

## STRIVING FOR EXCELLENCE-



**THIS HALF TERM WE ARE FOCUSING ON THE CHRISTIAN VALUE OF COURAGE**

### **SPRING 2023 HEADTEACHER'S NEWSLETTER**

#### **Introduction**

Happy New Year to all our school family! I hope you enjoyed a lovely Christmas break with your children. In this first newsletter of 2023, I will inform you of some initial dates and activities for the spring term. These will be added to as the term progresses.

Unfortunately, we returned to school after new year to find a burst pipe had caused significant water damage to the KS2 department. This meant that Y5 and 6 were unable to return with the other children. Thank you so much to their parents and carers for their patience and understanding with this situation.

#### **Fundraising**

The school Christmas disco made a fantastic profit of £504.85 for school funds. This year we are using school fund in a variety of ways, including subsidising school visits that will take place in the spring and summer terms. This will keep the cost down for families during these challenging times.

#### **Attendance**

Our attendance figures continued to be extremely low in the autumn term. At 93%, this is significantly below our target of 96%. Moving forward we will continue to take the following actions;

- Monitor, and take action around, the attendance of any child who falls below target.
- Issue fines to any parents who take pupils on holiday in term time
- Ask for medical evidence for children who are persistently absent
- Require parents/carers to attend meetings with the education welfare officer and school attendance lead where attendance is a concern.

#### **Parent Pay**

A quick reminder to ensure that all parent/carers have activated their ParentPay account. Even if your child is on FSM it is still important to have access to ParentPay as we not only use it for payments but it is also one of our main communication methods for texts and emails. This means for example if the school was to close for any reason we would use ParentPay to send a message informing every one of the closure. If you do not have access to these details please do not hesitate to phone the school office or call in.

### **Road Safety**

- Year 6 will be taking part in the Bikeability scheme run by the Road Safety team. This cycling course is free of charge and delivered by nationally accredited instructors. It is so important to ensure the safety of our pupils when riding their bicycles. The course will take place during the week commencing 6<sup>th</sup> March.
- Year 6 will also be attending the Crucial Crew project. This will be paid for from school funds.

### **Sports Partnerships and Spring Term Clubs**

Sale Sharks will be visiting school for several weeks from 28<sup>th</sup> February, to deliver the Try2connect project in Y6. This focuses on emotional wellbeing and transition to high school.

Premier Sports and Rees Sports will continue to deliver football, cricket and multi skills coaching at lunchtimes and after school.

**Monday:** Gymnastics (KS1)

**Tuesday:** Pyramid Club (KS2)  
Pupil Rights' Group  
Choir

**Wednesday:** Football (Y3 and 4)  
Maths Booster Club (Y5)

**Thursday:** Cricket (Y5 and 6)

\*Netball to re-start after half-term

Staff will send out further details of these clubs.



### **Family Worship**

Rev'd Sarah and/or Rev's Garfield will again be leading worship in school every Thursday. We hope to visit church later in the term as we approach Easter.



## **Parental Partnership**

Mrs Utzeri, our Family Support Worker, is available for parents and carers to speak to. She is usually available on the playground before and after school or an appointment can be made, via the school office.

Alice Madeley, our Place2be worker continues to support children in school each Thursday and Friday. She can be contacted via the school office if you feel your child would benefit from working with her.

## **Parent/Pupil Consultations**

We had a good turn-out of 94% at the autumn term parents' evenings. As the Y4 meetings were cancelled due to staff illness, these will now take place on 10<sup>th</sup> January.

The spring term parent/pupil consultations will be on 14<sup>th</sup> March between 3.30-6.30pm. These will take place face to face in school. Please use this opportunity to speak with your child's teacher to review their progress. Further details will be sent out regarding appointments nearer the time.

## **Initial Dates for Your Diary**

- 20<sup>th</sup> January: Year 1 Family worship
- 25<sup>th</sup> January: Mustard Tree charity assembly
- 3<sup>rd</sup> February: Reception family worship
- 17<sup>th</sup> February: School breaks up for half term for one week
- 3<sup>rd</sup> March: World Book Day (Details to follow).
- 10<sup>th</sup> March: Year 6 family worship
- 14<sup>th</sup> March: Parents' evening
- 17<sup>th</sup> March: Year 5 family worship
- 21<sup>st</sup> March: Year 4 family worship
- 31<sup>st</sup> March: Break Up for Easter holiday

School re-opens on Tuesday 17<sup>th</sup> April.

I will keep you informed of further dates and activities as they are planned. Thank you for your continued support with everything we do in school.

**Mrs A Barker**  
Headteacher