

# Tune in on Tuesday

Wheelwright Lane Primary School Newsletter

Issue 17:17.01.17

[www.wheelwrightlane.warwickshire.sch.uk](http://www.wheelwrightlane.warwickshire.sch.uk)

## Diary Dates

Diary dates for the Autumn Term are shown below and will be included and updated on every newsletter.

19.01.2017	6.00 KS1 SATs evening for Year 2 parents ( <b>NOTE change of time</b> )
w.c. 30.01.2017	Half price Book Fair in all week
06.02.2017	Internet Safety awareness
13.02.2017	Parents' Evening 3.30-6.00
16.02.2017	Parents' Evening 5.00-8.00
17.02.2017	Children break up for half term
27.02.2017	INSET training for staff
28.02.2017	Children back in school today

INSET Monday 27<sup>th</sup> February

## Sports fixtures

17.01.2017	YR3/4 football finals - Nuneaton Academy
24.01.2017	Y2 to Ash Green school - Infant Agility
24.01.2017	Some Y5 to Ash Green school - Athletics
26.01.2017	Cross country at St Michaels
30.01.2017	Cross country at St Francis

## Attendance

YR 96%	Y3 97%	Winners <b>Y5 - 99%</b> ★
Y1 97%	Y4 98.8%	
Y2 94%	Y6 98.5%	

Attendance for week commencing the 9<sup>th</sup> January overall was 97%. Very Good average attendance achieved.

## Extra-curricular activities

Monday	Library Club	Yr 5	3.15 - 4.15
Tuesday	Football	Y3 & Y4	12.30 - 1.00
	Multi-skills	Yr 1 and 2	3.15 - 4.15
	Cookery Club	Y4	3.15 - 4.45
Wednesday	Football	Y5/6	12.30 - 1.00
	Hi 5 Netball	Y3/4/5/6	3.15 - 4.15
Thursday	STEM Club	Yr5	3.15 - 4.15
Friday	Penalty Shoot-out	KS2	12.30-1.00

## Parents' Association

17.01.17	Meeting at school 6 o'clock

## Calculation Policy

A reminder that our Calculation Policy, listing all the calculation methods that the children will learn for the 4 operations in Maths is available on the website for parents to access. This is a comprehensive guide for parents/carers to understand the methods that we teach in school so that you can also support children at home. Please ask at the office if you would like a paper copy.

# Reading Books

We are in the process of updating our school reading book scheme with many new up to date reading books that are closely aligned to the new expectations of the curriculum. They are all still part of the Oxford Reading Tree range so the children will recognise the characters.

Staff are busy ensuring that the degree of challenge from some of our old books are slotted into the correct stage with the new books. We should have this stage completed by the end of this week.

As a result of this restocking and reorganising, new reading books will not be issued until next week for some children as we transfer the children onto the new range and stage. Please listen to your children read their library books or books from home during this period.

# Communication

Mrs Hull and I receive hundreds of emails every day. We have a system in place that automatically places emails that are not on our regular email correspondence straight into a 'Clutter box.' These emails are not checked daily and with having to check through so many emails it is possible that we may miss correspondence from parents at times. To ensure that this does not happen I am recommending that if you need to contact school then you can send a note in with your child either in their homeschool diary or by letter, or, if possible, ring the school direct and talk to

myself or Mrs Hull. Many of you already do this and this system works very well. Any message received will be dealt with by myself or my staff and we will contact you to discuss any issues or concerns you may have.

# Lost teddy bear



Year 1 children brought in their old toys from home for their Toy Museum in December. A very old teddy bear with a wind up key has gone astray. Please can parents take a look at home just in case it has ended up in the wrong bag. It has great sentimental value.

Many thanks.

# Attendance

## **LEAVE OF ABSENCE DURING TERM TIME 2016-2017 – INFORMATION FOR PARENTS**

In September 2013, the Government introduced some significant changes to attendance regulations for pupils at school. The regulations will continue to apply during this academic year (2016/2017).

The most important of these is in relation to term-time leave of absence.

The amendments set out in Education (Pupil Registration) (England) (Amendment) Regulations

2013, govern all requests for leave within term-time. When considering such requests for a leave of absence, the school are obliged to act within the law.

The amended regulations removed references to 'holiday' and 'extended leave', as well as the statutory threshold of 10 school days. It is now clear that Head Teachers may not grant any leave of absence during term time unless there are exceptional circumstances. If the leave is granted, head teachers are able to determine the number of school days a child can be absent for.

The Government has not defined 'exceptional circumstances' as referred to in the 2013 regulations. It is for the Head Teacher to decide what he/she views as 'exceptional' and it is at their discretion if the circumstances warrant the leave to be granted.

The school can only consider Leave of Absence requests which are made by the 'resident' parent.

*Each application for a leave of absence will be considered on a case by case basis and on its own merits.*

Where applications for leave of absence are made in advance and refused, the child will be required to be in school on the dates set out in the application. If the child is absent during that period, it will be recorded as an unauthorised absence, which may result in legal action being taken against the parent(s), by way of a Fixed Penalty Notice.

Failure to make an application for leave in advance can also result in a Fixed Penalty Notice being issued to the parent(s).

**It is important to note**, Fixed Penalty Notices are issued to each parent of each absent child, (for example 2 children and 2 parents, means each parent will receive 2 invoices in the amount of £120 each, totalling £240 for both children, this is reduced to £60 per child if paid within 21 days).

Where a Fixed Penalty Notice is not paid within the required timeframe as set out on the notice, the matter will be referred to Warwickshire County Council's Legal Services to consider instigating criminal proceedings under S444 Education Act 1996.

Fixed Penalty Notices are issued in accordance with Warwickshire County Council's Code of Conduct for Penalty Notices.

We greatly appreciate parental support to reduce the total amount of days lost due to holidays. We are committed to working in partnership with you to enable your child to reach their academic targets and to support their social development. For this to happen we need to keep individual attendance as high as possible - we all need to play our part.

**Your child's progress academically as well as socially is our shared priority**

Our Attendance Policy is on our website. Please familiarise yourselves with the content. It is increasingly difficult for Headteachers to grant leave of absence.