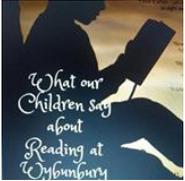


Dear Parents and Friends

We are half way through the school year! This half term has been a busy one with lots of wonderful learning activities taking place. We have been stalked by dinosaurs and creatures from the zoo, stepped back in time with the Vikings and Victorians, teleported to Ancient China and even been to outer space! The newsfeed on our school website, Facebook and Twitter shows just how much happens across school, it gives a real insight into our school and provides a great prompt for asking your child about their learning. www.wybunburydelves.co.uk A huge thank you to all the staff whose weekly updates go above and beyond!

Our **class workshops** this term are focusing on Christian Values. They have proven to be a beautiful way to end our week, joining together in whole school worship with parents led by our children.



Reading: Our new reading books for Read Write Inc Phonics and Collins Big Cat are being enjoyed by everyone and has made a real difference to reading decoding, fluency, reading rates and comprehension. There have been some lovely comments in the reading diaries about how you have investigated new vocabulary. One child didn't know what fig biscuits were so on the next shop they bought some to try; another looked at the ice in the freezer after reading about extreme cold weather. Our KS2 children are full of the facts from the Big Cat books, it is lovely to see them accessing a wider range of different texts and well as reading what they enjoy. We carried out a pupil reading survey and the comments were lovely – this has been shared on our news if you want to take a look.

Young Voices: Year 4 and the School choir enjoyed an amazing night at the Manchester Arena on 30th January as they joined a choir of over 7000 children's voices. Our children thoroughly enjoyed themselves, sang their hearts out and were beautifully behaved. It is an amazing experience for our children. It takes a huge amount of work behind the scenes to make this event happen and we are hugely grateful to the many staff who were involved – especially Mrs Swan and Miss Welch and Miss Holland for preparing the children, and Mrs Lawlor for all the administration; the staff who gave their time so freely to help keep our children safe at the Arena. Thank you to all the parents who made their way to Manchester to support us!



Interfaith week: This year our Interfaith Week theme has been 'Faith Around the World' which allowed us to focus on the British Value of Tolerance and Respect of different Cultures and Religions. We have been on a journey around the world looking at faith and beliefs in different countries. We have found that Christianity can be found all over the world as can the other major religions of Islam, Hinduism and Judaism. We found out about places of worship, pilgrimage, beliefs and sacred sites. We looked at the similarities and differences of how the different countries and faiths worship and believe.



The week began with a virtual reality visit to Australia and then each class has focused on a different country. We finished our week with a sharing worship, our world tour took us to Argentina, South Africa, Israel, Denmark, Java, India and the African nations.

Safer Internet Day: How can you keep safe online? How do you know if a website is trying to trick you? What does a secure password look like? Can you spot 'fake news'? The children played Google's 'Interland' game, which let them explore different worlds that tackled key issues like keeping information safe, online bullying and separating the truth from fiction! 'Interland' is a great resource and is accessible at home if you would like to play! Keeping up with the latest games and crazes online can be very challenging and many adults feel out of their depth. There are websites that can help – Netaware and National Online Safety parent guides are a good starting point. PC Nick will be coming to school very soon to deliver Online Awareness sessions.

Fundraising: We received 2 lovely letters about our fundraising efforts before Christmas. Firstly, the St. Luke's Rudolph run was enjoyed by everyone and raised a staggering £1981.04 A huge thank you to everyone who sponsored our children and gave so generously. Secondly from Chance Changing Lives we received a letter to thank us for our Christmas service collections, £369.70 – another fantastic amount! The collection was put towards supporting their Saturday 'kitchen' at Jubilee House in Crewe and the social supermarket.

This half term we have been raising money to support Clifton Creek School in Australia who lost everything in the terrible bush fires. Thank you for your support of our non-uniform day, bake sale, Dodgeball and Balloon Pop! A final total will be shared on the website news after half term.

PTA: A huge thank you to our newly formed PTA committee. They have been busy setting up the association and have begun their fundraising. They have their own Facebook page where you can keep up to date with all that is happening! Thank you for your support at the Parent Coffee stop at the disco and for buying raffle tickets – the draw has been made today. Their next event will be a Children's Film Night on Wednesday 1st April 4.30pm-6pm – more details will follow after half term!

CDAT Links: Our staff joined the other CDAT schools at Chester Cathedral on our January INSET day for a commissioning service and have been involved in joint training with other CDAT schools for SEN, Science, Geography, Talk for Writing, Early Years and

Teaching Assistant training. The links between our schools are growing. Year 2 from Brereton will be visiting us for an afternoon next half term.

The Trust now comprises 7 schools, St. Marks Bredbury is the latest member of our family and 2 more schools will join before the end of the school year. We have made a display in the hall for the children to see where the other schools are.

TT Rockstars CDAT Battle: This week we have battled the 4 of the CDAT schools for a '*Top of The Rocks*' times table battle. From Monday 10am until Wednesday 8.30pm an amazing amount of correct answers were totalled across the schools. The results are now in and WYBUNBURY DELVES were crowned the CDAT Schools champions! A staggering 722,428 correct answers in 3 days were achieved between the 5 schools who played. This is amazing! Wybunbury Y3 topped the class battles – 23 classes from across the 5 schools played; Wybunbury Y6 came 2nd and Wybunbury Y4 3rd. We also top the top 3 spots for overall players with Alex P from Y3 being the top scorer in the whole competition; closely followed by Oliver D Y6 and Henry B Y6. A huge than you to everyone who played!

Lost property: Please may we ask that you check all your child's belongings they bring to school to ensure they are clearly named. Being young, children leave their uniform, drinks bottles, shoes etc ... all over the school premises and we can only return lost property if we know who it belongs to.

Parent Forum: Meets in March for this. Our reps are gathering comments for discussion. Thank you to all our reps who co-ordinate this information and give their time to the meeting.

Parent Evening: It was lovely so many of you came to enjoy looking at your child's books and finding out about their learning in school. Thank you for completing the feedback forms.

Parking: We have received a phone call from a member of the public concerned about our children getting out of cars into the road rather than the pavement. As we are all aware our road is narrow and dangerous, please park responsibly and use the car park whenever possible.

Thank you: I would like to thank the dedicated Wybunbury Delves team – teachers, TAs, Preschool, OOSC, admin, cleaners, middays and the kitchen team whose hard work and commitment make Wybunbury a special place to be for our children, families and community.

Attached are an Attendance Newsletter and Key Dates Booked in our diary for the school year to come – theme days and visits for the summer term will be added to the Easter bulletin in readiness for the start of term.

On behalf of everyone at Wybunbury Delves, I wish you a restful and enjoyable half term break! Let's hope the sun shines and we begin to feel some spring time warmth.

Kind regards

Mrs Chesters

Attendance Newsletter

We do have to monitor attendance and we will let you know if it drops below 90%. Attendance of 90% at this point of the year mean your child has already had 2 full weeks off school. Whilst we do recognise there have been some horrible bugs about this winter, please consider if your child really does need to stay at home.

Registration and Punctuality

Although we understand that occasionally things can go wrong which cause late registration, it is important that children are in school on time each day. When children arrive late they miss important information from the teacher regarding the day as lessons start promptly.

You are reminded that our school times are:

8.40am—8.50am Registration

8.50am—9.20am Pupils will receive a Late Mark—Code L

9.20am onwards—Pupils are marked as having an Unauthorised Absence— code U

Absence

It is expected that parents or carers will provide an explanation if their child is absent. This should be received **on the first day the absence** occurs, at the start of the school day and, where possible, give some indication as to when the child is expected to return. You can do this by calling the office, leaving a voice mail or by email to the office. If school does not receive a message giving reason for absence, then as part of our safeguarding procedures, after checking the registers, a text will be sent to parents requesting they contact school immediately so we can ensure children are accounted for.

Ill Health

We understand that, on occasions, pupils may have to miss school due to ill health. We ask parents to:

1. Only keep pupils off school when it is absolutely necessary
2. Contact school by email (office@wybunburydelves.co.uk) or phone on 01270 841302 on the first day of absence by 9.20am, indicating the reason for the child's absence and the expected date of return. Please note if the reason given is 'poorly' or 'unwell', staff will ask for further information about the absence.
3. In cases of persistent, prolonged absence (over 5 days) or repeated absence, school will require medical evidence, e.g. doctor's note, to explain the absence.
4. Parents are asked to keep a child off for 48 hours where s/he suffers sickness or diarrhoea.
5. Parents are asked to contact the school for advice regarding recommended absence for contagious illness.

Medical Appointments

Medical/dental appointments should be made out of school hours to prevent disruption to learning. Where this is not possible, please contact the school office and provide the appropriate evidence for our records, e.g. letter/appointment card. This can be emailed as a photograph of the letter.

Why is attendance importance?

- 98% attendance means that your child has missed 4 days in the school year
- 95% attendance means that your child has missed 10 days in the school year (2weeks)
- 90% attendance means that your child has missed 19 days in the school year (Nearly 4 weeks)
- 80% attendance means that your child has missed 38 days in the school year (More than 1/2 term absent)
- 5 minutes late each day means three whole days lost each year

The school staff use the Cheshire East Council codes and guidelines for entries and absences.

At Wybunbury Delves: **Outstanding attendance = 97%+Average attendance = 95%-96% Attendance monitored 90%-94%**
Attendance below 90% is of concern

Holidays from school

Parents have a legal duty to ensure that their children attend school or the alternative provision on a regular basis. The Education Act 1996 makes it a criminal offence for a parent to "fail to secure their child's regular attendance at the school." Amendments to the regulations remove any reference to family holidays, extended leave and the statutory threshold of ten school days.

Parents are not entitled to take a child out of school for a family holiday. The amendments make clear that Head Teachers may not grant any leave of absence (holiday) during term time unless there are exceptional circumstances.

The governors have now adopted the stricter interpretation in accordance with LA protocol regarding authorisation of term time absence, including holidays states, "We would like to take the following opportunity to explain to all parents the law regarding holiday taken during term time; that unless there are exceptional circumstances most requests will be turned down. If parents still decide to take their children out of school for a holiday, then we have no choice but to mark the absence as an unauthorised absence. It should be realised that unauthorised sessions of absence could lead to the involvement of the Education Welfare Service and the issuing of a Fixed Penalty Notice, the cost of which is £60 per parent per child if paid within 21 days increasing to £120 per parent per child to be paid within 28 days if remains unpaid will be processed to Court for prosecution. These Fixed Penalty Notices have been introduced as part of the government's drive to improve attendance." Please see our attendance policy on the website.

Fixed Penalty Notices

The school may ask Cheshire East to issue fixed penalty notices on its behalf under the following circumstances:

- More than ten sessions (five school days) lost due to unauthorised absence (O code) in any two consecutive half terms
- Unauthorised leave of absence (G code) of at least ten sessions (five school days) due to holidays in term time
- Persistent (more than ten) late arrival at school, for example after the register has closed, in any two consecutive half terms

Date	Time	What's Happening	Who / Further Detail
Thursday 13 th February			Break Up for Half Term
Friday 14 th February			School closed – INSET Day Holiday Club open for booking
Monday 24 th February			Return to School
Thursday 27 th February		Y2 Theme Day	See class newsletter for details
Friday 28 th February	2.50pm	Y4 Class Worship	Join Y4 for a short worship in the hall
Monday 2 nd March		Preschool Theme Day	St. David's Day
Tuesday 3 rd March		Y1 Visit TBC	Details to follow
Thursday 5 th March		World Book Day	Dress up as your favourite book character
Friday 13 th March		Y2 Class Worship	Join Y2 for a short worship in the hall
Mon 9 th – 13 th March		Science Week	Science activities across the week, details to follow
Friday 13 th March	2.50pm	Y2 Class Worship	Join Y2 for a short worship in the hall
Monday 16 th March		Choir Concert	South Cheshire College – details to follow
Tuesday 17 th March		Preschool Theme Day	St. Patricks Day
Friday 20 th March		Y3 Visit	Details to follow
Friday 20 th March	2.50pm	Y1 Class Worship	Join Y1 for a short worship in the hall
Wednesday 25 th March		Y4 Theme Day	See class newsletter for details
Thursday 26 th March		Y3 Theme Day	See class newsletter for details
Friday 27 th March	2.50pm	Y3 Class Worship	Join Y3 for a short worship in the hall
Friday 27 th March		Y6 Visit TBC	Details to follow
Monday 30 th March	PM	Easter Messy Church	Reception families are invited to join Easter activities.
Mon 30 th – Thurs 2 nd Apr		Preschool Stay and Play	Details to follow
Wednesday 1 st April	4.30pm	PTA Film Night	Details to follow
Thursday 2 nd April	9.15am	Easter Service	Y1 Y2 Y3 Share their Easter service in the hall
Thursday 2 nd April	10.30am	Easter Service	Y4 Y5 Y6 Share their Easter service at church
Thursday 2 nd April	2.15pm	Study Work Sharing	Y1-Y6 Share their Study Books 2.15pm-4pm
Friday 3 rd April			Break Up for Easter Holidays
Monday 20 th April			School Reopens after the Easter holidays
Monday 20 th – 24 th April		British Values Week	
Thursday 23 rd April		Preschool Theme Day	St. George's Day
Friday 24 th April	2.50pm	Y5 Class Worship	Join Y5 for a short worship in the hall
Friday 1 st May	2.50pm	Y4 Class Worship	Join Y4 for a short worship in the hall
Monday 4 th – 6 th May		History Focus Week	This week we will focus on the VE Day Commemoration
Friday 8 th May		BANK HOLIDAY	SCHOOL CLOSED
Monday 11 th – 14 th May		KS2 SATS Week	We wish Y6 all the best
Friday 15 th May	2.50pm	Y3 Class Worship	Join Y3 for a short worship in the hall
Friday 22 nd May			Break Up for Half Term
Monday 1 st June			School Reopens after half term
Monday 1 st – 5 th June		Keeping Healthy Week	
Friday 5 th June		Football Fundraiser	Activities to raise money for Team Lewis Trust
Friday 5 th June	2.50pm	Y2 Class Worship	Join Y2 for a short worship in the hall
Tuesday 9 th June		Academy Photos	Y6 Leavers and Preschool Graduation
Friday 12 th June		Y3 Visit	Details to follow
Friday 12 th June	2.50pm	Y1 Class Worship	Join Y1 for a short worship in the hall
Friday 19 th June	2.50pm	Rec Class Worship	Join Rec for a short worship in the hall
Monday 22 nd -24 th June		New Starters Sessions	Details will be sent out to our new families
Monday 6 th July		Transition Morning	Our children will meet their new teacher
Monday 6 th July	3.30-4.30pm	Meet Teacher Drop In	Meet your child's new class teacher and visit their new classroom
Thursday 9 th July	9.15am	Rec Y1 Y2 Sports Day	Parents are invited to join us to watch their child participate
Thursday 9 th July	1.15pm	Y3 Y4 Y5 Y6 Sports Day	Parents are invited to join us to watch their child participate
Tuesday 14 th July	2.15pm	Study Work Sharing	Rec, Y1-Y6 Share their Study Books 2.15pm-4pm
Wednesday 15 th July	1.30pm	Leavers Service	Our Y6 leavers families are invited to join us at church
Thursday 16 th July			Close for the Summer Holidays