

Newsletter



Mrs R. Mander - Headteacher

18th January 2019

Attendance

As you will be aware, absence from school can be a concern and only by achieving high attendance will your children have the best chance to get the most from their education. The table below displays our expectations for attendance at school over a year which clearly shows that we aim for an attendance rate of at least 95%.

| 96%+ | 95%+ | Below 90% | Below 85% |
|-----------|------|-------------------|---|
| Excellent | Good | Cause for Concern | Unacceptable (May involve a referral to Education Welfare.) |

We have recently reviewed attendance figures since the start of the academic year in September and have found that some pupils' attendance figures currently are a cause for concern and in some cases, unacceptable. From looking at our attendance records it is evident that the low attendance level is due to days off during the term for holiday or illness.

As you will be aware the government no longer allows holiday during term time unless there are exceptional circumstances. It is important that parents realise that under the new Staffordshire Local Authority Code of Conduct, penalty notices and fines will be issued regarding holiday taken during term time.

In terms of absence related to illness, obviously we would not ask for a child to be brought to school if they were ill, but a low attendance figure due to illness could still be investigated by the Educational Welfare Service if the attendance figure does not improve.

In addition and as part of our routine register checks, lateness to school is also monitored very closely and affects a child's attendance figure. Poor levels of punctuality at school can not only affect academic progress but can also have a significant impact on the social development of your child and their self-esteem and confidence. I must therefore inform parents that under the Staffordshire Local Authority Code of Conduct, incidences of lateness may result in a penalty warning notice being received and also a potential fine if your child's punctuality levels do not improve.

Obviously, we want to work in partnership with parents to ensure every child's attendance figure is at least 95%. If you have any concerns about getting your child to school or their attendance record, please do not hesitate to speak to your child's classteacher or to make an appointment to come and speak to a member of the Senior Leadership Team.

Forthcoming Dates:



Week beginning

21st January 2019 – Menu week 1.

23rd January – KS2 Choir Members performing at 'Young Voices', Genting Arena – *Evening Performance.*

24th January - Year 6 Theatre Trip (*The New Vic – Wind in the Willows*)

5th February – Safer Internet Day (*More details to follow.*)

8th February – Parents' Forum 9.15am

8th February - Sponsored Event (*More details to follow.*)

W/B 11th February - Parent/Teacher Consultations **Year 6 Parents only** (*After School Appointments*)

11th February – Year 1 Special Assembly KS2 Hall 9.15am (*Invited parents only.*)

11th – February – Year 4 Special Assembly KS2 Hall 2.30pm (*Invited parents only.*)

For further dates, please see page 2.

Documents Related to Attendance

A copy of a letter from Staffordshire County Council regarding Penalty Notices for absence from school and persistent lateness has been sent home today as a reminder for parents. In addition, a copy of our school Attendance Policy along with the Local Authority's Code of Conduct, can be found on our website or paper copies can be collected from the school office.

Five Ways Primary School

Langholm Drive

Heath Hayes, Cannock, WS12 2EZ

Web Site Address: www.fiveways-primary-school.org.uk

Tel No: 01543 278071 Email: office@fiveways.staffs.sch.uk

Bad Weather Procedures

In the unusual event that school is unable to open for pupils, parents will be informed via text at the earliest opportunity. In addition, any closure will be reported on the Staffordshire school closure website which can be accessed by using the following link:
<http://www.staffordshire.gov.uk/schoolclosures>

Five Ways Lottery

We are pleased to announce that James Houlston won last weekend's lottery. Well done James! Tickets can be bought by following the link:
www.yourschoollottery.co.uk/lottery/school/five-ways-primary-school

12th February – Reception Special Assembly KS2 Hall 9.15am (*Invited parents only.*)

12th – February – Year 6 Special Assembly KS2 Hall 2.30pm (*Invited parents only.*)

12th February – PTFA Meeting 7.15pm KS1 Staffroom

13th February – Year 5 Special Assembly KS2 Hall 9.15am (*Invited parents only.*)

14th February – Year 2 Special Assembly KS2 Hall 9.15am (*Invited parents only.*)

Further dates will be added to the Newsletter as we progress through the year.

Nursery Open Day

Does your child's 3rd birthday fall between 1st September 2015 and 31st August 2016? If so, please register your child at our nursery to start in September 2019. Registration is open now and closes on 8th March 2019. If you or anyone you know has a child of Nursery age and would like to come and take a look at our teacher-led Nursery Provision we are offering 'drop-in' sessions on Wednesday 6th February. Please come along with your child to our morning session 9.15am – 10.15am (by appointment only through the school office) or drop-in after school between 3.30pm – 5.00pm. Take part in a tour of our purpose built nursery building, meet our dedicated and experienced Nursery staff and enjoy fun games and activities with your child. Refreshments will be available as well. An information leaflet has been sent home today with further information of the drop-in sessions however, please do not hesitate to contact the school office if you have any questions.
We hope to see you there!



Dinner Money Payments

This is a polite reminder that payment for school dinners should be made through use of your ParentPay account, and payments should be made in advance of meals being taken. Thank you for your cooperation regarding this matter.

Year 6 Parent Consultations Y6

Parent consultations are due to take place during the week commencing **11th February** and Year 6 Parents' Evening will take place on **Thursday 14th February**. Appointments can be made by visiting the school website and clicking on the tab marked 'Parents' Evening.' This service is available to access from 4.00pm on 18th January until 4.00pm on 1st February. If you do not have internet access, it is possible to make an appointment through the school office; please ring and discuss this with a member of the office staff who will book an appointment for you.

PTFA News!

Easter Chocolate Bingo – 5th April - Full details of this event will be announced in the next couple of weeks. It is always popular and sells out fast. Friday 15th February is a non-uniform day in return for Easter themed chocolate or a monetary donation. (Suggested amount £1.)

Easter Egg Hunt – 12th April – On the final day before the Easter holidays we will see our Easter Egg Hunt take place. Details for this event will be announced soon, so keep your eyes out for this too!

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