

Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2023

Dear parents and carers,

#### School Improvement

Last summer, we achieved some superb phonics results with 92% of our pupils passing the phonics screening check at the end of Year 1. No time has been wasted to replicate the success of last year so our Reception and Year 1 children are already engaged in their daily phonics sessions. Phonics is taught as soon as the register is taken each day. It is therefore vitally important that all children arrive at school on time.

We are inviting Reception and Year 1 parents and carers to attend a phonics workshop to learn how phonics and reading is taught. These workshops will take place on:

**Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> November at 3:00pm or Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> November at 9:05am**

*To book your place, please follow this link: <https://forms.office.com/e/WJ7NGrwtdd>*

This term, school leaders and class teachers have been working hard to implement a brand-new English curriculum throughout Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2. We have invested nearly £9,000 to buy lots of new books to bring this curriculum to life in classroom for the children. We will be working hard to improve our reading and writing outcomes throughout all areas of the school.

Class teachers in Key Stage 2 have been spending lots of time talking to the children about the importance of reading both in and out of school. We will be continuing to use Accelerated Reader to track, motivate and reward great reading routines.

We are inviting Year 3, Year 4, Year 5 and Year 6 parents and carers to come and hear all about these important routines. These information events will take place on:

**Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> November at 9:05am or Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> November at 3:00pm**

*To book your place, please follow this link: <https://forms.office.com/e/ng7mk8aUpe>*

#### Attendance Matters

This year we will be continuing to work hard to promote and achieve good school attendance. Our whole school attendance has not yet returned to the standards achieved before the Covid pandemic. Research shows that regular attendance and good punctuality are crucial factors in children achieving their full potential.

We are still seeing a lot of children absent from school due to term time holiday / travel. Term time holiday cannot be authorised.

We are committed to providing an excellent education to all our children in our pursuit to unlock positive futures. Throughout the academic year, we will continue to work in partnership with parents and carers to ensure that children attend every day and arrive on time.

Our target is for all children to have attendance above 96%.

Within your child's report, we will report the children's attendance so that the link between poor attendance and underachievement is more closely understood.



No Concern	Cause for concern	Risk of Underachievement	Severe Risk of Underachievement	Extreme Risk of Underachievement
(96%-100%)	(94-95.9%)	(92-93.9%)	(90% - 91.9%)	(0%-89.9%)

The first half term has flown by with school back to its usual busy self. The children have worked really hard and I have no doubt that they are looking forward to the half term break. Before school finishes next Friday, there is still plenty to look forward to.

#### Year 1 to Year 6 Parent: Teacher Meetings – 23<sup>rd</sup> & 24<sup>th</sup> October

Class teachers are looking forward to meeting parents and carers on Monday and Tuesday this week. If you haven't booked an appointment yet, please contact the school office who will book your appointment. At the meeting you will receive a copy of your child's report card which will be discussed during the parent meeting.

On these evenings, we will also be asking parents and carers to update and check the contact details we have in school. School must have two up-to-date emergency contacts for all children. In addition, we will be asking parents and carers to complete a parent survey.

#### GPA Pumpkin Festival - Friday 27<sup>th</sup> October

We are looking forward to seeing everyone's pumpkin creations. We are inviting all children to bring into school a carved pumpkin which we will use to decorate the playground. Throughout the day, the children will spend time visiting the decorated playground to admire each other's creations. Please can we remind all families that pumpkins must not contain any naked flames.

#### Achievement Assembly - Friday 27<sup>th</sup> October – 9:15am

Class teachers are finalising their nominations for our first achievement awards for the academic year. The children who have excelled in putting our school values – Commitment, Aspiration & Nurture – into action will be presented with their certificates in assembly. There are 6 nominations from each class. We are inviting the parents and carers of the children receiving awards to come and join us for assembly. Parents and carers will receive a text message invite on Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> October.

The Nursery children will also receive awards but these will be presented in the setting by their teachers.

All children receiving awards will enjoy a deluxe hot chocolate treat at playtime on Friday.



School will close for half term on Friday 27<sup>th</sup> October. All pupils should return to school on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> November 2023.

- Pupil Individual Photos - Monday 6<sup>th</sup> November
- Nursery and Reception Parent Meeting - Monday 20<sup>th</sup> November and Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> November

We are looking forward to seeing many of our parents and carers this week during parent meetings and achievement assembly. We wish everyone a safe and enjoyable half term when we get there.

Yours sincerely,

Mrs. Murfin  
Headteacher