



Dear Parents/Guardians

25 February 2020
No 24

Local Election – Thursday 7 May 2020 – School OPEN **Schools are NOT a Polling Station**

We are delighted to inform you that we have managed to make alternative arrangements with the elections office, so that the schools will not be closed for the upcoming elections on May 7th 2020. The schools will remain open and our training room located centrally between the two schools will be the venue used for polling purposes. We have met with representatives from the elections office who visited the school and confirmed that the training room was a suitable venue. We demonstrated that we could effectively safeguard the children, so that school can remain open as usual. **Therefore, May 7th 2020 will be a normal school day!**

Further details regarding arrangements on the day will be given closer to the time, but we wanted to inform you about remaining open a.s.a.p!

If you have any questions in relation to this, please do not hesitate to contact us.

General Information

School Attendance

As a school, we monitor children's attendance throughout the year and particularly those children whose attendance falls below 95%. This equates to 9 days of absence, which is approximately two weeks, which is equivalent to 50 lessons missed.

We appreciate that there are instances, due to illness or important medical appointments, where a child will be absent from school. However, we would ask that if you are making a non-urgent medical appointment, e.g. a dental check up for your child, you do so out of school hours or during the school holidays, where possible.

We also ask that parents/guardians advise the school office on the first day of their child's absence, preferably before 10.30 am and follow up each absence by sending into the school office a copy of a letter and/or medical appointment letter/card.

We will continue to monitor attendance during the remainder of this term and work with parents/guardians to improve attendance where necessary.

We take this opportunity to remind you that any holiday taken in term time will be recorded as unauthorised. Should you require a 'leave in term time for exceptional circumstances form' please collect from the school office.

Attendance for last week

The winners of our weekly Head Teacher's certificate for the best attendance week ending 14 February 2020 was class 4J. Whole School Attendance for week ending 14 February 2020 was 95.93%

School Lateness

We have some children who are regularly coming into school late. Unfortunately, this means they may be missing important information provided by the class teacher during the registration period and in some cases, they may miss the beginning of the first lesson. Children who are late can also disturb the lesson for the remainder of the class. We would like to take this opportunity to remind you that **children should be in their classroom ready for registration by 8.55 am (although children may come into school from 8.45 am). After 8.55 am, your child will be recorded as 'late'. Please encourage your child to be prompt for school.**

Congratulations to our school football team

On Monday 24th February 2020, our boys' football team competed in the Premier League Primary Stars six-a-side tournament at Aston Villa Academy. This was the final round of the competition after we had previously won our qualifying group. The boys were fantastic in a really difficult and exciting tournament and they showed great teamwork, resilience and courage throughout.

We are really proud to say that our boys' team won the tournament, which now gives them the chance to represent Aston Villa in a further nationwide tournament (more details to be sent to those involved).

More details/pictures can be seen on the school's twitter feed.

Team: Alfie, Josh, Toby (c), Toreud, Daniel, Sam G

Forthcoming Events

4J's Class Assembly – Wednesday 4 March 2020 at 2.45 pm

A reminder that parents/guardians of children in 4J are invited to attend their class assembly on 4 March 2020. We look forward to seeing as many of you as possible, although we appreciate that you will not all be able to attend due to family or work commitments.

- 4W's class assembly will take place on Wednesday 11 March 2020 at 2.45 pm
- 4K's class assembly will take place on Wednesday 18 March 2020 at 2.45 pm

World Book Day – Thursday 5 March 2020

On World Book Day, children may bring their favourite book into school and can come dressed as their favourite book character, if they wish. A reminder also that 'whole school homework' is to create/design a book character, which will be made on a potato on World Book Day. If possible, could you send in a potato and any other resources needed with your child on World Book Day.

Travelling Books (Book Fair) will be coming to school for children/parents/guardians to visit in the main hall at the junior school from 3.35 pm to 4.00 pm on **Tuesday 10 March to Friday 13 March 2020**. Leaflets regarding the Travelling Book Fair and the World Book Day £1 vouchers will be handed out to your child later this week.

Swimming Gala – Saturday 14 March 2020

A reminder that Mr Hill has sent out a letter this week to those children who are taking part in the swimming gala.

Year 6 trip to RAF Cosford on Thursday 26 March 2020

A letter was sent out before the half term break regarding the above trip. If you have not received a copy, please contact the school office. Please return your consent slip to the school office. Your voluntary payment may be made via ParentPay.

Yours sincerely

Mr C Glasgow
Executive Head Teacher

Busy Bodies News

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Polite reminder regarding **outstanding February fees**. Please be aware that we still have a number of fees outstanding so please check your ParentPay account to ensure that your fees are up to date before you collect and book any March requirements. An email reminder will be sent out by the end of the day followed by a telephone call should your fees still be outstanding by Wednesday 26th February.

March booking forms are available for collection at the Busy Bodies desk, online and also at the Junior school reception area. Please return your booking forms by **Wednesday 26th February** and fees need to be paid by the latest **Friday 28th February**. Please be aware that if your fees are not paid on time, we will be unable to book your child/ren in for March.

Dental Practitioner Visit

Just a reminder to all our families that one of our parents will be carrying out a dental workshop, for our Busy Bodies children, on Wednesday 26th February. Times as follows – Infants 4-4.20pm and Juniors 4.20-4.40pm. This is an interactive workshop and as stated in previous newsletters, parents are welcome to attend. Please let us know.

Community News

Pot of Gold Club

The above group is available to help children between the ages of 6 and 11 years who have suffered loss through death or family breakdown. This group is free of charge and the new thirteen week course will commence on Monday 9 March from 6.30 pm to 8.00 pm at St John's Church, Walmley during school term time. For more details call the church office on 0121 313 0413 Monday to Friday 9.30 am to 5.00 pm or email office@stjw.org.uk for more information and a registration form.