## The Beacon

## Hello from Mrs Hunter

Happy New Year to you all! Weather aside, it has been such a smooth return to school and the children have just amazed us with how well they have come back, full of enthusiasm and focus and vitality. We are well underway with our learning, including a Roman invasion yesterday in Year 4. It has been wonderful to welcome our new Foundation children this week who have come to stay and play, as well as having their home visits, and it was so good to have the first meeting of parents inside for a very long time as we met with the parents of class $\mathrm{M}, \mathrm{P}$ and S . Sheldon is also back to school after being cared for through COVID by Mrs Wadge - each time someone sees him they say 'hasn't he grown!'
I hope that the return to school has not been too much of a shock for you all and that you have got your bathroom routines nailed again. It has been amazing to return to 'normal' in school but, like you, we had forgotten how we used to do some things 'in the olden days' and have had to remember old routines. I appreciate your patience as we work our way back to this. One of these is managing all three classes in any one year group exiting at one time at the end of the day. You will remember at the end of last term I explained that we have removed the staggered start and end times due to the hours of lost learning time it resulted in. On a positive, how wonderful that we have a site with four separate gates - such a luxury! However, year groups are looking at how they can speed up the handover process. Please bear in mind that it will naturally take longer to hand over in these few weeks as staff learn which adult goes with which child.
One of our 'COVID Keepers' which the children loved and have requested to continue is Fun Day Fridays. These will usually take place on the last Friday of the month and give the children the chance to wear something a bit different to school, just because they can. There will be a separate communication coming out about this but the date of the first one is Friday $24^{\text {th }}$ September and the them is sleepwear - so get ready to join us and do the school run in PJs and slippers if you want. No one is going to judge!

Have a great weekend.
Mrs Hunter ${ }^{-()}$

## Music News

Miss JR is excited to be getting back to teaching music across the school and running lots of clubs!
This year's music clubs are:
Monday: Y5/6 steel pan from $27^{\text {th }}$ September until 4 pm
Tuesday: Y2/3 choir from $28^{\text {th }}$ September until 4 pm
Thursday: $\mathrm{Y} 4 / 5 / 6$ choir from $23^{\text {rd }}$ September until 4.15 pm
Letters will be given to interested children when they come to music next week.
Instrumental lessons start from Monday for those children who signed up before the holiday. Parents will be emailed a link to view their child's day and time.

School Term Dates for 2021/2022
Mon $25^{\text {th }}$ - Fri $\mathbf{2 9}^{\text {th }}$ Oct Inc. - half term
Mon $\mathbf{2 0}^{\text {th }}$ Dec 2021 - Mon $3^{\text {rd }}$ Jan 2022 Inc. - Christmas holidays
Tues $4^{\text {th }}$ Jan - non-pupil day
Mon $21^{\text {st }}$ - Fri $\mathbf{2 5}^{\text {th }}$ Feb - half term
Mon 11 ${ }^{\text {th }}-$ Fri $\mathbf{2 2}^{\text {nd }}$ Apr Inc. - Easter holidays
Mon $2^{\text {nd }}$ May 2022 - Bank holiday
Monday 30 ${ }^{\text {th }}$ May 2022 - Bank holiday
Tues 31 May - Fri $3^{\text {rd }}$ June Inc. - Half term
Mon $6^{\text {th }}$ June - non-pupil day
$\mathbf{2 5}^{\text {th }} \boldsymbol{\&} \mathbf{2 6}^{\text {th }}$ July - non-pupil days
$\mathbf{2 7}^{\text {th }}$ July - start of the summer holidays

