



January Newsletter

1st January 2019

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Dates for your diary:

Tuesday 15th January
Young Voices Choir to
Sheffield Arena

16th and 17th January
KNEX Workshops in school
all year groups.

Wednesday 16th January
2.30pm PFA meeting in
the staff room. All
welcome.

Monday 21st January Year
5 Dodgeball Festival

Assembly by NSPCC
Wednesday 23rd January

Thursday 24th January
Basketball Tournament
Outwood Academy

Monday 28th January Big
Bird Watch with dinner.

Wednesday 30th January
Workshops by NSPCC

Thursday 31st Google
Assembly with Mr Baker

HAPPY NEW YEAR

Welcome back everyone. I hope you had some happy family time and are returning to school refreshed and ready to learn. We've enjoyed a fun assembly today making slime – all the ingredients being the must haves for a brilliant school (and learning about metaphors). In addition to the engaging curriculum topics, this month we've also got the Public Speaking Competition, 500 Words Live Lesson Launch, workshops from KNEX, assembly & workshops by the NSPCC, and we'll be joining in with Safer Internet Day 2019.

Some children may have received internet enabled devices during the holiday. Now seems a good time to share a couple of websites that may help you check that things such as privacy settings and location data are set at a suitable level, and check the appropriate ages suggested for certain apps. www.common sense media.org or www.nspc.org.uk/shareaware.

Attendance

Thank you for valuing each day of school and ensuring your children miss as little as possible. There is a link between high attendance and high achievement – every session counts. We'll send out letters and certificates in the next few days to inform you of your child's attendance.

In the case of **adverse weather**, we will contact you by text as a priority so please ensure your details are up to date.

School Lunch Fees For those parents wishing to pay half termly the amount this half term (07.01.19 – 15.02.19) is £63 (payment made via ParentPay or at a Pay Point). School Lunches are £2.10 per day or £10.50 per week.

We shared our school values with you when they were promoted in September. Just before the holidays a survey was conducted to ask children if they could remember the values and if they were being used in and out of the classroom. ALL the children asked said that they were and some explained the posters in class helped them to remember.

Everyone is expected to:

Be Respectful
Be Honest
Be Kind
Be Responsible
Be Determined

Being respectful is about politeness, helpfulness, empathy and understanding of other people and their belongings.

Being honest is about integrity and developing trust.

Being kind is about care, tolerance and compassion for others.

Being responsible is about being accountable for our own choices and thinking before we say or do something to consider how it may affect someone or something else. Children's actions don't endanger or harm themselves or others in any way. This includes bullying.

Being determined is about effort, developing resilience, developing a growth mindset and having self-belief to keep trying until we achieve.

Assemblies this week will give children time to reflect on the opportunity of a new year – a fresh start – knowing that admitting mistakes is an important aspect of learning and developing.

INSET DAYS to July 2020 – school is closed to children on the following dates:

- Monday 25th February 2019
- Monday 3rd June 2019
- **Tuesday** 3rd September 2019
- **Wednesday** 4th September 2019
- Monday 1st June 2020
- Monday 20th and Tuesday 21st July 2020

PUBLIC SPEAKING COMPETITION 2019

This is an annual speaking and listening event that gives children the opportunity to apply their skills. This event gives children a chance to develop their talents in research and presenting to an audience. Last spring the overwhelming majority of children enjoyed the opportunity to research and perform or present their information to other people. As a result, I would like to encourage all our children to get involved once again with the annual public speaking competition—the final of which will be a wonderful event after the next holiday on FRIDAY 22nd MARCH.

An assembly explaining the competition will take place very soon. Children will be asked to prepare a talk, (maximum length 8mins—no minimum) to present to their class during the week following half term break. Two finalists are then selected to present in front of Judges from the Rotary Club. To ensure the final runs to time, children will be asked to stop after 8 minutes so please consider the time element carefully.

The children can work individually - in pairs or in groups (no more than four I would suggest) to carry out research and prepare a talk on a topic of their choice. The talk may include props, use of IT, or demonstrations to enhance the talk — but these are not essential at all.

Some children will naturally relish this challenge. If your child feels he/she does not want to present in front of others, I would ask that a piece of research on a topic of his/her choice be prepared and presented on paper—using a computer if your child prefers. That way if your child changes his/her mind during the talks, they will still have the opportunity. Children grow in confidence as the project develops. Please remember you are welcome to come and supervise your child using school computers after school on Mondays and Tuesdays until 5pm.

At the launch of the event, children may be offered some time in school to discuss options but the research side is intended to take place after the school day. They will be asked to work in their own time, at home, to develop the talk however they think. It is a good idea for them to consider this when deciding who to work with. Some teachers may consider this part of the class homework. Topics we have seen presented before have included animals, wacky facts, famous people, holidays, cars, sports, musical instruments, pets, hobbies, Horrible Histories...the choices are endless. Winners for several years running have included solo speakers so don't be concerned if your child chooses to work alone!

As a slight alternative this year...If your child would prefer to write and perform a poem on a topic of their choice we welcome their efforts and will evaluate whether another category will be created for the final.

Each class will choose their favourite presentations (based on content, voice projection, pace, audience interaction / engagement and use of any props or pictures) that will go forward to our whole school final. The President of the Rotary Club and other judges will be on a panel to select four overall favourites. I'm sure they will be impressed and I would ask you to support your child in any way you can. If a child would like formal feedback, he / she must inform their class teacher before they present their work. Our priority is to celebrate effort and success - determination. Thank you for supporting your child with this opportunity.

Information for parents /carers regarding moving / transferring schools.

The Department for Education has guidance regarding procedures schools must follow when children move schools. School must inform the Local Authority of any child that we believe has left and not provided forwarding information. If we are unable to establish a child's new school, we would have to refer them as a missing child to the Children Missing from Education Officer. At a point when parents / carers have decided to change school other than Y6 transfer to secondary, please ask the school office for a pupil exit form. Thank you.

Dear Parent/Carer,

The NSPCC's Speak out. Stay safe. programme is visiting our school to make sure our pupils have the knowledge and understanding they need to stay safe from abuse.

I'm pleased to tell you that we will be working with the NSPCC, the UK's leading children's charity, who'll be delivering their Speak out. Stay safe. programme on **January 23rd and 30th January 2019**. This is a nationwide programme for every primary-school-aged child in the UK and Channel Islands. With the help of their friendly mascot Buddy, they'll be presenting an assembly to the children in our school as well as a workshop for Years 5 and 6. I'm informing you now so you have plenty of time to look through the online material should you choose to.

"NSPCC has helped me to build the confidence to tell people about my worries and problems." Child's feedback

What is the Speak out. Stay safe. programme?

Through child-friendly, interactive assemblies and workshops their specially trained staff and volunteers will give our children information about how to keep themselves safe from harm and how to get help if they have any worries, sensitively discussing issues like bullying and all kinds of abuse, without using scary words or adult language.

We have studied the content of the materials and heard from other schools who have participated and are extremely confident that they are appropriate for primary-school-aged children. By the end of their visit, we're convinced children will feel empowered – knowing how they can speak out and stay safe.

"This service provides important information in a child-friendly way – it should be made mandatory in all schools. A brilliant service!" Teacher, Wistaston Primary, Crewe

If you would like any more information about the NSPCC Speak out. Stay safe. programme, including frequently asked questions, you can find it on the NSPCC website nspcc.org.uk/schools or please come into speak to me and I can provide more information.

Talking about the Underwear Rule with your children

The NSPCC's work in schools will help encourage conversations about staying safe – and they have a number of child-friendly materials to help you carry on the conversation afterwards. That includes 'The Underwear Rule', a simple way for parents to help keep children safe from abuse – without using scary words. The guide uses the rules of PANTS to teach children that their body belongs to them and them alone. You can find out more and download the free resources at nspcc.org.uk/pants

If you'd like to know more about the NSPCC's work, or take a look at the wide range of information and advice which is available for parents and carers, please visit their website nspcc.org.uk/preventing-abuse/keeping-children-safe/

Yours sincerely,

Miss C. Holmes