## Newsletter



Mrs R. Mander - Headteacher

12th January 2024

#### **Happy New Year**

I would like to take this opportunity to welcome everyone back to school and to wish you all a Happy New Year. I have enjoyed talking to the children and hearing about their very exciting Christmas holidays. We have a busy term ahead of us with lots to experience and enjoy and I am looking forward to keeping you updated as we progress through the term.

#### **Attendance**

As we have now started a new year, I am able to provide you with the attendance report for the month of December. The percentage attendance for the whole school for December was 92.9%. Congratulations to Year 3 with the highest monthly attendance of 94.9% and to Miss Berry's class in Year 6, with an attendance of 96.3%.

Reception	92.4%
Y1	93.2%
Y2	93.2%
Y3	94.9%
Y4	92.0%
Y5	93.5%
Y6	91.4%

As a reward for attendance, the year group with the highest attendance figure each month will receive an extra five minutes of playtime.

Congratulations to Year 3 who were the winning year group in December.

Enjoy your extra playtime!

Please remember, that holidays during term time will not be authorised unless there are very exceptional circumstances, and most likely will result in a penalty notice being issued to parents by Staffordshire County Council. Thank you.

Bad Weather Procedures

This is a reminder of the procedures for any school closure which might be necessary as a result of bad weather. 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:

School Closures - Staffordshire County Council

#### **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

# Forthcoming Dates: Week beginning 15th January 2024 – Menu week 2.



15th January – PTFA Meeting 7.15pm KS1 Staffroom (All welcome!)

18th January - Year 3 and Year 4
Theatre Trip (The Rep, Birmingham
– The Lion, the Witch and the
Wardrobe)

26th January - Sponsor forms to be sent home (More details to follow.)

W/B 29th January - Parent/Teacher Consultations Nursery to Year 6 (After School Appointments – Face to Face meetings.)

1st February – Whole School Parents' Evening 6.00pm – 8.30pm -Face to Face meetings.

W/B 5th February Sponsored Event (More details to follow.)

6th February – Safer Internet Day (More details to follow.)

9th February - School Closes for Half Term

19th February - School Opens for staff and pupils

29th February – KS2 Assessment Information Meeting 6.30pm KS1 Hall (*Parents of children in Year 6.*)

7<sup>th</sup> March - Enrichment Day - World Book Day (More details to follow however, pupils are invited to dress as their favourite book character for the day.)

15<sup>th</sup> March - Comic Relief Day - Red Nose Day (*More details to follow*) 15<sup>th</sup> March - PTFA Easter Bingo

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

#### Nursery Places for 2024 - 2025

The New Year is a time when many parents consider which setting they would like their child to attend as they enter **Nursery** in **September 2024**. If you, or any you know has a child of Nursery ago, and would like to some and take



anyone you know has a child of Nursery age, and would like to come and take a look at our teacher-led Nursery Provision, discuss what options are available for your child, or register your interest in taking up a place in our purpose designed Nursery, please contact the school office or speak to myself as Headteacher or Miss Kershaw, who is our Nursery teacher. Please be aware that application forms for Nursery are available to access on our school website via the 'Information for Parents' tab, or alternatively by following this link: <a href="https://www.fiveways-primary-school.org.uk/admin/ckfinder/userfiles/files/Nursery%20Application%20Form%2024-25.pdf">https://www.fiveways-primary-school.org.uk/admin/ckfinder/userfiles/files/Nursery%20Application%20Form%2024-25.pdf</a>

The closing date for Nursery applications is Friday 15th March 2024.

#### Parents' Evening

Parent consultations for all classes from Nursery to Year 6 will take place during the week beginning 29<sup>th</sup> January with Parents' Evening on Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> February. Appointments will be available to be booked online. You will be sent a link to your mobile phone or email address, which will take you to the online booking system to select a time convenient for you.

Please follow these simple steps to book your appointment:

- 1. Click the link that you receive through text and/or email to take you to the confirmation page. You will need internet access to do this.
- 2. Enter your child's first name to continue. If you have more than one child, any of their first names will work.
- 3. Next, you will be taken to the booking page. This will show your children alongside the teacher that you need to book in with.
- 4. Click 'Please Choose' to be shown a list of available times that you can click to book.
- 5. Please click 'Book this Slot' to complete your booking. When the button has turned green you know your booking has been made.
- 6. At any time before Parents' Evening, you can click the link on your phone or email again to check your booking time.

The online booking service will be available to access from <u>9.00am on Monday 15<sup>th</sup> January</u> until <u>Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> January at 4.00pm</u>. If you do not have internet access, it is still possible to make an appointment through the school office; please ring and discuss this with a member of the office team who will book an appointment for you. If you wish to update your email address or mobile telephone number, please contact the school office.

#### **PTFA News!**

**Happy New Year –** The PTFA would like to wish everyone a Happy New Year; we hope to see you at the events we will be running this year.

**Christmas Discos** - Thank you to all those parents who volunteered. We will be pleased to inform you of the amount raised in next week's newsletter.

**Next PTFA Meeting –** Monday 15<sup>th</sup> January 7.15pm KS1 Staffroom *(All welcome!)* **Year 6 Leavers' Hoodies** – To place an order, please visit the PTA Dashboard, and select the 'Shop' tab followed by selecting the 'Uniform and Merchandise' tab. All orders need to be placed by Friday 9<sup>th</sup> February.



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#### **Pupil Premium Entitlement**

You may be aware that The Government have made changes to the entitlement criteria for Pupil Premium applications. If your child is eligible for Pupil Premium Funding (formerly free school meal funding), schools receive additional funds to assist with your child's education when you apply. Please be aware that if your child is in Reception, Year 1 or Year 2, and automatically receives a free meal under the Universal Infant Free School Meal Scheme, it is still worth applying if you fit the criteria, as this may provide extra funds for the school. Please see below for further information.

#### Important Information about Pupil Premium for Parents and Carers.

Pupil Premium is extra funding paid to school, which is used to provide additional support for children. Any child may be eligible for this extra help if their parents are in receipt of the following benefits:

- Income support
- Income-based Jobseekers Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act
- Child Tax Credit (provided that you are not also entitled to Working Tax Credit and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190)
- Working Tax Credit run-on paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit

In addition, a child will also be eligible if they:

- Have been looked after by the local authority for at least one day
- Have been adopted from care
- Have left care through guardianship
- Are subject to a child arrangement order

Pupil Premium funds are spent to improve outcomes for children. School may use this extra money to provide additional adult support or to provide appropriate resources. Pupil Premium children are also eligible for financial help with educational visits. If you think your child may be entitled to this additional support, please contact Mrs Wendy Russell at the School Office who will be happy to help you. All enquiries will be treated in the strictest confidence.

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