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17th February 2022

Dear Parents/Carers,

Thank you for all your support this half term in ensuring that we have had a successful first half of the Spring term. I am so proud of how hard our children have worked, there has been a real focus on high quality outcomes and all pupils achieving their potential. You will have noticed, that we have sent home a number of additional resources such as revision guides, texts and learning packs, all to further support learning at home. Staff have been enthusiastic and proud of the learning outcomes achieved – Year 6 have developed the language of persuasion through letter writing, Year 5 have been immersed in to Shakespeare's Macbeth and Year 2 have been writing alternative tales to Roald Dahl's Fantastic Mr Fox. Congratulations and well done to our Year 5 pupils who have now graduated as Junior PCSO's – their final session involved them working with the Community Officers, supporting with litter picking and understanding the traffic warden role. The swimming sessions in Year 5 have proven to be a real success and pupils are enjoying their time at the Baths. It has been a real joy in seeing our Year 1 pupils learning all about space, the topic came alive through texts, listening to the experiences of a pilot and visiting the National Space Centre.

Our newsletters will give you a good insight into what our pupils have been learning, the exciting opportunities and experiences they have gained.

February Half Term Booster Sessions

The lead up to and preparation for End of Key Stage Two statutory assessments is a crucial time. Our Year 6 pupils and staff have been working incredibly hard to ensure that they are challenging themselves and making the appropriate progress. To support our pupils further we have invited our Year 6 pupils in for half term booster sessions during the holiday period. Through their continued efforts and hard work our children should be able to reap the rewards of success at the end of the year.

National Tutoring Programme

We now have almost 100% of our parents of pupils in Year 6 having consented for the National Tutoring Programme. After the half term all pupils will receive 15 hours of additional tuition in Maths. Year 2 parents will have also received similar information, at the moment responses are low and therefore can I urge you to complete the online/hard copy form as soon as possible. We are hoping to open this out to other year groups in the summer term.

World Book Day

As many of you will know we are having a huge focus on reading across the school. We have invested in purchasing a number of reading books, online programmes and phonics resources all to further support reading. All of our pupils have daily Guided Reading and Whole Class Reading sessions, as well as regular access to the school library. To support us further, can we ask parents to regularly ask their child about the books that they are reading in school and aim to continue this at home. We want all of our children to develop a passion for reading and a love of literature. Our celebrations on Thursday 3rd March will further support us with this – all pupils are encouraged to dress up as their favourite character, bring a book in to swap, engage in the book review competition and write a short story. I look forward to reading all entries and listening to the works of the different authors.

Parents' Evenings

These will take place on Tuesday 22nd and Wednesday 23rd March. Further details and appointments will be made available in the first week of Spring 2.

Lost Property

We are finding that some children are misplacing items of clothing and this has resulted in a number of coats, jumpers and blazers that have not been claimed. All unclaimed items of clothing will be put outside tomorrow at the end of school day for parents and pupils to take away their possessions. It is advisable that all pupil belongings and items of clothing are clearly marked with the full name of your child and class.

School Uniform and Taking Pride in Looking Smart

Pupils should wear their uniform with pride and the vast majority do. High standards of uniform set the right tone and create the right mind-set for effective learning. Pride in one's appearance is very important. To that end, please ensure your child attends every day, wearing the correct uniform and suitable footwear. Your child should have a suitable outdoor waterproof coat during cold weather.

Attendance and Punctuality

It is very important that parents, carers and families do all they can to ensure that no day is missed in a child's education and that every child arrives on time to school. Attendance has been affected by Covid-19 and we understand that. For the remaining part of the school year, I highly encourage all families to make excellent attendance to school a priority. This also applies to punctuality, we need all of our pupils in school and learning by 8:40am. If your child is still walking through the gates at 8:40am or entering via main reception – they are late and will have missed out on 15 minutes of morning focus activities – a time where teachers use this as an opportunity to consolidate and apply learning.

Finally, may I take this opportunity to thank all parents and families for their support. We all want the same thing and that is to ensure that our pupils receive the best possible provision and experiences in school to secure the best outcomes for the future. I wish you all a restful and safe half term and look forward to having all the pupils back in school on Monday 28th February.

Key Dates for your Diary:

Friday 18/02/22: End of Spring 1

Monday 28/02/22: Start of Spring 2

Monday 28/02/22: Year 5 pupils out at Tamworth Castle

Wednesday 02/03/22: Year 1 session with ISRO Scientist and Engineer

Wednesday 02/03/22: Virtual Author (Tony Bradman) visit for Year 5

Thursday 03/03/22: World Book Day

Thursday 03/03/22: Year 5 pupils out at National Space Centre

Thursday 03/03/22: Spring 1 Attendance Reward Trip –winning KS1 class TBC

Friday 04/03/22: Spring 1 Attendance Reward Trip –winning KS2 class TBC

Wednesday 09/03/22: Science Day - Hands On Assembly and Science Workshops

Wednesday 16/03/22: EYFS & Year 1 Parent Workshops: Helping your Child Succeed

Friday 18/03/22: Red Nose Day

Tuesday 22/03/22 & Wednesday 23/03/22 Parents' Evenings 3:15-6:00pm

Wednesday 24/03/22: Year 4 pupils (4A & 4B) out at Blakesley Hall

Thursday 25/03/22: Year 4 pupils (4C) out at Blakesley Hall

Friday 08/04/22: End of Spring 2

Monday 25/04/22: Start of Summer 1

Yours sincerely,

S. Dosanjh

Mrs Dosanjh

Principal

Waverley School – Primary