

# Newsletter

## **Dear Parents and Carers,**

Welcome back to the start of the Summer term. We are looking forward to lots of fun and exciting activities in the term ahead.

## **Spring Term Prize Winners**



Congratulations and well done to all of our Spring Term Prize winners. We are very proud of your achievements.

## **Year 5 Class Assembly**



We very much enjoyed Year 5's class assembly on the topic of Ancient Egypt on the 22<sup>nd</sup> March. The children were wonderfully entertaining and informative.

## **Easter Egg Hunt**



On Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> March, pupils and staff very much enjoyed our annual Egg Hunt.

## **After School Clubs**

After school clubs will start from the week beginning Monday 30<sup>th</sup> April. If your child has not secured a place in their chosen club, you will be notified in writing. Clubs take place every week of term but there will be no clubs during the last week of term (week beginning 16<sup>th</sup> July)

## **Year 4 Bikeability session**



Pupils from Year 4 took part in their "Bikeability" session on Monday 26<sup>th</sup> March, where they learned all about staying safe whilst out riding their bikes.

## **WGHS Maths Challenge**



On Tuesday 20<sup>th</sup> March 4 Year 5 pupils represented Merridale at Wolverhampton Girls' High School for a Maths Challenge. They joined 128 Year 5 children from 28 other Wolverhampton schools to solve a range of fun mathematical activities and problems. One of our Merridale pairs came in second place which was an impressive achievement. The pupils also represented our school brilliantly with their fantastic behaviour and attitude.

## **Year 1 Visit to Bantock House Museum**



On Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> March Year 1 learned lots about homes and toys from the past during their local walk and visit to Bantock House Museum.



# Newsletter

## **Attendance and Punctuality**

We continue to strive for our whole school attendance to stay above 96%! Well done to all of the children who have achieved this so far this year.

### **For the school year so far (September to April)**

**Whole school: 95.1%**

Reception: 93.9%

Year 1: 96.6%

Year 2: 94.8%

Year 3: 96.5%

Year 4: 91.1%

Year 5: 96.4%

Year 6: 96.2%

**The class with the highest attendance at the end of this term will enjoy a special treat.**

Can I remind you of the importance of children attending school every day unless they are unwell. If your child is ill, please telephone the school office to inform them on the first day of absence.

Can I remind you that children can come straight into the school building between 8.40am and 8.50am where they will be supervised by school staff from 8.40am. If pupils arrive after 8.50am, they must enter school through the main office at the front of the building and they will be classed as late.

All children must be collected by an adult from school at 3.15pm unless they have permission to walk home alone. I appreciate your support in this.

Our attendance policy states that we are unable to authorise any absence for family holiday, trips or visits. If you wish to discuss this further, please do not hesitate to make an appointment to see Mr Lane. Patterns of poor attendance and punctuality will be followed-up by the school's educational welfare officer to look at ways of reducing these instances. If you require any support with these areas, please do not hesitate to contact the school.

**So far this academic year, 8 families have taken their children out of school without permission (unauthorised absences). These families have been referred to the Local Authority who will look at each case and decide whether to take legal action, resulting in a fine.**

## **Term Dates**

**WB Monday 16<sup>th</sup> April:** Daily Mile week

**Friday 20<sup>th</sup> April:** Year 5 Wolverhampton Art Gallery visit

**Friday 27<sup>th</sup> April:** Year 2 visit to Wolverhampton Art Gallery

**WB Monday 30<sup>th</sup> April:** After school clubs start for Summer term

### **Local Elections**

As you may be aware, Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> May is voting day for local government. In previous years, school has been closed on this day as the building was used as a polling station. However, **this is no longer the case so school will be open as normal on Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> May.**

**Thursday 3<sup>rd</sup> May 9.15am:** year 3 class assembly (parents and carers invited to attend).

**Monday 7<sup>th</sup> May:** May Day Bank Holiday – school closed

**WB Monday 14<sup>th</sup> May:** Year 6 SATs week

**Friday 18<sup>th</sup> May:** Year 1 visit to Cosford

**Wednesday 23<sup>rd</sup> May 2.30pm:** New Reception parent/carer intake (Sept 2018) meeting

**Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> May 9.15am:** Year 1 class assembly (parents and carers invited to attend).

**Friday 25<sup>th</sup> May:** Year 6 visit to Bilston Craft Gallery

**Monday 28<sup>th</sup> May – Friday 1<sup>st</sup> June:** Half term (school closed)

**Monday 4<sup>th</sup> June:** INSET Day – school closed to pupils

**Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> June:** School re-opens to pupils

**Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> June:** School photographer in school

**Friday 8<sup>th</sup> June:** Food Bank Friday collection

**Monday 11<sup>th</sup> June – Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> June 3.15-4pm:** Book Fair in school

**WB Monday 11<sup>th</sup> June:** Phonic check week for Year 1 pupils

**Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> June:** Year 1 visit to Dudley Zoo

**Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> to Friday 29<sup>th</sup> June:** Year 6 residential visit to Borth

**WB 2<sup>nd</sup> July:** Healthy Living week (including Daily Mile)

**Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> July 1.45pm:** Sports day

**Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> July 9.15am:** Reception class assembly (parents and carers invited to attend).

**Thursday 5<sup>th</sup> July 1.45pm:** Reserve sports day

**Friday 6<sup>th</sup> July:** Merridale's Got Talent

**WB Monday 9<sup>th</sup> July:** Enterprise Week

**Friday 13<sup>th</sup> July 2pm:** Enterprise week sale for parents/carers/family

**WB 16<sup>th</sup> July:** No after school clubs this week

**Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> July 9.15am:** Year 6 Leaver's Play for Y6 parents/carers/family

**Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> July:** Summer Disco

**Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> July 3.15pm:** Last day of term. School closes to pupils for the Summer holidays

**Friday 20<sup>th</sup> July 3.15pm:** INSET Day – school closed to pupils

**Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> September:** INSET Day (school closed to pupils)

**Tuesday 4<sup>th</sup> September:** School re-opens to pupils.