



8 September 2017

Weds 13th September
Year 5 trip Cadbury World

Mon 18th September
Year 6 Pupil Workshops - Resilience and Growth Mindsets

Weds 20th September
Bell-Boating 6G

Weds 27th September
Bell-Boating 6H

Thurs 28th September
Reception Parent Information Evening 7pm

Mon 2nd October
Year 6 Pupil Workshops - Resilience and Growth Mindsets

Tue 3rd October
Year 5 Peer Mediation

Thurs 5th October
Harvest Service at church - tbc

Friday 6th October
Reception, Year 1 and Year 5 Road Safety

Tues 10th October
Meet the Caveman Experience Year 3

9th Oct-10th Nov
Taking Care Project

18th & 19th October
Parents Evening 4-7pm

Friday 20th October School closed,
Teacher Training Day

23rd – 27th October
Half Term Holiday

Thurs 2nd November
One Day Creative E-Safety performance

Tues 7th November
Open Evening 6-7.30pm

Weds 8th November
Year 6 Health Questionnaires

13th Nov-17th Nov
Anti-Bullying Week – All different- all equal

Mon 20th November
Flu Jabs Reception to Year 4

After-School Clubs

These are due to start the week beginning the 18th September. Please see the separate letter which has been sent home today.

Welcome back

A very warm welcome back to everyone and I hope you have all had a very enjoyable summer. It has been a pleasure to welcome our new Reception children this week and I am pleased to say that they have settled beautifully. We have also had 6 new children who have started with us this week and we are very happy that they have joined us. These newsletters are published every two weeks and highlight upcoming events, celebrate success and relay important messages. Copies of these can be found on our website. Information is also shared through our Facebook and Twitter accounts.

Dataforms

You should have received new dataforms and permission slips this week. It is important that these are returned to the office as soon as possible. If during the year you change your phone numbers or email address or your family situation changes please let us know.

Routines and Information

Each term, your child's teacher will be sending home information about what the class will be learning about through their topic work. This information will also include routines such as when PE will take place. The first of these class newsletters will be sent out to parents next week. Please can PE kits be in school every day, this allows the teachers a degree of flexibility.

Outdoor sports kit for PPA is needed for:

Reception
Tuesday afternoon

Year 1 & 2
Wednesday afternoon

Year 3 & 4

Thursday afternoon

Year 5 & 6

Friday afternoons.

Holiday Requests

As many of you are aware, the rules for requesting holidays changed significantly in September 2013. All holiday requests will now be unauthorised unless the circumstances are deemed exceptional by the Head of School. Should you wish to request leave of absence for you child(ren) please request a form from the office, giving as much information for the reasons as possible. More information regarding this is on Page 2 of this newsletter and can also be found on our website.

Smoking

Smoking on school premises is prohibited and this also includes the use of E Cigarettes. As part of our Personal Social Health Education curriculum, we talk to the children about keeping healthy and making healthy lifestyle choices and it is vital that we model this within school grounds.

Harvest Festival Service

Please note that we have changed the date of our Harvest Festival Service at St Nicholas Church. This has changed from 19th October to 5th October at the request of Reverend Guthrie.

Years 3 and 4 are eager to start rehearsals for this and we will let you know the final arrangements for this nearer the time.

Packed lunches

If children are bringing packed lunches in to school please can you remind them that they will need to

take their own rubbish home in their lunch boxes. This will ensure that you are aware of what your child(ren) are eating during the day. You will then be able to discuss with them if they need any more/less or a change of food. Please also be aware we have several children who have specific food allergies, particularly **NUTS**. We therefore ask all parents who prepare packed lunches for their children not to include any nut products, EG peanut butter sandwiches or nutty snack bars. Thank you.

Break time snacks

There has been a slight increase to the price of break time snacks.

Toast is now 20p and drinks, teacakes, crumpets are 25p

Drinks in school Just a reminder that:

Bringing shop bought bottles of flavoured still water is still acceptable in school as long as they have less than 0.5g of sugar per 250ml or children can bring very weak squash—no added sugar.

Court Leet Family Fun Day

This is being held this Saturday 9th September at the Alcester Scout and Guide Hut, Moorfields Road, Alcester between 1-5pm. There will be competitions, including a Children's Bake off, various stalls including food and drink. Everyone welcome.

Next Newsletter
22nd September

Mrs Karen O'Shea
Head of School

LEAVE OF ABSENCE DURING TERM TIME

UPDATED INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

The Supreme Court recently reached a decision in the case of Platt v Isle of Wight Council which has clarified the law on unauthorised leave, including holidays, during term time. The parents of children of compulsory school age are required to ensure that they attend school on a regular basis. The Supreme Court has made clear that attending school 'regularly' means that the children must attend school on every day that they are required to do so. As such, the parents of any child who is absent from school without authorisation for any length of time are likely to be considered as committing an offence under s444 of the Education Act 1996.

Head Teachers retain the ability to authorise leave in accordance with the Education (Pupil Registration) (England) Regulations 2006. When considering such requests for a leave of absence, the school are obliged to act within the law. Head Teachers may not grant any leave of absence during term time unless there are exceptional circumstances relating to the application. If the leave is granted, head teachers are able to determine the number of school days a child can be absent for.

It is for the Head Teacher to decide what is 'exceptional' and it is at their discretion if the circumstances warrant the leave to be granted. The school can only consider Leave of Absence requests which are made by the 'resident' parent.

Each application for a leave of absence will be considered on a case by case basis and on its own merits.

Where applications for leave of absence are made in advance and refused, the child will be required to be in school on the dates set out in the application. If the child is absent during that period, it will be recorded as an unauthorised absence, which may result in legal action being taken against the parent(s), by way of a Fixed Penalty Notice.

Failure to make an application for leave in advance can also result in a Fixed Penalty Notice being issued to the parent(s).

All matters of unauthorised absence relating to a Leave of Absence will be referred to the Attendance, Compliance and Enforcement Service of Warwickshire County Council

It is important to note, Fixed Penalty Notices are issued to each parent of each absent child, (for example 2 children and 2 parents, means each parent will receive 2 invoices in the amount of £120 each, totalling £240 for both children, this is reduced to £60 per child if paid within 21 days).

Where a Fixed Penalty Notice is not paid within the required timeframe as set out on the notice, the matter will be referred to Warwickshire County Council's Legal Services to consider instigating criminal proceedings under S444 Education Act 1996.

Fixed Penalty Notices are issued in accordance with Warwickshire County Council's Code of Conduct for Penalty Notices.

Your child's progress academically as well as socially is our shared priority

MEDICATION



As we approach autumn/winter, the number of sickness bugs and illnesses increases. As a result, we are having more children requiring medication during the school day. The school is very happy to administer recently prescribed medication to children, please complete a consent from available from the office. Unfortunately we are not able to administer 'over the counter' medication.

Is my child too ill for school?

When your child is unwell, it can be hard deciding whether to keep them off school. These simple guidelines found on the NHS website should help.

<http://www.nhs.uk/Livewell/Yourchildatschool/Pages/Illness.aspx>

Warwickshire County Council

Mental Health and Well Being in you and your family

This is a hour long course on Thursday 28th September 2pm - 3pm at Dunnington Primary school For parents and Carers Provided by Warwickshire Educational Psychology Service

Aims of the course

- To consider mental well being and mental health needs
- To consider 4 commonly experienced mental health needs
- To explore ways to assist young people experiencing mental health needs
- To explore ways to promote mental well being in yourself and your family.

89% of attendees would recommend this course (Based upon 29 evaluations completed 23)

Participant comments include:

- "Gained knowledge to help my family and friends." "Lots of information - very interesting subject"
- "Very clear and relevant, I will share these ideas with my children and grandchildren"
- "I will be using it to help my children face the stressful phases of life"
- "There are things I can put in place now to help my children cope with challenges"
- "Good to talk about a subject that is met usually with negativity"
- "It really helped me learn some things - I will put it into practice and talk more about this with my family."

Please see school staff for more details