

11 February 2022

Dear Parents and Carers,

As we reach the end of term 3, I would like to thank Parents and Carers for their continued support and co-operation during these extraordinary times.

Pupils and Staff

We have welcomed some new staff and pupils to the school this term and they have all settled in well. We hope they have enjoyed their first term and that they will be very happy at Five Acre Wood School.

Arbor

Arbor is our school management information service which allows us to communicate effectively with Parents and Carers. To find out how to access the portal or app, please see below.

To access the Parent Portal via a PC or MAC:

Visit <https://login.arbor.sc> and click on **Forgot your password**. Your username is the email address you received the Arbor invitation email on.

To access the Arbor app via mobile phone:

The Arbor app can be downloaded from the Playstore (for android phones) or Apple Store (for iPhones).

If you have any issues accessing the app or portal, please email office@five-acre.kent.sch.uk.

SCERTS training

Our staff training days will be held on Monday 14th, Tuesday 15th and Wednesday 16th March.

Pupils will not be in school on these days. A number of our staff will be taking part in SCERTS training, led by international expert Emily Rubin. Emily specialises in Autism, Asperger's Syndrome and related social learning disabilities.

SCERTS is an educational model for individuals with autism spectrum disorder (ASD) or individuals not on the autism spectrum who are developing social communication and emotional regulation skills. SCERTS provides specific guidelines for helping an individual become a competent and confident social communicator and active learner. It can be adapted to meet the demands of different social settings for youngsters, including home and school.

Emily will also be holding an online parent/carer session on Tuesday 29th March 2022 from 5pm-7pm. There will be an opportunity to ask questions. The session is open to parents/carers from other schools, at a cost of £20 per person but will be FREE to FIVE ACRE WOOD PARENTS/CARERS! This is a great opportunity and we hope to see you there. An information poster is attached. If you wish to book a place, please email hstewart@five-acre.kent.sch.uk or call the school office on 01622 743925.

'Hall of Fame' commemorative gold discs

To celebrate our 'Hall of Fame' single (featuring Jack Rose) reaching number 9 in the iTunes Pop Charts in December, we have two amazing gold records proudly on display in the Loose and Snodland site reception areas. Thank you once again to everyone who purchased the single and well done to everyone who was involved in this exciting project.



World Book Day

World Book Day will be celebrated on Thursday 3rd March this year. We will be planning an exciting day and details will follow in due course.

Garden and yard

There has been lots of recent activity in the Five Acre Wood garden. The vegetable patch has been redesigned and we now have a kitchen garden. A range of vegetables and salad crops will be grown in this area. The fruit cage is being rebuilt to facilitate more plantings. The apple orchard has been moved and planted in raised beds to create an avenue of apple blossom that will lead into the yard. A new wildlife area is being created, along with a planted willow dome. We have a heated poly

tunnel which will help raise seedlings. Our Forest School is taking shape, with dead hedges being built by some of our pupils to help protect small habitats.



The yard is rapidly expanding with a bevy of quail arriving in spring. A guinea pig and rabbit enclosure is being constructed by our team of volunteers (who are known as 'Growing Times'). Huge thanks to all of them for their support and hard work. We are hoping to build a walk through bird aviary later this year and there are lots of other exciting plans in the pipeline.



Buzz and Woody

Healthcare Plans

Please can I remind all parents/carers that in the interest of your child's health and safety, it is your responsibility to ensure all information on Healthcare Plans is kept up to date and you should therefore notify us of any changes as they arise.

I would like to wish everyone an enjoyable half term and I look forward to welcoming pupils back to school on Monday 21st February.

Kind regards,

Peggy

Peggy Murphy
Principal



Parent/Carer training session—The SCERTS Model

Tuesday 29th March 2022—5pm-7pm Online via Zoom

with international expert Emily Rubin

Emily specialises in Autism, Asperger's Syndrome and related social learning disabilities and she lectures internationally.

What is the SCERTS model?

SCERTS is an educational model for children and older individuals with autism spectrum disorder (ASD) and their families. The model can also be used with individuals not on the autism spectrum who are developing social communication and emotional regulation skills. SCERTS provides specific guidelines for helping an individual become a competent and confident social communicator and an active learner.

Join us and learn more about:

- How current neuroscience helps us understand social and emotional development in our children.
- How embedding supports for social and emotional engagement in the classroom and at home supports language, literacy, and academic growth.

This event is **FREE TO ALL FIVE ACRE WOOD PARENTS/CARERS.**

There will be an opportunity for you to ask questions.

If you would like to attend, please confirm your attendance by emailing hstewart@five-acre.kent.sch.uk or by calling the school office on 01622 743925.



Term Dates with Diary Dates 2021/22

DUE TO CORONAVIRUS, ALL DATES ARE PROVISIONAL AND ANY EVENT SCHEDULED MAY BE SUBJECT TO CANCELLATION

Date	Time	Event
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Term 4

Monday 21 st February 2022	N/A	First day of term 4
Monday 14 th March 2022	N/A	Staff training day (pupils not in school)
Tuesday 15 th March 2022	N/A	Staff training day (pupils not in school)
Wednesday 16 th March 2022	N/A	Staff training day (pupils not in school)
Wednesday 30 th March 2022	TBC	Easter Fair
Friday 1 st April 2022	N/A	Last day of term

Term 5

Tuesday 19 th April 2022	N/A	First day of term 5
Monday 2 nd May 2022	N/A	Bank holiday (pupils and staff not in school)
Friday 27 th May 2022	N/A	Last day of term

Term 6

Monday 6 th June 2022	N/A	Staff training day (pupils not in school)
Tuesday 7 th June 2022	N/A	First day of term 6 for pupils
June 2022	TBC	Sports day
June 2022	TBC	Sports day
June 2022	TBC	Sports day – FAW Snodland
Friday 1 st July 2022	All day	Transition day
Monday 4 th July 2022	3.45-6.45pm	'Meet the new teacher' parents evening
July 2022	TBC	Secondary summer performance
July 2022	TBC	Secondary prize giving
Friday 22 nd July 2022	N/A	Last day of term

NOTE TO PARENTS/CARERS REGARDING MEDICATION

To ensure that your child is given the most current prescribed medication of the correct dose and at the right time, please read these guidelines:

1. Please ensure that all medicines sent into school are in the ORIGINAL pharmacy containers/packaging clearly labelled with:

- Your child's name
- Name of prescribed medication
- The dosage and frequency of administration
- How medicine should be given, e.g. by mouth, via feeding tube
- Date medicine was dispensed
- Expiry Date

Any nurse will have the right to refuse the administration of medication to your child if this information is not clearly shown on the label.

2. Please inform the school nurse of any change to your child's regular medication, including alterations to dose, frequency or medication being stopped as advised by a doctor. These alterations need to be confirmed in writing by the prescriber. **We cannot accept verbal alterations and will be unable to give an amended dose unless we have the medication in its original contained with the correct information printed on the label or receive the changes in writing from the prescriber.**

3. If your child is prescribed emergency medication (Diazepam/Midazolam for epilepsy or Anapen/Epipen for allergy) please inform the school nurse immediately. Further information from your child's doctor will be needed regarding when the emergency medication should be given and this will be kept in school so all staff are aware of what care your child needs in an emergency.

4. Please ensure there is a sufficient supply of all the medicines your child needs whilst in school. We will contact you to advise when we are running low.

5. When sending in medication, it must not be put in your child's bag. Instead, it should be handed directly to a member of the class staff. If your child comes into school by taxi, the medication should be given to the escort who will then hand it to a member of the class staff when they arrive at school.