

The Archer

School Newsletter No 5

10th February 2023

DEAR PARENTS/CARERS

As we come to the end of term today, we have lots to share with you in this issue. Please be aware the children return to school on Tuesday 21st February. Have a lovely half term break!

Reading

Please ensure that you read with your child as frequently as possible at home. This could include reading to them, encouraging independent reading or sharing a book together - from Reception through to year 6 it is important to ensure that there is dedicated time to do this. For younger children, support your child to break words down into the isolated sounds to match our approach in school ([phonics](#)). For older children, please ensure that you stop and discuss what happens throughout the story to ensure children understand their reading. More information is available here: <https://www.wentworthonline.co.uk/reading> in particular the parent leaflets which are linked at the bottom of the page.

Sports

Our sports leaders in school continue to promote the importance of physical activity in the Wentworth community. Sports leaders have been working hard to create and supervise activities for lunch times and the leadership skills being developed by these children is a pleasure to see.

Both the boys' and girls' football teams have had fixtures in the Dartford FA cup and both have progressed to the next stage. We look forward to them winning their next matches in order to go on and represent the School at the Finals at Princes' Park. Next term, children will be representing the school against other local primaries in netball, futsal, cross country and handball.

Kingswood

Recently, 86 pupils from our year 4 cohort attended a two day activity stay at a Kingswood centre. We were immensely proud of the courage displayed by the pupils who enjoyed rock climbing, den building and staying away from their parents! My thanks go to the staff who attended and made the trip possible for these children.

Phonics course for adult parents/carers

Would you like to:

Support your child with phonics?

Understand how your child is taught Phonics and English?

Make reading more fun?

Build your confidence and learn new teaching methods?

Helps them get ahead.

Phonics course 2, 9, 16, 23 March 1pm - 3.15pm.

Contact Pamela Hill on

Pamela.hill@wentworthonline.co.uk to register or for more information.

Mental health

Thursday 9th February was Children's mental health day in school. We discussed the importance of managing our own wellbeing and in particular promoting physical activity through the Fit4Feb initiative. Please see the separate newsletter that was sent out on this topic earlier this week and also look out for the weekly wellbeing tips that will be shared over the coming terms.

Attendance

To raise the profile of attendance with our whole school community, we have begun a few initiatives across the school. We have a weekly attendance competition with the winning class being awarded a certificate in the Headteacher's Award Assembly and earning a game with Mr Pollock. So far, we have awarded for improvement on attendance from this time last year, the best attendance on Marvellous Mondays, no lates for two weeks and most improved attendance from the previous week.

We have also introduced 'Mr Potato Head' which the children accessorise with googly eyes, hats and arms, etc, every time their key stage achieves a weekly attendance figure of 97+%. So far EYFS, Year 1, Year 4 and Year 6 have won pieces for their potatoes. These are all displayed in the school hall to celebrate success together.

Thank you for your support in helping to raise our school attendance. If you would like any support or advice on attendance or punctuality, please speak to a member of the office staff.

Uniform

Please ensure that children come into school with appropriate uniform. This should include nails being cut back and no nail varnish. For full guidance, please see the uniform page on the school website: <https://www.wentworthonline.co.uk/uniform-information>. We would also request that earrings are removed for PE days, or that you provide a tape for them to be covered prior to a session.

Open Evening

Parents' evenings will take place on Wednesday 22nd and Thursday 23rd February for all classes except for Miss Morris and Mrs Britten's class which will take place on Thursday 23rd February 5.00-7.40pm and Friday 24th February 3.30-6.10pm. Please visit <https://wentworth.schoolcloud.co.uk> to book your appointments from 7.00pm Friday 10th February.

Internet Safety and Social Media

This week, children have taken part in Internet Safety Day through assemblies. We would like to share the following links which provide more information on safety use at home:

Parents:

<https://saferinternet.org.uk/guide-and-resource/parents-and-carers>

Children:

<https://www.bbc.com/ownit/curations/staying-safe>

Please also see the school website for further information and guidance on keeping your child safe online: <https://wentworthonline.co.uk/safeguarding>

We would also like to highlight the impact social media plays in many of our children's lives. Please explore the following website which gives an overview of TikTok and offer some useful information to parents:

<https://parentzone.org.uk/article/tiktok>

Dates for term 4

Friday 10th February - Last day of term 3

Monday 20th February - Staff training day - school closed to pupils

Tuesday 21st February - First day Term 4 for pupils

Wednesday 22nd February Open evening

Thursday 23rd February - Open evening

Friday 24th February – Open evening Dragonfly class only

Wednesday 1st March - National offer day for secondary schools

Friday 3rd March - World Book Day - children to wear pyjamas (Details to follow)

Friday 17th March - Comic relief non-uniform day (Details to follow)

Week commencing 20th March - Last week of clubs

Tuesday 28th / Wednesday 29th March - PTA Easter Bingo

Friday 31st March - Last day Term 4

Monday April 1st - First day Term 5