

The Archer

School Newsletter No 8

30th June 2023 (Revised)

PTA Someone Special Sale

Our fantastic PTA ran a Someone Special sale last week in aid of Father's Day, and they raised nearly £1000 profit for school. A big thank you goes to all the wrappers and helpers on the day and also all the parents who supported the event. The profits from the PTA go towards funding new experiences and equipment for the children; recently this has included the new playground markings which you may have seen on the KS1 and KS2 playgrounds; these are a range of exciting new games for the children to enjoy at playtime and have been a big hit!

Fire Assemblies

A huge thanks goes to the Kent Fire and Rescue Education Team who visited us at school this week and ran fire awareness assemblies with every year group. These workshops taught children how to prevent, detect and escape from fire. The children learnt how to 'Stop! Drop Roll' and to shout 'Fire! Fire' if you see a fire, followed by calling 999. Additionally, they discussed the importance of checking your smoke alarm weekly and having an escape plan for your home. Why don't you ask your child 3 key things they can remember from their fire safety assembly?

Leave of Absence from School

To request a leave of absence from school, including religious festivals, please use the request letter on the [school website](#). The school will not authorise holidays in term time and unauthorised absences may attract a penalty notice. Absence for any reason during term time interrupts a child's education and their educational progress. We thank you in advance for your support with this.

Attendance Update

Our whole school attendance is currently 96.15% which is a good improvement from 94.43% that we reported in our last newsletter. Our highest attenders were Year 1 (98.3%), 2 (98.1%) and 4 (98.2%)- well done to these year groups. Since our last newsletter, we have awarded four other classes for their attendance -
 2SW - No lates and 98.8% attendance
 6CD - For improved attendance between April & May
 2JP - The most improved attendance over 2 weeks
 5JD - for improving attendance from 94.42% - 97.57% over 2 weeks

Last week, there were 15 late attenders across the week and this week the number has risen to 27 lates just in the first two days of this week. Regular, punctual attendance is valued and positively encouraged for all pupils. The statistics below show just how quickly minutes late add up across the weeks and terms and have a detrimental effect on the children's education. We appreciate your support in ensuring your child arrives at school on time each day within the 10-minute window 8.45-8.55am.

Did you know that your child's best learning time is the start of the school day?

That is when every minute counts the most!

Being a 'little bit late' may not seem much but...

<i>They are only missing...</i>	<i>but that equates to...</i>	<i>which is...</i>	<i>and over 13 years of schooling, that's...</i>
10 minutes per day	80 minutes per week	Nearly 1.5 weeks a year	Essentially half a year!
20 minutes per day	1 hour 40 minutes per week	Over 2.5 weeks a year	Nearly a whole year!
Half an hour per day	Half a day per week	4 weeks a year	Almost one and a half years!
1 hour a day	1 day per week	8 weeks a year	More than two and a half years!

If your child is not well enough to attend school, please remember to telephone into school by 9.30am to let us know your child will be absent and a specific reason for this, e.g. 'sickness', rather than 'feels unwell'. Additionally, if they are off for more than one day, you need to ring us each day they are absent, not just the first day of their period of absence. Thank you for your help with this.

Red Rooster Fun Days

On the 1st & 2nd August, Dartford Music presents the Red Rooster fun days. Children can spend the day drumming, singing and playing instruments. The event is available to children aged 7-11 and costs £20 per day. To apply for a place please contact:
redrooster@dartfordgrammarschool.org.uk

School Drop off and Pick up

We have had an increasing number of people raising concerns about the parking and use of the roads during school drop off and pick up. Parents/carers should not be stopping in the road to allow children to get out the car as this blocks the road and causes potential danger for other children around. Additionally, parents/carers should not stop or park on the yellow zig zag lines outside the school gates. We realise this may mean that you need to park further away from the school gate but the safety of the children as they come to/from school is paramount.

Stepping up into Primary School

Do you have a child starting school in September? If so we are running "Stepping up into Primary School" on 11th July 2023 9.15-11.30am. Please contact Pamela Hill on pamela.hill@wentworthonline.co.uk to book a space.

Family First

The latest Family First publication, which supports families in promoting their physical and mental wellbeing, is available [here](#).

Snacks

We have noticed that a number of children are bringing in crisps or chocolate for their morning snack. Morning snack needs to be a healthy snack. Some ideas for snacks could be: • Fruit • Raisins • Vegetables • Rice cakes • Cheese and crackers • Veggie sticks with hummus. Please do not send in chocolate, sweets or crisps for morning snack.

Uniform

If you would like to order some new school uniform, please order online by 31st July 2023 at the latest to guarantee delivery ahead of the new academic year in September. Orders can be placed via the link to Mapac on the uniform page on the school website:

www.wentworthonline.co.uk or via the following link:
<https://www.mapac.com/education/parents/uniform/wentworthprimaryschool>

Sports Update

Mrs Davies and Mrs Simcock organised for all the children to take part in the NSPCC Run a Mile recently. This day takes place every year and is the NSPCC's national flagship day of fundraising and action that brings communities together and gives everyone a way to help keep children safe. Thank you to everyone who has already supported by donating, we have currently raised £636. If you haven't yet donated, please use the following QR code:



Last week was National School Sports Week and this year the focus was on promoting the goal for every child to be active for at least 60 minutes a day, to help with physical and mental health, social wellbeing and brain function. Each day we ran extra sports events for the children to participate in. These included Beat the Keeper, a skipping challenge, and various other challenges. Mr Harrington awarded certificates to the children who took part in the lunchtime challenges. In addition to this, children were encouraged to take part in the Daily Mile each day, 8 laps around the track.

The children also took part in a range of other sporting activities -

Fast Fives for KS1, where they played extremely well as a team.

Hot Weather

We are finally blessed with some lovely summer weather! Please help to keep your child safe during the hot weather by ensuring they come into school with a hat for playtimes and a water bottle that can be refilled through the day. It is also a good idea for them to come to school wearing a thick layer of sun cream which should last all day but if you feel happier sending them in with a bottle then that is fine for them to apply it at lunchtime (please label it clearly).

Year 5 - Kent & Bexley Tests

If you would like your child to sit the Kent / Bexley tests please do not forget to register them before the closing dates. The Kent test registration closes on 3rd July 2023 and the Bexley registration closes on 30th June 2023

Upcoming Dates

Monday 3rd July - Last week of clubs
Monday 3rd July - Y5 trip to Knole House (group 1)
Tuesday 4th July – Y5 trip to Knole House (group 2)
Friday 7th July - PTA summer fair 3:30pm (non uniform)
Wednesday 12th July - Open afternoon 3.30pm - 4:30pm
Thursday 13th July - Sports Day EYFS/KS1 9.15am-10.30am / KS2 1.30pm-3.00pm
Thursday 20th July - End of term 6

Sport Update cont....

Soccer Sixes - where Year 4 won 5 or their 6 matches, with many of them looking forward to joining the school football team when they move into Year 5.

Rapid Fire Cricket - The Year 2 children won every game! One of the children was awarded a medal for showing such good sportsmanship during the tournament.

Wentworth Dance Competition - A dancing craze took over Wentworth the last 2 weeks with over 100 children from KS2 signing up and competing for this year's Everybody Dance Now competition. Eighteen acts, a mixture of solo and group performances, then competed in the final. The winner will be announced in our next KS2 Awards Assembly.

Dartford District Football - Freddie Hefferman has been representing Wentworth for the past 2 years playing at district level; after a fantastic season, he was presented with the Parents Player of the Year Award - well done Freddie!

