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25th October 2019.



A Message from Ms Clarke

Dear parent/carer,

Welcome to another newsletter. We cannot believe it is the end of the half term already. The children (and staff!) have all worked really hard this half term and thoroughly deserve their break.

Here are some of things which have been happening in school since the last newsletter.

Our Harvest Assembly was led by Mrs Phillips. We collected such a lot of food thanks to your generosity. We donated the food to a foodbank called the Alice Charity. With the Alice Charity, families do not have to get a food bank voucher from us to take to the foodbank, we have the food to donate already in school. So if you or anybody you know is in need of some help and could do with a donation of food, please come to see Ms Clarke or Mrs Cox and we can give food to you there and then.

We now have 11 Year 6 pupils who are our prefects, helping to support younger children and generally helping with the work of the school. The children had to write a letter of application, find a member of staff to give them a reference and finally have an interview with Ms Clarke. We are very proud of the children who have been selected and know that they will represent the school well.

Some of the children from Years 3 and 4 took part in a 7 Stars sports festival at Northwood Stadium as well as a handball tournament. The children competed really well and represented the school brilliantly. The children in years 3 and 4 also took part in a maths roadshow in the school hall where they were challenged with lots of different mathematical problem solving activities.

The fire service came to school to talk to the children in Key Stage Two about fire safety, which is really important with Bonfire Night coming up. The Year 5 children have also been learning how to ride a bike and about how to **stay safe when riding when they completed their 'Bikeability' training last week.**

Earlier this week all year groups except Year 4, from Reception to Year 6 watched the M&M production of Beauty and the Beast in the school hall. The children had a wonderful time and really got involved in the performance. Year 4 did not watch the performance as they were busy at the library finding out about the work of authors and illustrators and actually meeting and working with the illustrator Steve Smallman.

Our School Council representatives from Year 1 to Year 6 are busy planning our Anti-Bullying Week 2019. The theme for the week is



The School Council would like us to start the week on Tuesday 12th November by coming to school in non-uniform, wearing something blue and odd socks. Blue is the anti-bullying colour and odd socks signify that although we are all the same we are also all different but equally important. The School Council would like the children to bring a pound each into school which we will donate to the NSPCC charity Childline which does amazing work to support children and young people who are the victims of bullying or who are worried about anything at all. In the meantime, if you are worried about bullying, please come to see Mrs Johnstone, Ms Clarke or Mrs Tranter. The Childline number is 0800 1111.

Three of our Year 6 School Council representatives attended the Local Democracy event at the King's Hall in Stoke to learn more about democracy and about issues in our local area. These children were a credit to the school and also thoroughly enjoyed the event.

Thank you to those of you who attended the Reception parents'/carers' meeting about reading and also the one for the Key Stage One parents'/carers. If you need advice on how to help your child to read at home please make **an appointment to see your child's class teacher.** Children should be reading at home to you each night with you writing in their diary to let the class teacher know how they have read. We also had a very good turnout of parents/carers of our Year 6 children to find out more about their exciting residential visit to Shugborough next year.

Wishing you a happy and safe half term break,

Mrs Johnstone and Ms Clarke

Waterproof coats



Now autumn is here and the weather has become wet and cold, please ensure your child has a warm, waterproof coat to wear for school. Children should also wear black school shoes please, not trainers.

All items of clothing need to be named please, otherwise we cannot find them if they are lost.

Driving & Car Parking

Please can we ask parents to drive slowly and with care down Dundee Road and do not let children get out of the car by stopping in the middle of the road. We also ask that parents park their car with consideration for residents by not blocking anyone's driveway.

Always make sure that children are wearing seat belts when travelling.



SCHOOL Attendance

The current attendance overall from the start of September is

95.65%

This is below 96% and needs to improve.

Expected attendance is 96% and above.

Thank you to all of you who send your children to school regularly and on time.

Please remember that we do not authorize any term time absence, except for illness or medical reasons.

.Year 4 - Trip to Hanley Library

The Year 4 children went to Hanley Library on the 21st October. They had a great time and enjoyed meeting a real illustrator. Thank you to all the parents who joined us for the trip.



PE Kits

Can we also remind parents that ALL children, including Nursery, need a P.E. kit in school. All items of kit and uniform need to be named please, otherwise we cannot find them if they are lost.



Free School Meals

Your child could be entitled to free school meals if:

You are eligible for Child Tax Credit but NOT Working Tax Credit and your income is no more than £16,190

Or

You are in receipt of Income Support, Income Based Job Seekers Allowance, Income Related Employment and Support Allowance, Support under part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999 or The Guarantee element of State Pension Credit (from 30th April 2005)

Or

Universal Credit with a household income less than £7,400 a year.

If you think you may be entitled please ask at the school office for more information and they will be pleased to help and provide you with an application form.

DIARY DATES



Monday 4th November

Teacher Training day

Tuesday 5th November

Back to school for children

Thursday 7th November

School photographs -Y6, siblings & families first

Y6 to Stoke Ski Centre

Friday 8th November

Year 5 to Stoke Ski Centre

Week commencing Monday 11th November

Anti-bullying week - details in the message from Mrs Johnstone & Mrs Clarke

Thursday 14th November

Key Strings performance for the whole school

Y6 Parents' puberty talk information meeting 2pm

Monday 2nd December

Year 4 to World Museum Liverpool

Tuesday 3rd December

Reception to Conkers Discovery Centre

Monday 9th & Tuesday 10th December

Foundation Stage Concert 10am

Wednesday 11th December

Y5 Prince and the Pauper - New Vic Theatre

DIARY DATES



Thursday 12th December

Y6 Prince and the Pauper - New Vic Theatre

Friday 13th December

Christmas lunch

Tuesday 17th December

Y1 to Panto - Sleeping Beauty - Regent Theatre

Wednesday 18th December

Y2 to Panto - Sleeping Beauty - Regent Theatre

Friday 20th December

Christmas Raffle

Break up for holidays

Tuesday 7th January 2020

Return to School