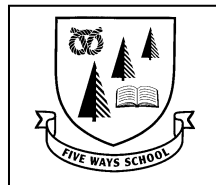


Newsletter



Mrs R. Mander - Headteacher

8th November 2024

Attendance

As it is now November, I am able to provide you with the attendance report for the month of October. The percentage attendance for the whole school for October was 96%. Congratulations to Year 1 and Year 5 with the highest monthly attendance of 97% and to Miss Buchan's class in Year 1, with a fantastic attendance of 98%. Well done everyone!

Reception	94%
Y1	97%
Y2	95%
Y3	96%
Y4	95%
Y5	97%
Y6	96%



As a reward for outstanding attendance, the year group with the highest attendance figure each month will receive an extra five minutes of playtime. Congratulations to Year 1 and Year 5 who were the winning year groups in October. 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.

Welcome Back!

I hope that you all had a lovely half term break with your families and are looking forward to the many activities that we have planned before Christmas. These include taking part in Anti-Bullying Week, supporting Children in Need, conducting our first enrichment day of this academic year, entitled International Day and of course, watching pupils in their Christmas performances! This is just a taste of some of the wonderful activities that your children will be involved in during the next half term at Five Ways.



Forthcoming Dates:



Week beginning 11th November 2024 – Menu week 1.

W/B 11th November - Anti-Bullying Week (*Please see page 2 of this Newsletter.*)

12th November – PTFA Meeting – 7.15pm KS1 Staffroom – *All Welcome!*

15th November - Children in Need Day (*Please see page 2 of this Newsletter.*)

22nd November - Enrichment Day - International Day (*More details to follow*)

3rd December Year 3 & Year 4 Theatre Trip (*Wolverhampton Grand Theatre – Beauty and the Beast*)

5th December – Reception Christmas Service – 2.15pm KS1 Hall

6th December – Reception Christmas Service – 10.00am KS1 Hall

9th December – Year 2 Christmas Service – 2.15pm KS1 Hall (*A – L surnames only*)

10th December – Year 2 Christmas Service – 10.00am KS1 Hall (*M – Z surnames only*)

10th December – Year 1 Christmas Service – 2.15pm KS1 Hall

11th December – Year 1 Christmas Service – 10.00am KS1 Hall

11th December – Year 5 Christmas Service – 2.15pm KS1 Hall

12th December – Year 1 Christmas Jumper Day in aid of Save the Children

12th December – Year 5 Christmas Service – 10.00am KS1 Hall

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

Five Ways Primary School

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Football News! I am pleased to inform you that our Year 6 boys' football team demonstrated fantastic team cohesion in a recent match against Etching Hill Primary. Mr Ferguson wrote, 'Five Ways took an early lead but this only encouraged Etching Hill to push on and search for an equaliser. After the half time break, Etching Hill took the lead by a superbly struck free kick. No keeper would have been able to save it! The hunt for the equaliser was on! All boys worked incredibly hard and scored an equaliser towards the end of the second half. All mind-sets were thinking ahead, dreaded penalties! The match ended in 2-2. Penalties it was! Five Ways took an early lead and with some marvellous saves, supported by some rocket like strikes from the boys meant Five Ways stormed through to the next round. A great afternoon was had by all with special thanks to all the parents for their support.' Well done everyone!



My Happy Mind I am delighted to inform you that following the success of last year, we will be continuing to use the myHappyMind program with all year groups throughout this academic year. This is a reminder that myHappyMind is a science-backed program designed to help develop confident, resilient children with the self-esteem and tools to thrive because a greater sense of well-being means they are better equipped to succeed in life.

To further embed this learning and ensure that parents are able to engage in these topics with their child, myHappyMind has developed a set of resources for parents. These resources can be accessed online on your computer, or through an app on your phone. The resources allow children to continue to practise some of the habits they have developed at school, such as Happy Breathing, and are for parents to learn more about what children are learning in the program. Also included are activities for families to do together at home, to complement the in-school lessons. To access these materials just go to <https://myhappymind.org/parent-resources> and enter your name, email, and authentication code. Your authentication code is: **124070**. Please be aware that to celebrate the achievements of children whilst taking part in myHappyMind program, we will be inviting parents to the end of module assemblies that will take place at the end of each half term. Parents of children nominated for an award will receive invitation letters from the school office ahead of the special assemblies.

Anti-Bullying Week

As you may be aware, next week it is National Anti-Bullying Week and pupils across the school will be taking part in activities to support this campaign. The theme this year is 'Choose Respect'. Pupils will be involved in discussions about the fact that bullying is a behaviour choice, and that children can set a positive example by opting to respect each other at school, in their homes and communities, and online.

Children in Need

As you may be aware, it is Children in Need day next Friday 15th November. To enable pupils to understand the purpose of the event and to join in the fundraising, pupils are able to wear 1 item of spotty clothing on this day in return for a donation to the charity (suggested amount £1). This might be a pair of spotty socks, a spotty hairband or any other spotty item. In addition, pupils will spend a lesson during this day learning about the work of the charity and the worthy causes it supports.



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Walk to School Month

October was 'Walk to School Month' and families were asked to participate by leaving their car at home or by parking further away from the school so that more pupils had the opportunity to enjoy the benefits of walking. Well done to everyone who walked to school during the month of October! Please keep up these good habits by continuing to walk to school so that you can enjoy the health benefits and ease congestion around school at drop off and collection times!

Swimming Success!

I am proud to inform you that Daniel C, who is in Year 5 Miss Emery's class, swims competitively for a swimming club. Daniel has recently taken part in many competitions and I am pleased to report that in the most recent one, he set 4 personal best times, with his 200m freestyle not only being a personal best, but also a club record for his age group! Congratulations Daniel, this is amazing news!



Christmas Productions

We are once again approaching the Christmas season and our pupils and staff are beginning to think about their fabulous Christmas performances. Please find below a list of dates and times for each year groups performance. Year Leaders will contact you regarding specific details closer to the time if they have not done so already. I look forward to sharing the performances with you.



Year Group	Date and Time	Venue
Reception	Thursday 5th December 2.15pm Friday 6th December 10.00am	KS1 School Hall
Year 1	Tuesday 10th December 2.15pm Wednesday 11th December 10.00am	KS1 School Hall
Year 2	Monday 9th December 2.15pm (<i>A - L surnames only please.</i>) Tuesday 10th December 10.00am (<i>M - Z surnames only please.</i>)	KS1 School Hall
Year 3	Monday 16th December 10.00am (<i>A - L surnames only please.</i>) Thursday 19th December 1.45pm (<i>M - Z surnames only please.</i>)	St John's Church
Year 4	Wednesday 18th December 1.45pm (<i>A - L surnames only please.</i>) Thursday 19th December 10.30am (<i>M - Z surnames only please.</i>)	St John's Church
Year 5	Wednesday 11th December 2.15pm Thursday 12th December 10.00am	KS1 School Hall
Year 6	Thursday 12th December 2.15pm Friday 13th December 10.00am	KS1 School Hall

PTFA News!

Reindeer Run – We hope that over half term, you were able to discuss the 'Reindeer Run' challenge with your child and that they were able to pledge the distance that they would like to run/walk throughout November. All children from Year 1 to Year 6 should have recorded their target in their Home-Link book on their 'Dasher Diary', so that parents can keep track of their progress. Good luck everyone!



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