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8th February 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

Thank you once again for your unwavering support this half term. Our children continue to make us proud with their hard work, mature attitude and achievements. We have had a number of successes this half term starting with the Rock Concert in January where there were high energy workshops on diversity and respect. It was lovely to see all staff and pupils embracing the theme and thoroughly enjoy the day. Our chess players are going from strength to strength competing now in their second tournament – our pupils are demonstrating real skill and expertise. The choir have also excelled with their performance at Resorts World Arena taking part in the national singing project Young Voices. Pupils were singing along with 6000 other children and some celebrities including Natalie Williams, with the songs 'Extraordinary' and 'River Deep-Mountain High.' It was an exciting and overwhelming experience for the pupils and staff. There have been a vast range of educational visits and first-hand experiences. Year 1 pupils visited the National Space Centre where they were able to learn more about space exploration, see real life rockets, astronaut suits and a model of the International Space Station! Year 5 pupils have been immersed in history and heritage at Tamworth Castle whilst Year 6 pupils have been captivated by the pantomime Jack and the Beanstalk at the Hippodrome - the magical atmosphere of the theatre, coupled with the classic tale's reimagined brilliance, left a lasting mark on our young learners. Our Primary Newsletter will give further insight into the learning experiences and outcomes of pupils.

Parent & Community Partnership

Thank you to those parents who have attended our coffee mornings – remember, there is one per half term and your engagement is important to us. Our Learning Mentors have supported parents in applying for household funds and in conjunction with the Dream Team Bed Poverty scheme supported families with bedding and beds. Keep in mind that the applications for beds and bedding will come to an end in March. As part of a NSPCC drive, 30 of our families/pupils from Year 6 have been allocated laptops to support them with learning and revision. Through Birmingham City Council – the Household Support Fund which is funded by the Department for Work and Pensions, schools have been provided with £20 supermarket vouchers for all pupils; these will be sent to all families before the end of this week.

Thank you to those of you who have attended our class assemblies, special STAR assemblies and workshops, your support is much appreciated. Next half term, we will be sending out a parent survey to gain further insight into your views and feedback. As always, this will support us in further strengthening the home-school partnership.

Ramadan

Many members of our community will shortly be following the religious observance of Ramadan. It is predicted to start around the middle of March. Whilst we would discourage the younger pupils to fast if your child is in Years 5 and 6 and you want him/her to fast please confirm this in writing to your child's teacher or by completing the section at the end of this letter. We are happy to provide supervision for pupils who are fasting and keep them inside to rest for most of the lunch break, but only if we have confirmation that this is your wish. During Ramadan it is important that all pupils maintain high levels of attendance and punctuality.

Parents' Evening

Parents' Evening will take place on Tuesday 19th March and Wednesday 20th March. Details regarding this will be communicated early Spring 2.

World Book Day

As many of you will know we are continuing to have a huge focus on reading across the school. We have invested in purchasing a number of reading books, online programs, phonics resources and our book vending machine all to further support reading. Reading is a high priority across the curriculum and school day. 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 7th March will further support us with this – all pupils are encouraged to dress up as their favourite character, create a 'book in a box' and meet the author Billy Bob Buttons!

Primary Places

We have previously communicated that pupil places are available in our current Reception and Year 1 classes. **To apply for Primary places please contact the Admissions team at Waverley School.**

Educational Visits

Educational visits and experiences play a fundamental role in enhancing the curriculum and learning. Details of forthcoming trips are highlighted in the key dates section and payments will need to be made in advance via Parent Pay. If you have not created an account, you must do so as a matter of urgency as cash will not be accepted. If you need any support in setting up accounts, please speak to Ms. Pousson or Miss Ibrahim from the primary administrative team. Please be aware that if there is not sufficient payment/contribution from parents trips may have to be cancelled or where payments have not been made pupils will not attend.

Healthy Eating School

Thank you for your support in ensuring our children bring in fruit and healthy snacks for morning and lunch break. We will continue to promote this and therefore, pupils should not be bringing in crisps, sweets and chocolates into school – this includes having them on site at the end of a school day. We are also nut free school and this means that pupils should not have any snacks/packed lunches containing ingredients of any type of nut. Due to the number of pupils with allergies across the school, we also do not allow for birthday sweets, treats or cakes to come into school – please share this with your child in advance to avoid disappointment on the day.

Key Dates for your Diary:

Friday 9th February – End of Spring 1 normal 3:05pm finish

Monday 19th February 2024: Start of Spring 2

Thursday 22nd February 2024: EYFS/KS1 Attendance winners to visit Pizza Hut (class tbc)

Friday 23rd February 2024: KS2 Attendance winners to visit Pizza Hut (class tbc)

Tuesday 27th February 2024: Year 2 visiting Cadbury's World

Friday 1st March 2024: Primary Careers Day

Monday 4th March 2024: Birmingham City Mission Assembly Year 1, 2 & 3

Tuesday 5th March 2024: Birmingham City Mission Assembly Year 4, 5 & 6

Thursday 7th March 2024: World Book Day

Thursday 7th March 2024: Author Edward Trayer (Billy Bob Button) in school

Friday 8th March 2024: Reception visiting Hatton Adventure World

Friday 8th March 2024: Year 1 visiting Eco Park

Monday 11th March 2024: 3B Class Assembly World Water Day & Water Safety 8:40-9:00

Tuesday 12th March 2024: Parents' Meeting EYFS & Year 1 Supporting Children with Phonics and Reading 3:30-4:00

Wednesday 13th March 2024: Science Day -Hands on Science Assembly and Workshop and Aston Villa STEM Day

Friday 15th March 2024: Red Nose Day

Monday 18th March-Thursday 21st March 2024: Book Fair in school

Monday 18th March 2024: 1B Class Assembly Easter

Tuesday 19th March 2024: Year 5 & 6 STAR Pupil Assembly 8:40-9:40

Tuesday 19th March 2024: Primary Parents' Evening 3:20-6:00

Wednesday 20th March 2024: Year 3 & 4 STAR Pupil Assembly 8:40-9:40

Wednesday 20th March 2024: Primary Parents' Evening 3:20-6:00

Thursday 21st March 2024: Year 1 & 2 STAR Pupil Assembly 8:40-9:30

Thursday 21st March 2024: Trust Grand Iftaar Event

Thursday 21st March 2024: End of Spring 2

Friday 22nd March 2024: Teacher Training Day -School closed to pupils

As always, thank you for your continued support. I wish you an enjoyable and restful half term and I look forward to welcoming all pupils back safely on Monday 19th February.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Mrs Dosanjh'.

Mrs Dosanjh

Principal

Waverley School – Primary

Ramadan/Fasting

Parental Consent for Year 5 and 6 Pupils only

I, (parent/guardian.....)authorise my child/ren to fast. I understand that if such a situation arises where my child feels unwell or dehydrated my child will need to drink water/break the fast. Please return the completed form to class teachers.

Full name of primary child	Year Group (5 & 6)	Class

Date:

Signature of parent: