



It is the smallest of all the seeds, but when it has grown it is the greatest of shrubs and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and make nests in its branches.

Parable of the Mustard Seed- Matthew 13:31-32

Message from Miss Mills

Dear families,

The days and weeks are flying by and I can't believe we are half way through the Summer Term. It has been an eventful half term which culminated in our Year 6 children taking their KS2 SATS. They all tried their hardest and we are proud of each and everyone of them!

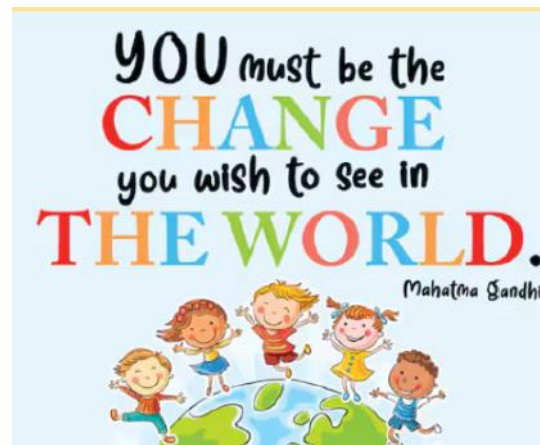
As we look forward to the final half term of this academic year, let's hope that the sun and school continue to shine bright in all of the wonderful opportunities and experiences still to come.

On Monday 3rd June, staff will be trained to use our new websites. There you will be able to find all the dates you need for the jam-packed term which is full of sports days, African Drummers, reports and leaver's services.

All that is left to say is enjoy your half term and we will see you on Tuesday 4th June at 8:45, where we will continue with the Heroes Attendance initiative.

Best wishes

Miss Mills



Dinners for Week Commencing 3rd June 2024

This week is: Week 3

YOUR SCHOOL MENU

WEEK 1



MONDAY

CHOOSE FROM
 ① Plant-based burger in a bap with diced potatoes
 Spaghetti bolognese
 ON THE SIDE
 Vegetables of the day
 TO FINISH
 Yoghurt, fruit and freshly baked mini shortbread biscuit

TUESDAY

CHOOSE FROM
 ① Tomato pasta
 Italian style chicken goujons with diced potatoes
 ON THE SIDE
 Vegetables of the day
 TO FINISH
 Chocolate brownie

WEDNESDAY

CHOOSE FROM
 ① Handmade margherita pizza with crinkle cut wedges
 Chicken and oriental style vegetable rice
 ON THE SIDE
 Vegetables of the day
 TO FINISH
 Fruit and jelly

THURSDAY

CHOOSE FROM
 ① Quorn chicken pieces in a Yorkshire pudding
 Sliced beef and Yorkshire pudding
 ON THE SIDE
 Vegetables of the day, roast potatoes and gravy
 TO FINISH
 Lemon drizzle sponge

FRIDAY

CHOOSE FROM
 ① Sweet potato and lentil curry with a blend of brown and white rice
 Baked fish fingers and chips
 ON THE SIDE
 Vegetables of the day
 TO FINISH
 Ice cream topped with cream

WEEK 2

Our primary school menus comply with the Government's food and nutritional standards, meeting an average of 530 calories for each meal

MONDAY

CHOOSE FROM
 ① Meat-free hotdog with diced potatoes
 Cottage pie
 ON THE SIDE
 Vegetables of the day
 TO FINISH
 Yoghurt, fruit and freshly baked mini shortbread biscuit

TUESDAY

CHOOSE FROM
 ① Roasted vegetable lasagne
 Chicken nuggets with diced potatoes
 ON THE SIDE
 Vegetables of the day
 TO FINISH
 Apple flapjack

WEDNESDAY

CHOOSE FROM
 ① Handmade margherita pizza with crinkle cut wedges
 Ham carbonara with penne pasta
 ON THE SIDE
 Vegetables of the day
 TO FINISH
 Fruit and jelly

THURSDAY

CHOOSE FROM
 ① Vegetable pastry crown
 Roast chicken and Yorkshire pudding
 ON THE SIDE
 Vegetables of the day, roast potatoes and gravy
 TO FINISH
 Victoria sponge

FRIDAY

CHOOSE FROM
 ① Somerset cheddar cheese and potato fritтата
 Baked battered fish and chips
 ON THE SIDE
 Vegetables of the day
 TO FINISH
 Homemade cookies

WEEK 3



MONDAY

CHOOSE FROM
 ① Somerset cheddar cheese and tomato quesadilla with diced potatoes
 Pork sausage roll with diced potatoes
 ON THE SIDE
 Vegetables of the day
 TO FINISH
 Yoghurt, fruit and freshly baked mini shortbread biscuit

TUESDAY

CHOOSE FROM
 ① Macaroni cheese with Somerset cheddar
 Chicken curry with a blend of brown and white rice
 ON THE SIDE
 Vegetables of the day
 TO FINISH
 Jam sponge

WEDNESDAY

CHOOSE FROM
 ① Handmade margherita pizza
 Bubble salmon
 ON THE SIDE
 Vegetables of the day and crinkle cut wedges
 TO FINISH
 Fruit and jelly

FRIDAY

CHOOSE FROM
 ① Vegetable and bean burrito
 Baked fish fingers and chips
 ON THE SIDE
 Vegetables of the day
 TO FINISH
 Freshly baked marble shortbread biscuit

THURSDAY

CHOOSE FROM
 ① Somerset cheddar cheese and tomato puff
 Roast chicken and Yorkshire pudding
 ON THE SIDE
 Vegetables of the day, roast potatoes and gravy
 TO FINISH
 Chocolate orange sponge

Light bite options available. Daily sandwiches, jacket potatoes with fresh daily fillings

For Information



ClassDojo

Dojo Scores for this week:

Air - 16

Earth - 51

Fire - 20

Water - 16

Well done Earth!

On week commencing 10th June, all Year 1 children must be in school as they will take their Phonics Screening Checks.

On Friday 7th June, it is our Trust Celebration Day. Parents are invited to join us for a picnic lunch. To order a lunch, please click the link below.

<https://forms.office.com/e/rLS7TfScKc>

The arrangements for the day are as follows:

Lunch at St Andrew's will be 12-1, Mary Howard 12:30-1:30 (parents can arrive 5 minutes before.) Mrs Gethin and Ralph will spend time at each school. Weather permitting, the picnic will be outdoors - please bring chairs, picnic blankets etc. Unless you have ordered a picnic lunch for you and your child, you will need to provide your own lunch.

Non-uniform for the children, please wear house colours.

We look forward to seeing you there!



Father's Day Lunches

link including information and a booking form for the fathers day lunches has been sent home. If you would like to attend, please click the following links to book your space and pay £3.80 via ParentPay by 21st May. We look forward to seeing you there!

Class 1—<https://forms.office.com/e/qkLQpXhQYA>

Class 2—<https://forms.office.com/e/rHMA07FOEJ>

Class 3— <https://forms.office.com/e/VirsT8kBSF>

Rock Up and Read

Due to event clashes, our next two Rock Up and Read sessions will be out of sync. The dates will be Friday 14th June and Thursday 11th July. We hope you can make it!

Governor Vacancies

We are currently looking for new governors to join our friendly governing body. Our governors come from a range of different backgrounds, skills and experience but all share a common interest of wanting the best possible education for the children in our school. Governors are essential for the effectiveness and success of the school and it is an extremely rewarding and fulfilling role. All school Governors serve a 4 year term. If you are interested in finding out more, please contact the school office.

For Action

We have noted the difficulty in providing nut free snacks for breacktime and lunchtime (even staff have been finding it tricky!)

Therefore, we thought it might be useful to show details of snacks that are unfortunately not appropriate and some that are suitable alternatives. Please note, these are examples of specific products. Please continue to check packaging for each item. **Also, please ensure that breacktime snacks are either fruit, dried fruit or a 'healthy snack'.**

Products that state 'may contain nuts'



Products that are completely nut free



What's Coming Up This Week

Monday 3rd June

- ◆ Inset Day

Tuesday 4th June

Wednesday 5th June

- ◆ Class 1 Father's Day Lunch—12pm

Thursday 6th June

- ◆ PE—please send children in their PE Kits

Friday 7th June

- ◆ JTHS in Class 3—Maths—9am

What's
Happening
This Week

Little Heroes Attendance

Our Little Heroes Initiative has now begun. You will see posters and other resources around the school. In classes, there is a sticker chart and every day a child attends and arrives on time, a sticker will be added to their name on the chart. The Hero stands for—'Here Everyday Ready and On Time'. The initiative will run until July and If children receive 100% throughout, they will receive a certificate and a little gift. For more information please visit—Staffordshire.gov.uk/littleheroes. Thank you for your continued support.



HERE EVERYDAY READY ON TIME

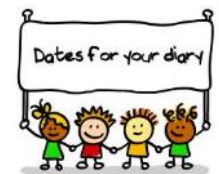


Dates to Note

DATES TO NOTE

June

- ◆ Monday 3rd June—Inset Day
- ◆ Tuesday 4th June—Children return to school
- ◆ Wednesday 5th June—Class 1 Fathers Day Lunch
- ◆ W/C 10th June—Year 1 Phonics Screening Checks
- ◆ Monday 10th June—New EYFS Parents Meeting—5pm
- ◆ Wednesday 12th June—Class 2 Fathers Day Lunch
- ◆ Friday 14th June—Rock up & Read—8.45am
- ◆ Wednesday 19th June—Class 3 Fathers Day Lunch
- ◆ Monday 1st July—JTHS Transition Day
- ◆ Wednesday 3rd July—JTFS Transition Day
- ◆ Thursday 4th July—Sports Day
- ◆ Tuesday 9th July—Leavers Service in Church—9am
- ◆ Wednesday 10th July—Open Evening
- ◆ Thursday 11th July—Rock up & Read
- ◆ Friday 12th July—Transition Morning
- ◆ 15th—17th July—Class 3 Residential
- ◆ Friday 19th July—Break up for Summer



Awards



Well done to James for receiving his badge and certificate for swimming 800 meters in his swimming lessons!

Headteacher's Award



Dojo



Let your Light Shine Award



Picnic Lunch



For Information

At The National College, our WakeUpWednesday guides empower and equip parents, carers and educators with the confidence and practical skills to be able to have informed and age-appropriate conversations with children about online safety, mental health and wellbeing, and climate change. Formerly delivered by National Online Safety, these guides now address wider topics and themes. For further guides, hints and tips, please visit nationalcollege.com.

What Parents & Educators Need to Know about SCHOOL AVOIDANCE

Emotionally Based School Avoidance is a term used to refer to reduced attendance or non-attendance at school by a child or young person. It's often rooted in emotional, mental health or wellbeing issues. The rate of children who miss school more than 10% of the time in England has more than doubled since before the pandemic: rising from 10.9% in 2018-19, to 22.3% in 2022-23.

UNDERSTANDING SCHOOL AVOIDANCE

IMPACT OF SCHOOL AVOIDANCE

REASONS FOR ABSENCE

School avoidance is sometimes underpinned by several factors rather than one single cause. This could include something going on for the child or young person within the family or at school. A child may have caring responsibilities at home, for instance, or a change in family dynamics; bullying and friendship difficulties at school; pressure to achieve in schoolwork and exams; or moving from primary school to secondary school.

LEARNING AND DEVELOPMENT

School refusal can negatively impact a young person's learning and development. Attending school on a regular basis not only supports academic attainment but is also important for the development of key life skills and the growth of children and young people as citizens.

PATTERNS OF ABSENCE

You may notice patterns in regular absences or children regularly expressing that they don't want to attend school (particularly being reluctant to leave home on school days). If a child or young person is neurodiverse, there is some evidence to suggest there are more aspects of school life which can cause distress – such as changes in the environment, changes of routine and sensory stimuli.

LONG-TERM OUTCOMES

The difficulties associated with school non-attendance can be far reaching and may have a negative impact on long-term outcomes. It may, for example, lead to reduced future aspirations, poor emotional regulation, mental health difficulties, limited academic progress and restricted employment opportunities.

COMPLAINTS ABOUT PHYSICAL SYMPTOMS

There may be an increase in a child or young person's complaints about physical symptoms, particularly on school days or the evening before school. These could include complaining of a tummy ache, headache, or saying they feel ill when there doesn't appear to be a medical cause. Always check with the GP first to rule out medical causes or illness.

CYCLE OF ABSENCE

Consistent absences may contribute to sustained school avoidance over time. Further to this, the longer a pupil is out of education, the more likely it is that there is a rise in their ongoing need to avoid the activity which is making them anxious – increasing their desire to stay at home.

Advice for Parents & Educators

WORK TOGETHER

If there's a concern about a child's absence and emotional wellbeing, it's important that there is clear communication and a consistent approach between the child's parents and the school, so you can take a child-centred approach together towards a plan of support or reintegration. This ensures a consistency of approach from both home and school, creating better outcomes for the child.

MANAGING OVERWHELMING FEELINGS

While there may be times you feel frustrated or angry, try to stay calm, acknowledge the child's worries, listen and discuss a range of coping strategies together to help them face the discomfort and overwhelming feelings. These could include mindfulness, deep breathing or going for a walk and practice the strategies in less overwhelming situations first.

FOLLOW REGULAR ROUTINES

Children can benefit from a regular and consistent routine. This could be a morning routine, from waking up and having breakfast through to getting dressed, packing their bag and leaving the house. A consistent evening routine which is calm and limited time on screens can also give children much needed predictability and familiarity. Schools can help create a timetable routine for the child's school day, if required.

REDUCE STIMULATING ACTIVITIES AT HOME

If a child is avoiding school, reduce their access to more stimulating activities (such as watching television, playing games and spending time with friends) during school hours, where possible. This reduces the potential for the child having rewarding experiences at home, which could be interpreted as a positive aspect of avoiding school.

Meet Our Expert

With 30 years' experience as a teacher, trainer, consultant and interim executive board member, Anna Bateman has a superb understanding of what works in pedagogy, school improvement and leadership. She has also advised the Department for Education on their mental health green paper.



Source: See full reference list on guide page at nationalcollege.com/guides/school-avoidance

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Attendance

Think measles!

Vaccination rates have fallen, and cases of measles are increasing.

Measles is highly infectious, the most infectious of all diseases transmitted through the respiratory route. Measles can be severe, particularly in immunosuppressed individuals and young infants. It is also more severe in pregnancy, and increases the risk of miscarriage, stillbirth, or preterm delivery:

The UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA) has said the risk of a measles epidemic across the UK is considered small - but there are now growing concerns over a rise in confirmed cases. For more information follow the link to

National measles guidelines

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/national-measles-guidelines>

How to manage cases of suspected measles: what patient details to take, who to notify and assessing risk of disease spreading in close contacts.

More detailed information about Measles and school trips can be found [advice on measles and school trips](#).

Measles is a notifiable disease in England and Wales. You must inform local health protection Unit (HPU) of suspected cases.

Having the MMR vaccine is the best way to prevent it.

Watch out for MEASLES
Symptoms & Prevention

Symptoms

- High temperature
- Runny or blocked nose
- Cough and sneezing
- Red, watery eyes
- White spots inside the mouth
- Red rashes appearing 3-5 days after symptoms begin
- Potential measles contacts urged to call Healthline

Prevention

- Wash your hands frequently with an alcohol-based rub
- Cover your nose and mouth when coughing or sneezing
- Avoid sharing food, water, utensils and other items contaminated by saliva
- If you are infected, isolate at home for at least 4 days
- Avoid contact with people who are vulnerable to the infection
- Give infants the first dose of MMR (measles, mumps, rubella) vaccine between 12 and 15 months

More information can be found online at <https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/is-my-child-too-ill-for-school/>

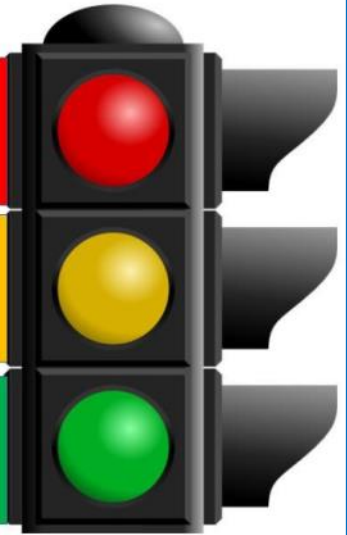
Why is it important?

Attendance	Days absent	Weeks absent	Lessons missed
95%	9 days	2 weeks	50 lessons
90%	19 days	4 weeks	100 lessons
85%	29 days	6 weeks	150 lessons
80%	38 days	8 weeks	200 lessons
75%	48 days	10 weeks	250 lessons
70%	57 days	11.5 weeks	290 lessons

89% or below
Drastic effect on academic achievement

96% - 90%
Cause for Concern

100% - 97%
Excellent!



Across our Federation, we expect good attendance to ensure that all pupils are able to take full advantage of the education available to them. Good attendance matters.

Pupils who have good attendance: **Get better jobs in the future, Achieve better results, Make better friendships, Have good self-esteem and confidence**

We strive for every child to achieve 96% attendance or higher. Please do not be offended if you are told that we are concerned about your child's attendance or if you receive a letter of concern. Attendance falls under the category of safeguarding and it is our duty of care to challenge and support attendance. If we can help in any way please contact Miss Mills or the office. Thank you.

Attendance figures for this week

Class One - 93.08%

Class Two - 96.92%

Class Three - 90.00%

Medical Appointments

Could we kindly remind parents, to try and book medical appointments outside of school times. We do understand that there are occasions when this is not always possible. Thank you!