

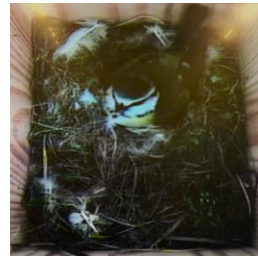


Photos: Apple Blossom around school



YR Y1&2 Y3&4 Y5&6

Welcome back to the Summer Term and it is feeling very spring-like. Leaves and blossom are on the tress and it has been dry enough to play on the field. I spoke to the children about all the life which is suddenly so evident in worship on Monday. I then checked the bird box camera which I had put up just before the holidays and it had a fully built nest with 11 eggs! I showed the children the live video stream on Tuesday and we saw, live, the parent bird come in – a blue tit. At lunchtime, the children have been watching the video and observed both adult birds switching places to incubate the eggs, watch the adults feed each other whilst sitting and also been able to count 11 eggs! Over the next few weeks they will be able to watch the eggs hatch, the babies fed and hopefully fledge successfully!



Dates for your Diary:

- Thurs 23 Apr** – Dormice Class Trip to Longdown Farm
- Mon 4 May** -Bank Holiday
- Mon 11 – Thurs 14 May** – Year 6 SATs week
- Fri 22 May** – INSET Closure Day
- Mon 25 – Fri 29 May** – Half Term



INSET Day left for 25/26
• Fri 22 May

End of Spring Term Absence Reports Sent Today

You should have been sent an end of Spring Term Absence update by email. This update is the same format as the one sent in January after the Autumn Term and you will be able to see what your child’s absence looks. For many families, high absence in the Autumn due to the many bugs around, might have reduced by now following good attendance in the spring term. For others, if the pattern of frequent absence has continued the trend might be going the other way.

Please note that I have written individual comments at the end of all those children who currently have absence higher than 10% and are therefore in the DfE category of ‘Persistent Absentees’ and those who are very close with a trend looking like they will soon cross into it.

As always, absence might be unavoidable but the net result is learning missed so it all comes down to how easily this can be caught up or compensated for. That’s why an indication of how many school days and lessons might have been missed is included.

You can access attendance information yourself in the Arbor app including all the reasons you have provided us for absences, if you want to explore more.

Check you haven’t missed these communications this week:

- **Tues** – Year 2 to 5 email regarding HMS music tuition
- **Fri** – Email to all with end of Spring Term Absence Report

Dormice Trip on Thursday

Dormice Class (Year R) are heading out for their first every school trip on Thursday to Longdown Activity Farm which will be very exciting. If you arrive late on Thursday you may encounter the coach manoeuvring outside the school.

Mrs Mason has sent a reminder note today in books bags for what is needed, so look out for this.

Emails:

adminoffice@upham.hants.sch.uk

Web:

www.upham.hants.sch.uk
Tel: 01489 860355



Road Closure Next Week – From Thursday 23rd

We have received notice that there are plans to close Upham street between Thursday 23rd and Wednesday 29th April, starting next week. This is for pothole repair and the contractors have said this closure will be in place between 8am and 4pm so will affect most of you!

You will need to ensure you allow more time than usual to approach school from the top of the village. The most obvious diversion will be Stakes Lane which is narrow, can be muddy and difficult to pass on. I would suggest that where you can try to approach from different directions to avoid congestion – perhaps approach from Fair Oak via the Owslebury/ Baybridge direction, or from Bishops Waltham via Cross Lane or Peak Lane.

Sports News

Girls and boys from Years 3 and 4 took part in a golf tournament on Tuesday. They took part in lots of small activities using key skills – not a game of actual golf. Children score points for their shots which generates a team score, not that the event was ranked, just a chance to have fun competing. They all enjoyed themselves and really tried their best throughout!

Thanks to Mrs Bird for organising and taking the children and to everyone who helped with transport.

Thanks to FUS!

I mentioned the camera bird box we have been enjoying this week. This was funded by FUS who, having supported the big project of replacing the iPads last year, are keen to use funds for some smaller projects everyone will see the benefit of quickly! Thanks for the donation, the children are really enjoying watching our newest family!