

WILLIAM MACGREGOR'S NEWSLETTER

This is the first time I am writing to you since the holidays and what a busy few weeks in school we have had. It was so lovely to see the children back after the long break. Children have settled back to the learning incredibly well and have spent the past two weeks learning some new routines, getting to know their new teacher and already making some **great progress**. You will have seen and read about a few changes that have been made in school this year and some new faces. Firstly, we no longer issue school planners. Since we have introduced 1:1 iPads, the use of the school planner in school has become somewhat redundant. Children have access to all the learning pages on their Showbie account. Investigation into an online reading app where nightly reading is logged resulted in the purchasing of **'Boom reader'**. Mrs Simpson has detailed how this can be used on the main school dojo page. Please remember all children should read 5 times per week so that they are practising their fluency skills. This can now be logged on the new app.

Lunch ordering has also provided us all with a small headache over the last few weeks. Please try your utmost to order children's school meals on this online ordering system. This can be done right through until Christmas. It saves learning time in the classroom and helps to control food wastage. Any issues with either of these new digital platforms then please come and see one of us.

Last week saw some **new faces** in school. We are delighted to welcome back Mrs McNerlin into school and also provide a huge welcome to Miss Grief (Y3 teacher), Mrs Blackhall (Lunchtime assistant) and Miss Archer (Inclusion assistant). We are also so lucky to have secured for the first time at WMG, a learning mentor in Mrs Paton. Mrs Paton will support the children's emotional well-being ensuring that the children are at their best ready to learn as well as working with yourselves if or when needed. Mrs Evan's will continue to work 1 day per week as our school SENDCo. You may also see Mrs Hodgetts around school who leads on safeguarding across our ATLP hub of schools. She will offer myself and other safeguarding leads support in school as well as our school family communities. Miss Marsh (Key stage 2 lead) and Miss Sheward (Key stage 1 lead) will continue to take up their roles as assistant headteachers and will support each key stage. Depending on your child's key stage, you can contact them with any issues you may have. On Monday's they will be your first point of contact as this is not one of my working days.

Thank you to the parents who attended our drop in sessions on Wednesday, it is always nice to see where the children work and meet their teacher. Teachers will have shared with you already key class information. Please remember **Class dojo** is our main way of communication so keep an eye on this as much as possible. You can set notifications on this to let you know when new messages have been added. Each week, teachers will inform you of next week's learning. For an overview of your child's learning for the year then please log on to our school website and follow the curriculum tab. In terms of messaging on class dojo, please try to limit this communication to school hours Monday-Friday. If messages are urgent then these can be directed to myself, Miss Marsh (KS2) or Miss Sheward (KS1)

As well as our school priority of improving writing outcomes, we will continue to jointly work on improving **attendance**. A reminder that I cannot approve any holiday requests. In our first 8 days back, I have already received 10 of these. Please ensure any holidays and dentist and optician appointments are not booked in school time. An attendance figure of 97% and above is what all children are aiming for. We can provide Calpol with a signed form. Children can be back in school as soon as chicken pox have scabbed over which is normally 5 days from first appearing and once children have antibiotics for things like tonsillitis they should be back to school unless exceptionally poorly.

After school clubs will begin on Monday. The office will inform you when these have been added to MCAS. Any outside provider is bookable through them. (See main dojo page). I have added a screen shot of the clubs available this half term.

I have had notification just this week from Tamworth Council that we are being used as a polling station for the **Tamworth by-election** taking place next month. Unfortunately, this is out of our hands so therefore we will have to close on this day. School will be closed for all children on **Thursday 19th October 2023**. We will provide work for children to complete remotely.

The children have come back to school looking very **smart**. A few reminders:

* no loose earrings at all. Please only a small stud if earrings are to be and these need taking out or tape provided on PE days.

* PE kit days (twice weekly) is plain black hoodies, jackets, tracksuits or shorts. I don't mind plain black leggings. House colour t-shirts are to be worn too. No football wear please. The new school tracksuit top and bottoms look very smart and comfortable. These can be purchased from SK uniforms.

* Please label all cardigans and jumpers.

* Hair should be tied back for school.

If you are having any trouble with buying any uniform please contact me and we can see if we can help.

I have attached the **calendar dates** we have so far this year. Please make a note of these for future reference.

Have a wonderful weekend

Mrs Jones

STAR OF THE WEEK

Year 1 – Keegan
Year 2 – Archie A
Year 3 – Katherine
Year 4 – Toby
Year 5 – Ava
Year 6 – Kaycee



MATHS SHED

Leaderboard:

Year 6

Year 2

Year 4

Year 5

Year 3

Year 1



Top Mathstronauts:

- Mia M - Y2

- Freddie b - Y6

- Sophie H - Y4

SPELLING SHED

Leaderboard:

Year 4

Year 2

Year 5

Year 6

Year 3

Year 1



Top Spellers:

- Elijah R - Y2

- Noah M - Y4

- Ivy F - Y4

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Key Dates

September:

October:

November:

December:

TT ROCKSTARS

Congratulations to all of the children who have improved their rock speed this week!

Rock Hero (under 1 sec) -

Rock Legend (under 2 secs)-

Rock Star (under 3 secs)-

Headliner (under 4 secs) -

Support Act (under 5 secs)-

Noah M,

Breakthrough Artist (under 6 secs)-

Emelia H,

HOUSE POINTS

Congratulations to all of our badge winners this week! 🏆

Bronze -

Silver -

Gold -

Emerald -

Ruby -

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ATTENDANCE

Whole School: 95.6%
 Ladybirds: 92.5%
 Year 1: 97.9%
 Year 2: 92.9%
 Year 3: 100%
 Year 4: 99.3%
 Year 5: 95%
 Year 6: 93.6%



Why is high attendance important for your child's education?

As a parent/carer you want the best life chances for your child/children. Being in school every day gives them the very best chance of achieving this. GCSE'S may seem a long way off for your child but 90% of children with average attendance at primary school and into secondary school of around 85% fail to achieve 5 or more GCSEs and one third of children fail to gain any.

Poor attendance in school will limit children's ability to achieve their full potential and this will impact opportunities in life.

IT IS GOOD TO BE GREEN!
 COME ON WMG, WE NEED TO IMPROVE
 ATTENDANCE!
 WE ARE AIMING FOR 97%

THE CLASS NEXT WEEK WITH THE BEST ATTENDANCE
 GETS AN EXTRA PLAYTIME

Year 3 have the
 best
 attendance
 this week!

BIRTHDAY CELEBRATIONS

Happy birthday to all children celebrating their birthday this week! 🎉



James S
 Mason
 Isabelle B
 Tommy
 Jack

SCHOOL LOTTERY

Congratulations Mrs C Fairfax-Haycox who won £5.70 last week and has very kindly donated this back to the school. Thank you.

We have raised £2,704.40 so far.

We have a new area we are fundraising for now and this is the area to the side of the trim trail. This will be an area dedicated to reflection, one that reaches our senses and provides an area of calmness and sanctuary.

