**Headteacher Update**

**Friday 20th October 2023**

Dear Parents and Carers,

It’s been another busy week and we can hardly believe we are almost at the end of the first half term!

**School Photographs**

Once again, we would like to sincerely apologise for the last-minute cancellation of school photos on Monday. We understand this was very frustrating for those of you who had arrived early for sibling photos. This was not the fault of school, but rather a technical issue as the identity cards which are used by the photographer for proofs.

We can confirm that the identity card issue has been resolved and photos will be taken on Tuesday morning (24th October). *Please send the children into school wearing their school uniform, not PE kits*. If it is your child’s PE day, or they attend a sports club, please send them with their kits to change into as PE lessons and clubs will go ahead as normal.

If you would like to have family photographs taken with either younger or older siblings, please come along from 8am to the main entrance – photos will be taken in the school hall. *We know that some of you managed to have sibling photos taken on Monday, however these will not be valid and you will need to come along again – we are very sorry!!*

Please ensure all sibling photos have been taken before the start of the school day at 8.45am.

**Bike Buses**

We are excited to share details of a great local project to help get more children active on their way to and from school. Vale Royal School Sport Partnership, the organisation created by schools across Northwich & Winsford to help provide more opportunities for children to get active, has designed a great Bike Bus project that will see lots of children ride bikes and scooters to school in a safe and fun way.

The project also includes a pledge to explore other ways that active travel can help schools, including the purchase of a Bicco Bus – a pedal powered mini-bus - the first of it’s kind in a UK school network! The Sustrans-backed project would be great for local schools as it will help reduce the number of cars on the road during school runs, positively impact the environment and children will enjoy the many well-being benefits of being active on their journeys to and from school!

We would encourage our school community to take a closer look at the project by searching for ‘Vale Royal School Sport Partnership’ on Facebook, X or Instagram or by visiting <http://www.spacehive.com/bike-buses-for-ac6ve-schools> - should the project get 20 backers by 7th November it would be up for a significant grant from the Cheshire West & Chester Community Investment Fund so please get involved and contribute if you can

**Reading Book Amnesty!**

We are still looking for lost reading books… please, please, please have a look at home and return them if you find them!

**Fireworks**

We are really looking forward to our annual fireworks fiesta, which is taking place on Monday 6th November. Don’t forget to buy your tickets before we break up for half term as the event takes place on the day we return to school!

**Attendance**

Results for our attendance competition were close again this week. We celebrated year 4 for the second week running, who achieved 97% – well done! The star of the day spun the wheel of fortune and won an extra playtime. Due to the bad weather today they will enjoy their treat one day next week!

*Attendance for the week:*

Reception: 89%

Year 1: 94%

Year 2: 90%

Year 3: 97%

Year 4: 98%

Year 5: 92%

Year 6: 97%

*Whole school attendance for the year so far is 95%*

**Dates for your Diaries**

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Event** | **Date** | **Time** | **Classes involved** |
| Photographs - individual | Tuesday 24th October 2023 | 8am – all morning | All year groups and pre-school siblings |
| Year 2 Class Assembly | Wednesday 25th October 2023 | 9.15am | Year 2 parents |
| Break up for half term | Friday 27th October 2023 | 3.15pm | All year groups |
| Fireworks Fiesta | Monday 6th November 2023 | 5pm | School families/ local community |
| Open Afternoon for parents | Tuesday 7th November 2023 | 3.15pm | All year groups |
| Year 5 Class Assembly | Friday 17th November 2023 | 9.15am | Year 5 parents |
| Christmas Jumper Swap and coffee afternoon | Thursday 23rd November 2023 | 2.25pm | All year groups |
| Infant Play Dress Rehearsal | Monday 11th December 2023 | 1.30pm | Reception, year 1, year 2 parents/ grandparents |
| Infant Christmas Play | Tuesday 12th December 2023 | 6pm | 2 tickets per child will be issued – Reception, year 1, year 2 parents/ guardians |

Have a lovely weekend everyone.

Kind regards,

Mrs C Harrison and Mrs L Guy