

**Headteacher Update**

**Friday 7th June 2024**

Dear Parents and Carers,

A warm welcome back to the final half term of the school year. We hope you all enjoyed the break. We have a busy time ahead of us and we are hoping that the weather improves and we can go ahead with sports day next week (Wednesday 12th June).

**Voluntary Contributions to School Visits**

Recently there has been some confusion regarding parents’ contributions to the cost of school visits. We work very hard to keep the costs of trips as low as possible and we try to use the local area for curriculum enrichment activities as much as possible. However, there are occasions when we need to go further afield to support children’s learning, which adds a significant transport cost to our trips.

We have reviewed the curriculum and we limit the number of school trips each year. Where possible school subsidizes the cost of visits to reduce the amount we request parents to pay. We also reduce costs for parents whose children are in receipt of the Pupil Premium Grant.

When visits are linked to the children’s curriculum, for example a trip to the beach or a museum, we ask parents to make a ‘voluntary contribution’ to support the overall cost of trips. This payment is as it says, voluntary, and parents may choose not to pay. However, if a significant number of parents and carers do not make a contribution then visits cannot go ahead as school does not have the finances to cover a large shortfall. For this reason, we ask all parents to pay if they can.

Residential visits are not linked to specific areas of the curriculum, so the expectation for payment is different. But we book these well in advance and try to give parents plenty of notice so costs can be paid over time. For example, our Year 6 London Trip is booked a year ahead and parents have at least 10 months over which they can pay.

We are fully aware of the cost of living crisis and we do not want any parent to feel disadvantaged. If you have a concern regarding the cost of a school trip, then please do not hesitate to get in touch with the school office so we can discuss how we might support you.

**Packed Lunches and Snacks**

Please ensure that there is a healthy balance in lunch boxes. Most children like a treat after their lunch and small chocolate / biscuit treats are welcome. However, we do not allow children to bring sweets to school so please do not include packets of sweets in lunches.

Children in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 are provided with a free fruit snack each day. However, parents may send a healthy alternative if they wish to do so. No crisps or sweets please, but breakfast bars, crackers etc are welcome.

**Sports Day**

Please ensure all children come to school wearing their PE kit on Wednesday 12th June, for our sports day event. We look forward to seeing you all there for a 1.30pm start.

**Attendance**

We have had good start back in terms of attendance this week, with all classes 94% and above – yay! Hopefully we have said goodbye to the viruses that were doing the rounds before half term, and we can all have a healthy end to the school year.

Congratulations to Year 6 who have won the class attendance award this week with 96%. They spun the wheel of fortune in assembly today and won an ice-lolly.

Attendance this week:

Reception – 94%

Year 1 – 95%

Year 2 – 94%

Year 3 – 95%

Year 4 – 94%

Year 5 – 95%

Year 6 - 96%

***Currently attendance for the whole school is 93.4%***

**Dates for your diaries:**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Event** | **Date** | **Time** | **Classes involved** |
| Sports Day | Wednesday 12th June | 1.30pm | All classes |
| Cake Sale – raising funds for the library | Wednesday 19th June | 3.15pm | Donations from Reception, Y1, Y2 |
| Cake Sale – raising funds for the library | Wednesday 26th June  | 3.15pm | Donations from Y3. Y4, Y5, Y6 |
| High School Transition | Wednesday 3rd July | All day | Year 6 |
| High School Transition | Thursday 4th July | All day | Year 6 |

Have a lovely weekend everyone.

Kind regards,

Mrs Harrison and Mrs Guy