Headteacher Update

Friday 10th January 2025

Dear Parents and Carers,

Happy New Year and a warm welcome back to you all.

The weather has certainly been a challenge for us all this week and it has made for an exciting start to the year. We are in the midst of winter so it is likely that we haven’t seen the last of the snowy weather, but please be assured that we will always strive to stay open. As many of you will be aware, some local schools were closed at the beginning of the week, mainly due to staff being unable to travel to work from distances. Should we be required to close for any reason, parents will be contacted via email, text message and a notification will be placed on our Facebook page. Please always assume we are open… ‘no news is good news’!

**Be prepared…**

Should the icy and snowy conditions remain, please feel free to send children to school with wellies and a change of socks. On snowy days children are still encouraged to play outside and get some fresh air as long as it is safe for them to do so, therefore it is sensible to send them with appropriate footwear to change into. Please also ensure children wear warm coats.

Having kept the children inside for most of the week, today we allowed them all onto the field at lunchtime to enjoy the snow. Those who didn’t want to go out were permitted to stay in, but most were very excited to be outside as you’ll see on Facebook later when we share some of our lovely photos.

**A fantastic opportunity for parents of children with Autism**

Cheshire Autism Practical Support (ChAPS) are holding a coffee morning for parents of diagnosed, or undiagnosed, children on 15th January at 9:15-10:15 in the school hall.

This is an opportunity to gain ideas for helpful techniques to try at home, talk to like-minded parents and those who live a similar experience, or to find out about what the service has to offer to support your family. Mrs O'Neill our SENCo will also attend, should you wish to discuss any concerns around behaviours that could be associated with Autism.

**Think Pharmacy First!**

Did you know that the NHS Pharmacy First Service enables children and adults to get convenient access to healthcare advice and treatment where appropriate, for seven common conditions without the potential delay of having to wait for a GP appointment? Accessing the service may help children feel better and get back to school as quickly as possible, as well as supporting parents/carers to also get better if they are unwell with one of the conditions covered under the service.

There is no need to make an appointment; parents or carers can pop into their local pharmacy with their child and ask for help under the service.

Support for the following conditions can be accessed under the service, free of charge (unless NHS prescription charges apply):

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| **Common condition** | **Patient eligibility** |
| Earache | 1 to 17 years |
| Impetigo | 1 year and over |
| Infected insect bites and stings | 1 year and over |
| Sore throats | 5 years and over |
| Sinusitis | 12 years and over |
| Uncomplicated urinary tract | Women 16 to 64 years |
| Shingles | 18 years and over |

**Mobile phones and smart watches**

Please be reminded that children are not permitted to bring mobile phones to school, or to wear smart watches that have recording, videoing or messaging functions on them. If there are exceptional circumstances or occasions that require your child to bring a mobile phone, then please ensure you have contacted the class teacher to make arrangements for the device to be kept in the school office.

**Attendance**

Attendance remains at 95% so it’s a positive start to the year. Please do take note of the Pharmacy First scheme mentioned above, which a number of our parents have accessed successfully to help treat common illnesses, rather than waiting for GP appointments which can be frustrating. Hopefully this cold snap will help to kill off some of the nasty bugs that have been around recently.

Have a lovely weekend everyone – stay safe and warm!

Kind regards,

Mrs C Harrison and Mrs L Guy

Dates for your diary:

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Date | Event | Time | Classes involved |
| Monday 13th January | Clubs start this week | 3.30pm – 4.15pm |  |
| Tuesday 14th January | Parent meeting for London visit | 3.30pm – 4pm | Year 6 parents only |
| Friday 17th January | Year 4 Tatton Park visit | All day | Year 4 only |
| Monday 20th January | NSPCC Workshop | am | Years 5 and 6 |
| Thursday 6th February | Year 6 London visit | 6.30am | Year 6 |