

## Y2 and Y6 SATs

We would like to congratulate the Year 6 cohort on their efforts last week during their SATs tests. We are so proud of the children for their hard work in the run-up to these tests and also the resilience that they showed when dealing with a busy test week schedule! Year 2 are also working hard on their tests across the month of May and we are also proud of their efforts.

## Mental Health Awareness Week

This week, Mental Health Awareness Week is being celebrated across the country with a theme of anxiety. Anxiety is a natural emotion for all of us but sometimes it can feel out of control and become a difficulty for us. Focusing on anxiety will increase people's awareness and understanding of anxiety. Together, we can learn ways of reducing anxiety and getting it to be more manageable – whether it's chatting with others, using relaxation techniques, asking for advice or practising mindfulness, there is lots we can do.

Here are some tips if your child appears worries/anxious about attending school:

- Speak to your class teacher first to share any concerns.
- Having a friend meet them at the gate can reduce anxiety around walking into school and getting into the classroom.
- Your child might find it helpful to have a job to do when they get to the classroom like helping the teacher set a lesson up; this would give them a calm start to the day with a clear purpose.
- Contact our Family Liaison Officer Mrs Hill ([pamela.hill@wentworthonline.co.uk](mailto:pamela.hill@wentworthonline.co.uk) or call the school office).
- Talk to one of our Mental Health First Aiders at school and work with them around the issue.
- Talk to Mrs Simcock our SENCO if you think there may be a SEND need causing anxiety.
- We can work together to put things in place to support your child.

## Attendance

Our whole school attendance is currently 94.43% which is an improvement on our week-to-date last year. Regular, punctual attendance is valued and positively encouraged for all pupils. Research shows that attendance and punctuality are important factors in school success. Nationally, primary pupil attendance is around 96%; this means that a child needs to attend school for at least 177 out of 190 days to meet national expectations, which equates to no more than 7 days absence across the whole school year. At parent's evenings you are provided with a record of your child's attendance for you to see their current percentage attendance. As a guide, for a child who has 90% attendance, this works out at 19 days of absence and is approximate to 4 weeks of missed learning.

## What can you do to help your child achieve good attendance?

Ensure your child has regular and early bedtimes. Have uniform and equipment ready the night before.

Have open and honest communication with us about attendance.

Be positive about school with your child.

Discuss your child's lessons/learning with them each evening.

Make routine medical appointments outside of school hours.

Attend meetings and parents' evenings.

This term, our weekly attendance certificates have gone to:

3HD – For the most improved attendance from February to March.

1AM – For the best attendance over a two-week period.

4FB – For the best attendance in their key stage in April.

Our potato heads have continued to grow as more year groups have achieved 96%+ in their weekly attendance. This term, the following year groups have earned 96%+: Year R, Year 2, Year 3, Year 4, Year 5 and Year 6. Well done to all of these year groups, it's great to see so many reached our target of 96%.

#### Staffing

We wish Mr Harvey every success in his future as he leaves Wentworth this term. I will write to the parents of 5RH to inform them of the new class teacher arrangements

#### Interventions

Across the school, we use a range of interventions to accelerate progress and ensure children are fully supported in their learning, social and emotional development. Our interventions include programs that support the development of reading and writing, understanding and application of basic number skills, improve children's communication, support pupil's emotional wellbeing, and the development of social skills. All of our interventions are tracked using assessment data which allows us to monitor progress and ensure the maximum impact is achieved. Recent data and discussions with teaching staff have shown what a huge success these interventions are and we wanted to share these successes with you. In addition, the children's views are monitored and they have commented on how well supported they feel and shared how much their confidence has grown. We continue to review our interventions regularly and adapt them to reflect the changing needs of the children to ensure our support is targeted at the areas the children need it most. We look forward to sharing more of these successes with you in the future.

#### Entry to school

Please could I remind you that children should arrive for school between 8:45 and 8:55. The gates are opened earlier to allow for some early morning sessions to be attended by pupils, however children should not be left unattended in the morning before this time.

#### Reading Mentors

As you may know, we use Accelerated Reader in Key Stage 2 in order to support children's reading. Children are able to take quizzes on books and the program calculates how many words they have read over a year as a tool for motivation. We have 28 millionaires so far this year, including 3 from Year 3 and 3 from Year 4 who will be invited to a summer tea party. There also are a few who have made it to 2 million! We also have 48 Honours Readers - a certification level for our keenest readers - who meet with Mr Murray to discuss some more challenging texts (starting with Shakespeare) as a group.

Our school reading mentors have been working with selected Year 2 children to support their reading and comprehension skills. It has been really lovely to see those partnerships blossom and the mentors have become very patient listeners and explainers, which is really helping with the confidence of the mentees.

#### Reading Volunteers

Are you able to offer a regular slot each week where you can come into school and listen to children read? If you can, please contact the school office to register your interest.

#### Class Dojo

A reminder of my message sent this week about the use of class Dojo. Please ensure necessary communication is kept brief and messages throughout the day should continue to be passed through the office.

#### Little linguist

Mrs Adamek works across the school to support children who speak other languages in our school community. The children are working on a project called Little Linguists and they have been preparing information pages with their family at home to share in an assembly. The pages usually consist of information in their own language alongside an English translation, and so far we have been treated to work written in Italian, Czech, Portuguese, Bengali and Turkish amongst others. Well done to all of our little linguists!

## Sports

### Football

Our girls football team once again made it to the FA Cup semi-final on Friday 19th May. The team played Sutton at Home in the Quarter Finals in a tense and very competitive match winning 3-2. They now face a strong New Ash Green team for a chance to play in the final also on Friday 19th May.



### Handball

Children in Year 3 & 4 travelled to Hextable to take part in the Dartford Handball competition. They had a fantastic afternoon playing against other schools. Every goal counted as they managed to secure a very respectable 3rd place on goal difference.

### Netball

Our netball team were also in action this term at the Dartford High 5s Tournament. They have made great progress working as a team to learn each position and were able to rotate during the games adapting quickly to their new roles on the court. They played extremely well but were unfortunately knocked out at the group stage.

### Athletics

All children in KS2 took part in the inter-house athletics competition last week competing in standing long jump, shot put and sprint races. The winners will now go on to represent the school at the upcoming Dartford District Sports Event on Wednesday 17th May

### Behaviour Policy

As we continue our work on developing children's self-regulation skills, we have reviewed our behaviour policy to ensure that we have a consistent approach which supports children to identify and regulate their emotions. The policy is available on the school website.

## Young carers

A Young Carer is a child under 18 who regularly looks after someone in their family, it could be a grandparent living with you or a friend who is ill, disabled, or has a mental health problem or an addiction. They can be carers for lots of different reasons:

- It could be emotional support like being there if their autistic sibling is upset, taking responsibility for young siblings whilst parents attend to other things, or checking that a parent with depression/anxiety is ok.
- They might be providing physical support to a parent with a physical illness such as fibromyalgia or ME, such as cooking, fetching things or helping with things like putting shoes on or doing the shopping or cleaning
- Or they might help a parent with a disability who needs help with more personal tasks such as getting dressed, bathing or changing dressings. Some carers might do a lot of caring, others just a small amount. Please contact Pamela Hill if you believe your child may qualify for the additional support we can offer. All contact will be treated in the strictest confidence.

## The Coronation

On the 5th of May, the school came together to celebrate the coronation of King Charles III. The children prepared flags, crowns and banners as we all enjoyed our picnic on the field with some royalty themed party games and the singing of our special coronation song. It was a fantastic event to mark an important event for our country - photos will be on the school website soon.

## Upcoming dates

Monday 22nd May - Y6 Trip to Chessington

Friday 26th May - Last day of term 5  
Monday 5th June - First day of term 6

Tuesday 13th June - Foundation Trip to Kent Life  
Monday 26th June - Y4 trip to Horton Kirby  
Tuesday 27th June - Y1 trip to Godstone Farm  
Monday 3rd July - Last week of clubs  
Monday/Tuesday 3rd & 4th July - Y5 trip to Knole House  
Friday 7th July - PTA summer fair  
Wednesday 12th July - Open afternoon  
Thursday 13th July - Sports Day

Thursday 20th July - End of term 6

