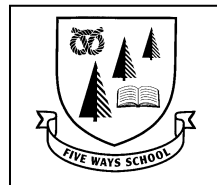


Newsletter



Mrs R. Mander - Headteacher

29th November 2024

Sponsored Reindeer Run

As you are aware, pupils took part in the PTFA sponsored Reindeer run this month. All pupils enjoyed taking part, staying active and raising money at the same time! We would be grateful if sponsor money could be returned to school by **Friday 6th December**. We look forward to sharing with you how much money has been raised!



Attendance and Punctuality

Did you know that if your child is late to school and misses their mark in the register, this counts as an **unauthorised absence**. If your child is just 5 minutes late to school 3 times a week, it will add up to 2 days across the school year! Sadly, our attendance figure in school is being affected by an increasing number of children arriving late for school on a regular basis.

In liaison with the County Council Education Welfare Department we will be looking to address these issues with a targeted programme to improve punctuality, including 'late gates', letters and meetings with parents. This programme will be led by Mrs Russell, who is a member of our Senior Leadership Team, with the responsibility for attendance. Mrs Russell will be supported in this role by Mrs Hensley, our School Liaison and Family Support Officer.

Our aim is to support parents by raising awareness of the impact of good attendance and punctuality on your child's learning. Some parents will have already received letters concerning lateness and attendance and further letters and meetings will be planned for the New Year. Please help us to help your child by ensuring they arrive at school on time and ready for learning.



Forthcoming Dates:



Week beginning 2nd December 2024 – Menu week 1.

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 – Reception trip to Amerton Farm

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

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

10th and 11th December – New Reception 'drop-in' sessions 4.00pm / 4.45pm (***Please make an appointment for one of the sessions via the school office.***)

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

11th December – Year 6 Christmas Service – 2.15pm KS1 Hall

12th December – Nursery trip to Amerton Farm

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

12th December – Year 6 Christmas Service – 10.00am KS1 Hall

12th December – Year 5 Christmas Service – 2.15pm KS1 Hall

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

Five Ways Primary School

Langholm Drive

Heath Hayes, Cannock, WS12 2EZ

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Tel No: 01543 278071

Email: office@fiveways.staffs.sch.uk

Christmas Productions



We are very excited about our year group Christmas performances that start next week. Please see the dates and times detailed below. 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	Thursday 12th December 2.15pm Friday 13th December 10.00am	KS1 School Hall
Year 6	Wednesday 11th December 2.15pm Thursday 12th December 10.00am	KS1 School Hall

Bad Weather Procedures



As we are now experiencing colder weather, this is a reminder of the procedures for any school closure which might be necessary. In the unusual event that school is unable to open for children, 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](#)

Inconsiderate Parking and Dangerous Driving As the autumn term progresses, we continue to have issues with parking outside the school gates and in the nearby roads at 'drop off' and 'pick up' times. Despite regular reminders in the newsletter, a small minority of parents are continuing to park inconsiderately on corners, curbs, across the driveways of local residents (including those with access protection markings, also known as a 'H bar'), and on the double yellow lines and restricted areas outside the school gates. I would like to remind parents that the registration numbers of any cars parked inconsiderately or illegally, will be reported to the police. Please support us in maintaining good relationships with local residents and help us by keeping our pupils safe when they are walking to and from school by parking considerately.



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International Day

We had a fantastic time last Friday when we took part in 'International Day'. Here are the photographs of everyone having a lovely time. Well done everyone!



Pupils in Nursery boarded our Five Ways Airlines flight 306 to Paris. The children had their boarding passes ready, sat beautifully, and listened to the inflight safety measures delivered by the cabin crew. After arriving safely, the children were taken to a Paris cafe where they enjoyed a traditional French breakfast.

Reception pupils learned all about Italy. Each class made some pizzas, and designed and made Venetian masks. You can see them photographed here on the right.



Year 1 pupils completed lots of wonderful activities to celebrate International Day. They enjoyed learning lots of facts about India and made an Indian flag. All of the Year 1 pupils learned about the elephant festive 'Jaipur' and enjoyed watching videos of the festival and designing their own elephant for this special occasion.

Year 2 pupils, some of whom can be seen here on the right, studied Japan as their country for International Day. The pupils made hachimaki headbands and folded origami spinners. They also made collage flags and carp kites. Pupils did a chopsticks challenge, played 'Pin the nose on the lady' and held a 'rock, paper, scissors' championships. They also made some Sudoku challenges and shared some Japanese stories. They had great fun!



Year 3 pupils focussed on France for International Day. The pupils learned about the physical features of France and also about some of the famous landmarks such as the Eiffel Tower and the Louvre. Pupils tasted a selection of French foods including croissants and brie which they really enjoyed. They also made their own tricolore flag and painted in the style of Monet.

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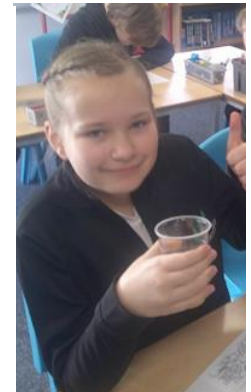
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Year 4 pupils enjoyed learning about Greece, which links to their current geography topic. Pupils took part in lots of different activities including Greek food tasting, mosaic making, and an activity based on the Greek Olympics. Lots of pupils across the year group tried new foods and found something new that they would like to start eating at home however, olives proved not to be very popular!



Year 5 pupils studied Mexico as a link to their next history topic, 'The Mayas'. Pupils had a wonderful day learning about brightly coloured Mexican folk art sculptures of mythical creatures, translating and singing some Spanish songs and sampling different chocolate with varying percentages of cocoa.

Year 6 celebrated Brazil as part of International Day. Pupils tasted juice made from fruits grown in the rainforest, learned Portuguese, researched interesting facts to advertise Brazil and created some rainforest inspired artwork. Here on the right, are some photos of Year 6 pupils enjoying their juice tasting session, where children were encouraged to predict the flavour based on sight, smell, texture and taste.



PTFA News!

Christmas Jumpers – We still have many Christmas jumpers available to purchase, especially ahead of the Year 1 Christmas jumper day! These are available to buy on the PTFA dashboard www.pta-events.co.uk/fiveways for children and adults to wear over the festive period.

Christmas Family Quiz Night – Taking place on Friday 13th December at 6.30pm - 8.30pm. Doors open at 6.00pm in the KS1 Hall. Up to 6 players in a team. Tickets priced at £3.50 each and can be purchased via the dashboard www.pta-events.co.uk/Fiveways.

KS1 and KS2 Christmas UV Neon Disco – Taking place on Thursday 19th December. Tickets are now on sale via the PTFA dashboard until midnight on 17th December!

Year 1: 4.15pm – 5.00pm
 Year 2: 5.15pm – 6.00pm
 Year 3 and Year 4: 6.15pm – 7.15pm
 Year 5 and Year 6: 7.30pm – 8.30pm

Please note, disco tickets must be purchased in advance and are not available from the office or on the night of the discos.



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