ‘at risk’ 5 to 11 year olds, and children in this age group who live with someone who has a weakened immune system. Until now vaccinations for this ‘at risk’ group of children have been available through GPs and special educational needs schools but parents and carers will be now able to book their vaccination through the national booking service when that opens for 5-11s.</p> <p>To book a COVID vaccination for all eligible age groups please visit the NHS national booking service or dial 119.</p> <p>Local information West Essex (Harlow, Epping Forest, Uttlesford) https://covid.healthierfuture.org.uk/vaccine-information-for-young-people</p> | | |
| <p>Information</p> | <p>Please continue to check the community area of the website for various clubs and Easter schemes.</p> <p>If any families have worries about the rising cost of living and need assistance, the Epping Forest Foodbank can help, visit the website or freecall 0300 1029808</p> <p>We would also encourage any parent who thinks they may be eligible for Free School Meals (regardless of whether your child would still prefer a packed lunch or is already receiving free school meals as part of the universal KS1 scheme) to visit this website https://pps.lgfl.org.uk to check eligibility.</p> | | |
| <p>Important term dates</p>  | <p>Start</p> | <p>Finish</p> | <p>Half term</p> |
| | <p>20 April 2022</p> | <p>21 July 2022</p> | <p>30 May – 3 June 2022 May BH - 2 May 2022</p> |



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