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WHITEHAVEN
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News Update 9th Feb 2024

Dear parents and carers,

Our final news update for this half term. I hope that you all have a great week off. Today all children will be bringing home a play park design sheet. More information below. Some pupils will be bringing an important attendance letter. Again more information below.

Jericho Park Design: Tonight your child will be bringing home a playground design sheet. The Friends of Jericho Park would love your child to share their ideas for a new park. Please could you share this with your child and send completed playground designs back to school by Tuesday 20th Feb. If you need further copies, I have attached this so you can print it at home. Please also see the attached QR code or [click here](#) so that you can all share your views.

Medicines Policy: We have made some revisions to our medicine policy. ALL medication must be given to the office. Please do not give medicines to the class teachers. Parents will be asked to complete a form if they require us to give their child medication. Please bring the medication to school in ALL of the original packaging. Clearly labeled with the child's name. If it is prescription medication then the medication must have the original dispensing label on the packaging. Please also make sure that we have a copy of the patient leaflet that is enclosed with the medicines. For more detailed information on our policy, please see our website by [clicking here](#).

Access Steps from Balmoral Road to Jericho: We have been informed that Roland Hill will be setting up a compound on the school car park on Saturday 10 Feb 2024 with a view to starting the installation of replacing these access steps on Monday 12 February. Therefore there will be no access via this route until the work is complete, which will be approximately 5 weeks.

World Book Day – 7th March: It's that time of year again and plans are in motion for 2024 to be the most book-tastic yet! Tonight, your child will have come home with a Spring Term Reading Challenge Card, with a range of reading challenges to spark their interest and excitement around 'Reading for Pleasure'. We have encouraged the children to post pictures of them beginning to engage with these challenges over half-term on Seesaw; we will showcase these in our World Book Day assembly. More details will follow at the start of next term with the precise details of the day but we are looking forward to spending the next term and WBD celebrating the joy of reading with our Jericho Book Worms!

After School Club – Moving Home – A quick note to say that after the holiday, our After School Club will be moving downstairs to the Nursery Classroom. This will give us more space. Parents will need to knock on the Nursery door – located next to the main entrance.

Making Payments for Lunches and Breakfast/After School Clubs: As we are at the end of this half term, please can you check if your child has any outstanding payments due for School Dinners, Breakfast or Afterschool Club.

All debtor balances should be paid up to date before we return to school on Monday 19th February

2024.

To check your child's balance please go to the Accounts tab on our parentmail app where all balances will be displayed.

Year 3 - Year 6 children are charged at £2.75 per day and Lunch payments for Nursery children are also charged at £2.75 per day.

If you would like to discuss your child's balance or have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact us and we will get back to you when we return - admin@jericho.cumbria.sch.uk

Also just a reminder about Breakfast & Afterschool Clubs Payments: As per the Breakfast & Afterschool Club Terms & Conditions, all bookings for Breakfast & Afterschool Club should be paid for when making the booking using the 'Pay Now' option. The 'Pay Later' option should only be used by parents who pay by a company voucher scheme.

Attendance- Please be aware children whose attendance is currently between 90-95% will today come home with a letter to support understanding in relation to attendance and statutory expectations for all parents/ carers. As a school we must fulfil our duty to notify parents regarding concerns and when we will be further monitoring attendance in line with local authority expectations. We are aware that there may be a range of reasons for absence such as illnesses, ongoing medical needs or requests made in exceptional circumstances, however are still required to support a continual increase in attendance in school by working effectively with parents.

Any pupils who are persistently absent (attend school below 90% of the time) will shortly receive a letter through the post to attend an attendance panel meeting to support pupils in 'regularly' attending school.

Golden Work - Our superstar learners this week include:

Hallie in nursery-Wonderful number blocks work

Ethan- Y1- Fabulous RE work

Isabel S – 4W – for fantastic persuasive writing in R.E

Harry H – 6W – brilliant Mathematics work.

Ellie D – 6W – Superb note making in Science.

Owen A – 4W – Fantastic Work in

Joey L and Paisely H – 1H – for superb retelling of a story in RE.

Anna S, Max H, and Ellis c – 4W – for fantastic writing of a rap!

Noah and Ava- Y6- Superb understanding in RE

Leila, Oliver and Poppy for fabulous thought provoking poetry in RE

Paisley R and Izzy G – 1H – for superb poetry writing.

Bella y5- Superb poetry about fossil fuels

Online safety - Skibidi Toilet – You Tube – online trends and videos

The internet can be a strange place at times. Between chaotic bouncing badgers, dancing hamsters, and a lone baby shaking some moves to Blue Swede, generation after generation have shared (and been entertained by) odd viral videos. However, Skibidi Toilet is the most recent offering that seems to have gone viral. We have heard this mentioned many times recently by parents.

The premise of Skibidi Toilet is as follows: A talking, spinning head that pops out of a toilet. None of the

videos have any dialogue, instead relying on loud special effects, wacky animation, and a frenetic mix of comedy and horror imagery to entertain their viewers. Given that the storyline focuses on a war between the toilets and the tech-headed beings, there's a lot of violence shown in the short videos. Some younger kids might also find the floating toilet heads to be a little on the creepy side. Please be mindful of what your children are viewing and please check their devices. It is highly likely that they will be viewing some of this content.

If you are concerned about the content your child is exposed to on YouTube or on other platforms, like social media, there are some things you can do to help ensure the videos they watch are more light-hearted and positive.

Make use of digital wellbeing tools. Platforms like YouTube offer native parental controls, but for more complete protection across multiple devices, you may find it easier to make use of a parental control tool such as Qustodio, which allows families to block apps, set time limits.

- Screen content to make sure you're OK with your child watching it in the first place. If you've heard your child talking about weird online trends like Skibidi Toilet, look up the videos for yourself and watch a few. Not only will this help you decide whether you want to block certain channels or videos, but it will also give you some understanding of what they find entertaining, meaning you can...
- Talk to your child about the content they watch online. Dialogue is extremely important for families, helping parents and guardians explore and get to know kids' interests, while also allowing them to understand potential risks or dangers the content might pose.
- Keep content out in the open. Wherever possible, set up technology sessions in common areas, especially with younger children, as solitary phone, tablet, or computer use can lead kids down a rabbit hole of content that sometimes can get more and more inappropriate the further they click.

By following these tips, and regularly engaging with your children about what they like to do online, you'll be working to stay on top of trends and your child's interests.

Warmest Regards,

Mr Blackwell

Friday 9th Feb - School finishes for half term

26th Feb – 8th Feb – Year 6 Swimming each afternoon.

27th Feb – Shakespeare at school performance Keswick Theatre

7th March – World Book Day in school

21st March – Year 4 Viking Day in school

22nd March Class photos in school

26th March – Nursery Trip to Muncaster Castle

27th and 28th March – Year 5 Tree Planting

28th March – School Closes for Easter Holidays.

13th May – all Week – KEY STAGE TWO SATS

Residentials

Year 3 Blencathra – 20th May – 21st May

Year 4 – Hawse end – 3rd June – 5th June

Year 5 – York – 13th May – 16th May

Year 6 – London – 24th June – 27th June

DESIGN A PLAYGROUND

Playground equipment –

Use the box below to design your very own playground. Tell/show us what equipment you'd like to see.
Don't forget to label your equipment or write in the box alongside.

My favourite part of my playground is -

because



A large, empty rounded rectangular box with a green border, intended for drawing or writing a playground design.

**“THIS MORNING, HE
WAS WORRIED ABOUT
SCHOOL... BUT LOOK
AT HIM NOW!”**

**MOMENTS
MATTER,
ATTENDANCE
COUNTS.**



HM Government

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