



"Where learning is alive!"

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Spring Term Newsletter - Week 11

Date: 29th March 2019

From the Headteacher

This week's review quite rightly starts with special mention to our year five and six children who returned safely, a little tired and certainly full of wonderful memories to savour of their four day residential in the Elan Valley. Even if you're not a parent of the children that attended, do please have a look at our facebook page to get a flavour of the experiences the children had and thoroughly enjoyed, and no doubt your children will also enjoy equally when given the opportunity in the future. As we've grown accustomed to by now, staff working with the children, both school based and centre based, were effusive in their praise of the children and it's fair to say that Minworth will be warmly welcomed back with the next crop of year five and six children around the same time next year. I'm sure I also speak on behalf of all the children in attendance in saying a huge thank you to Mrs Armstrong and Miss Watson for giving of their time so willingly in order to provide this opportunity for our children.

On a similar extra-curricular theme, we had a 'Minworth first' in the past week or so whereby ten of our key stage two children were given the opportunity to visit Sutton Coldfield college to participate in a Curling competition, organised by the Wilson Stuart Sports Partnership. I'm sure I wasn't the only one contemplating how this would be possible in the absence of any ice but I am told the surface was replicated in the sports hall by placing the stones on little castors – genius! Mrs Davies said that the children thoroughly enjoyed this unique opportunity and although they didn't win, they thoroughly the competition and meeting new friends (and in Joseph's case, old friends too!).

Finally, I'd just like to wish everyone a happy mothering Sunday. We hope those parents of children in key stage one enjoyed the mothers' day tea on Wednesday and that our reception children make their parents proud during their mothers' day assembly later this afternoon.

Live Kitchen – Urgent!!!

If you have not logged onto Live Kitchen and set up your account by **Monday 1st April**, your child will **not** be able to make a lunch selection from the new menu and therefore there will only be limited options available. Staff will be available to help you on Monday should you need it.

School budgets – dress down Fridays

As parents will recall from previous correspondence, school budgets are currently at crisis point and schools including ourselves are looking towards ways and means of topping up budgets to ensure

children are not adversely affected by these cuts. To this end, one such measure we are seriously considering is the introduction of a 'dress down Friday' each week whereby children and staff can opt in for the cost of one pound per family. If all children and staff opted in to this, we'd raise approximately £2500 per term, all of which would be directly fed into school fund to be spent on educational resources for children. The proposal was initially the suggestion of a parent and we are interested to hear the views of others via a member of the school's leadership team at the school gate or via your child's teacher before we look to roll this out after the Easter holidays.

Castle Vale's Got Talent

Calling all talented children (and parents of talented children)...

We know that we have a plethora of talented children in our school and as such we have been offered the opportunity for these talents to be showcased at the auditions for Castle Vale's Got Talent, taking place **tomorrow morning at 10.00am at Greenwood.**

"Anyone living, working or going to school on Castle Vale can enter - just turn up. It's worth a shot - big prizes, details here <https://tinyurl.com/y4wsurny> " – Trevor Evans, organiser.

From a school perspective, any children who do take part, irrespective of whether they win a prize, will receive a privilege card from myself on Monday morning...big incentive indeed!

Break time refreshments

In conjunction with the new Live Kitchen meal provision we are continuing to offer break time refreshments, please see below. Payments can be made for break time refreshments on line via **ParentPay.**

There are 29 days from 1st April until 24th May, summer half term. If you wish to pay in advance, the cost will be as follows:

Toast: 25p per item, £7.25

Juice couplet: 25p each, £7.25

Biscuit: 25p each, £7.25

Easter celebrations

On **Wednesday 10th April**, we will be holding our Reception and KS1 Easter bonnet parade. Children from both Reception and KS1 will have the opportunity to design and make their own Easter bonnet. Two winners will be chosen from each class, there is no specific criteria, but we would ask that the bonnet reflects as much of the children's work as possible. The parade will take place outside, if weather permits, or in the school hall and parents are welcome to come and view the children's creations in the Parade Assembly from 9.00 a.m.

Also on **Wednesday 10th April**, Key stage two will have the opportunity to join in the fun. We are asking children in Years 3 to 6 to create their own decorated Easter eggs. The eggs will be displayed in the hall and parents of children who have participated are welcome to come and view the entries from 2.30 p.m. onwards. You may, if you wish, take your children home afterwards.

Can we ask that both Easter bonnets and Easter eggs are brought into school on **Wednesday 10th April** and not before as we have nowhere to store them.

On **Thursday 11th April** all children will be walking to the local church. We will not be sending out permission slips for this trip as this is a community visit covered under our parental consent forms. However, if you have any queries or concerns, please pop into school.

On the afternoon of **Friday 12th April**, we will be taking part in an Easter egg hunt, all the children will have the opportunity to search for eggs and find some chocolate treats. I'm sure they will all enjoy our Easter celebrations.

A reminder that school closes on Friday 12th April for half term and resumes on Monday 29th April.

Attendance

Year Group	Weekly Attendance	Cumulative Attendance	Total leaves Spring Term
Reception	96.6%	95.9%	1
Year 1	95.1%	96.1%	1
Year 2	92.5%	95.7%	2
Year 3	97.1%	96.8%	1
Year 4	94.2%	95.8%	2
Year 5	83.8%	94.2%	1
Year 6	98.6%	95.6%	4
Whole School	93.8%	95.7%	

Every week we select winners for the best class attenders. Our best attenders this week were Year 6 with 98.6% Our whole school attendance for the week was 93.8%.

Our school's cumulative attendance to date is 95.7%.

Merits

In our Merit assembly today, we selected pupils for a merit award. These are pupils who have made an outstanding contribution to their own learning during that particular week. Below is a list of our winners for this week:

Reception – Dimonelle for super hard work in phonics.

Year One – Wynter for always trying hard and for her fantastic reading this week.

Year Two – Samira for her confidence when taking on maths challenges.

Year Three – AH for her fantastic effort with her reading! Keep it up!

Year Four – Dylan for his super retelling of The Tempest.

Year Five – Dylan for being an absolute super star and just getting on with everything! Well done!

Year Six – Lewis for his super 'Greek mythological creature' poem.

Head Teacher Award – Kian B in Year 6 for enthusiasm in all that he does, demonstrating an exemplary work ethic.

Our lunchtime superstars this week are George B in Year 2 for always being a good friend and playing lovely games with his class mates and Mya in Year 3 for always following the Minworth Jigsaw as chosen by Miss Martin.

The Breakfast Club/Zone superstar of the week is Wynter in Year 1 for being so polite and friendly to everyone in both Breakfast Club and The Zone and for following the Minworth jigsaw as chosen by Mrs Cook.

Our 'Good Friend Awards' this week were awarded to Dorian in Reception and Shania in Year 4, as chosen by our Peer Mediators.

Each week a member of the School Council chooses a pupil for a school council recognition, we thought that it would be nice to share these winners with you all of which showcase our school Value this term – 'determination' and they are:

Reception – Maisie for showing determination in her work

Year One – Jacey-Mae for showing determination in Maths

Year Two – Tomi for showing determination when being in School Council

Year Three – Ava for showing determination in her work and settling in

Year Four – Ikenna for showing determination in Maths

Year Five – Japman for showing determination to improve her Maths and English

Year Six – Gracie for showing determination when following the Minworth Jigsaw



Well done to all our award winners, we are really proud of you!

News from the Pastoral Team.

Please find the following link, which shows a directory of mental health support available in local areas.

https://hubofhope.co.uk/?mc_cid=9a9a546e44&mc_eid=897ae0a0b2