



Proud to be part of The White Horse Federation Multi-Academy Trust THE WHITE HORSE FEDERATION

Newsletter No 2 15th September 2023

We have had another fantastic week here at Zouch. The children have built great relationships with their Teachers and TAs and have settled well into their new classrooms and routines. It has also been much better for the children and staff now that the weather has cooled down.

All parents have been sent their child's curriculum web for the current term, which gives an overview of what knowledge and skills the children will be learning in Term 1.

Please could I ask that you take the time to talk to your child about their current learning and use the curriculum web as a starting point. Displaying this at home for you and your child/ren to refer to is a great idea.

Everyone at Zouch is a reader

Reading is one of the most important aspects of a child's learning and as a school we will take any opportunity to share great authors. This Wednesday, Miss Hargreaves held an assembly with the children celebrating the brilliant written work of Roald Dahl. By celebrating great authors, we hope to inspire and enthuse the children to develop their love of reading for pleasure and become life-long readers.

We prioritise reading at Zouch because it is the gateway to the rest of the curriculum. We all share book titles that we have read at home with the children and we have an open dialogue about age-appropriate book recommendations.

You will have noticed that all children have their reading record and books in a plastic wallet this year. This is to ensure they are kept in a good condition and are shown the expected level of respect.

Reading at home

It's really important that our children read their school reading books at home to help develop their reading fluency and comprehension skills. If your child doesn't read at home

they are very likely to fall behind their peers and will find it difficult to become lifelong readers. Please record in your child's reading diary when they've read at home to make us aware. We really appreciate your support at home with reading and home learning.

Attendance

As a school, we want our attendance to be as close to 100% as possible. This means we need all children in school and on time every day. Children should only ever be absent if they are too unwell to be in school or if they have an appointment which has been prearranged with the school office. When possible, please try to make all appointments (e.g. dentist) outside of school hours.

This year, the government are raising the expectations of schools to challenge poor attendance. We will be monitoring this closely and will be offering support to those falling below the expectations. It is worth considering that 90% attendance means that a child has missed 1 day every two weeks. This equates to missing roughly 4 weeks in the school year! Good attendance means at least 97% or above.

Safeguarding

This week all teachers have reminded the Children of our SMART rules. These are the rules that we teach the children to ensure they are aware of the dangers online, and can navigate the online world safely. As a school we teach online safety weekly and believe it is vital to equip children with these skills. As a parent it is important that you are aware of the risks and talk to your children about what they are doing when they are online, and when using digital devices. As a school we will send updates regarding latest trends and information on how you can support your children safety.



Nut Free School

Please ensure your child/ren's packed lunch **DO NOT** contain nuts of any type. We have several children here at Zouch with severe nut allergies and if they come into contact with traces of nuts, this could be fatal. Thank you in advance for helping to safeguard all of our children.

Birthdays

Many children enjoy bringing a treat in for their friends on their birthdays. **Due to being a nut free school, and having a number of allergies in our community we can no longer give out cakes – please do not send your children in with these.**



Family Support

Mrs Pelling, our Family Support Worker, would like to make you aware of a range of excellent sessions put on by Spurgeons. You will find the details of these attached to the newsletter.

PE and Forest Schools

Children will need to bring their kit for Forest School and PE in a named bag to change into. Here is the timetable:

Class	PE	Forest School
Puffins		Wednesday
YR (Robins and Wrens)	Monday	Monday
Y1 (Skylarks and Nightingales)	Thursday	Thursday
Y2 (Woodpeckers and Kingfishers)	Thursday	Tuesday
Y3 (Eagles and Merlins)	Friday	Wednesday (Weeks 4-6)
Y4 (Ospreys and Kestrels*)	Thursday (Osprey) Friday	
Y5 (Peregrines and Sparrowhawks)	Monday Wednesday	Wednesday (Weeks 1 – 3)
Y6 (Tawny and Snowy Owls)	Tuesday Wednesday	Friday (Weeks 1-3)

***Swimming – Year 4 Kestrel Class – Monday, beginning on September 18th**

(Please note: Nursery parents will be informed separately when PE and Forest School begin).

Future dates for your diary:

Friday 15th September – Non-school Uniform

Monday 18th September – Kestrel Swimming Starts

Friday 22nd September – Rec to Y6 Nasal Flu Immunisation

Monday 25th September – Puffins and Robins Parents Evening, please book via Pupil Asset

Tuesday 26th September – Reception and Puffins Parents Evening, please book via Pupil Asset

Wednesday 27th September – Wrens Only Parents Evening, please book via Pupil Asset

Thursday 28th September – Macmillan Coffee Morning, 9.00-10.00am

Tuesday 3rd October – Individual Photographs

Thursday 5th October – Census Lunch

Monday 9th October – Teacher Training Day! School Closed to pupils

Tuesday 10th October – Year 3 Trip to Stonehenge

Wednesday 11th October – Reception 2024 Open Morning at 9.30am (please book via the school office)

Wednesday 18th October – Last day of term! Finish at 13.10pm

Tuesday 31st October – Year 7 Applications Deadline via Wiltshire Council

Medication

We have a number of children who have preventative medication in school such as Epi-pens and Inhalers. **If your child requires these, please ensure they have them in school. Please see the office team for the relevant paperwork.** The safety of our children is our main priority and ensuring they have access to the medication they need is of up most importance. It is also the parent's responsibility to ensure all medications are in date.