

**Personal goals:** This week we have focused on **'resilience'**. Are your children able to cope when things don't go their way? Are they flexible to change their plans? Next week we will focus on **'thoughtfulness'**. Can you see how our values are becoming clearer to your children? Are you chatting about these 'behaviours for learning' and 'behaviours for life'?

**New Islington Community Cook Book:** Send in your recipes! Check for the letter sent last week.

**Water Safety:** Two assemblies have been arranged for our pupils, to teach them about water safety. It is vitally important that our children are 'water aware', being in such close proximity to the canals. To this end I have arranged two assemblies – one aimed at Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 children on Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> March at 2:45, and another aimed at Key Stage Two children on Monday 25<sup>th</sup> March at 2:45. PARENTS ARE VERY WELCOME TO JOIN US FOR THESE. We now have a throw rope that is available for any member of the public and I am working with the fire service to arrange water safety sessions for adults.

**Easter Holiday Club:** I know that providing holiday clubs is important to working parents. Please look out for the flyer in your children's bags for a holiday club on 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> April. If take up is good, then provision can expand over time.

**Attendance and late arrivals:** Whilst we have noticed a huge improvement in attendance and punctuality, please can I remind parents that our new Attendance Policy is now fully in place. I am concerned that there are still children arriving late – any arrival after 9:05 is an unauthorised absence that may result in a penalty notice.

**Book Fair:** Look out for the letter and leaflet coming home on Monday – come along to see what wonderful books are on offer!

**Parent Forum:** Our Spring Term Parent Forum is on Friday 15<sup>th</sup> at 2:30. Come along to ask questions and find out about how and why we do things at school. There will also be information about the facilities and services offered by the Miles Platting and Newton Heath Children's Centre. I will also talk through the next phase of the playground development.

**Please note: There is no Craft Club on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> March**

**British Science Week:** This year British Science week runs from 8-17<sup>th</sup> March and our colleagues at The University of Manchester are once again organising **Science X**.

Science X takes place on 9-10 March at the intu Trafford Centre and is a free, interactive festival of exploration and experiments and a great chance for children to discover the fun behind science and engineering.

ScienceX, will showcase what science and engineering is really all about and inspire the next generation of scientists and engineers with an exciting programme of fun, hands-on activities. and is open to everyone but in particular we would like to engage with people who wouldn't usually attend a science and engineering festival and young people who may not have considered exploring educational or career opportunities in these areas.

There are plenty of opportunities for families to get hands-on with a whole host of experiments at ScienceX – visitors can try making futuristic materials, clouds and slime, and discover what lives in the ground beneath their feet by taking a soil safari. Thrill seekers can have a ride in a flight simulator or try our Formula 1 racing car for size! Those who like technology can programme robots, learn about drones or take a virtual reality experience. Scientists and engineers from The University of Manchester will be there to excite and inspire young space explorers, creative minds and future scientists and engineers.

More information can be found on the ScienceX

**Spring Sing:** Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 will perform a ‘Spring Sing’ on the last day of term, at 9:20. The children will sing some songs and present some art / perform some poems. The children are very welcome to make (at home) a Spring Bonnet which will be appreciated as part of our concert. For inspiration for both boys and girls just do a Google search for ‘Spring Bonnets’.

Our singing teacher is changing mid-term so I will postpone the KS2 concert until the Summer term when we will have a new repertoire to perform.

### Days and Dates:

New events in **bold and underlined**.

**There are lots of events coming up – please read this section so that you and your child do not miss out!**

Week beginning	Event
11 <sup>th</sup> March	<p><b><u>Monday: No craft club this week</u></b></p> <p>Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup>: EYFS trip to Smithills, Bolton</p> <p>Friday 15<sup>th</sup>: Parent Forum at 2:30. Come along to ask questions, find out about how and why we do things, and tell us what’s going well.</p> <p>Friday 15<sup>th</sup>: Official launch of our Parent Teacher Association (PTA) at the Annual General Meeting at 5:30.</p>
18 <sup>th</sup> March	<p>Scholastic Book Fair every day this week</p> <p>Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup>: Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup>: EYFS visual and hearing checks</p> <p>Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup>: English workshop for 4x Year 5 at MGS</p> <p>Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup>: sign up for parents evening</p> <p>Thursday 21<sup>st</sup>: Lecture and workshop Day at MGS</p> <p>Friday 22<sup>nd</sup>: PTA chocolate collection for our Bingo Evening – more details to follow</p> <p>Friday 22<sup>nd</sup>: The Great British Spring Clean</p>

	<p>Friday 22<sup>nd</sup>: Year 2 trip to the farm – more details to follow</p> <p>Friday 22<sup>nd</sup>: Disability Awareness day for Year 4</p> <p><b>Friday 22<sup>nd</sup>: Assembly @ 2:45 open to parents on Water safety – see above</b></p>
25 <sup>th</sup> March	<p>Monday 25<sup>th</sup> to Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup>: Sign up for Parents Evening</p> <p><b>Monday 25<sup>th</sup>: Assembly @ 2:45 open to parents on Water safety – see above</b></p> <p>Friday 29<sup>th</sup>: PTA Family Chocolate Bingo night 6:00 to 7:30. More details to follow.</p> <p>Friday 29<sup>th</sup>: Year 2 trip to the farm – more details to follow</p> <p>Friday 29<sup>th</sup>@ Dance competition for Year 5/6</p>
1 <sup>st</sup> April	<p>No teacher run clubs this week</p> <p><b><u>Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> Year 4 trip to Museum to support their work on the Rainforest</u></b></p> <p>Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> / Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> :Parents Evening</p> <p>Friday 5<sup>th</sup>: Spring Sing KS1 at 9:20 <b><u>Key Stage 2 Spring Sing cancelled</u></b></p>
Further ahead	<p>Monday 29<sup>th</sup> April: Pirates Workshop for Year 1 – cost about £5:00 per pupil</p> <p>Wednesday 8<sup>th</sup> May: PTA Bag 2 School collection – more details to follow but please start collecting unwanted / old / worn out clothing.</p> <p>Friday 10<sup>th</sup> May: Computing workshop MGS</p> <p><b><u>Friday 10<sup>th</sup> May: Dr Nuthana Bhayankaram (trainee paediatrician) to give a talk / lead discussions for parents on how to encourage children to lead a healthy lifestyle @ 2:30. Dr Bhayankaram will work with the school councillors prior to this parent meeting – investigating how we can encourage healthy choices within lunchboxes.</u></b></p> <p>Monday 13<sup>th</sup> May: Year 6 SATS week</p> <p>Monday 20<sup>th</sup> May: International Week – more details to follow but on the Friday of that week (24<sup>th</sup>) we want parents to come in and run events and activities celebrating their culture.</p> <p>Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> May: NSPCC ‘Speak out, stay safe’ assemblies and workshops</p> <p>Monday 10<sup>th</sup> June: Year 1 phonics checks</p> <p>Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> June: EYFS trip to Zion Arts, Hulme</p>