

**Newsletter
Term 3
Monday 30th January 2023**



Dear parents and carers,

Due to technique issues on Friday, we have a Monday edition of the newsletter instead. I hope this doesn't cause too much confusion! There is quite a lot happening over the next week or so, please see the information below. Learning reviews are next week and we would love to see as many of you there as possible, please remember to book your appointments.

We welcome a new month this week, hopefully it will bring lighter days and warmer weather for us all!

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NEU – STRIKE ACTION – FEBRUARY 1st

As stated in last week's letter, the school will be fully open on Wednesday with some slight changes of staffing in some classes. In the classes where teachers are not in, children will be taught by familiar adults. Information about any further strike action will be shared with you nearer the time. NEU Industrial action is currently planned for March 2nd, March 15th and 16th.

CHILDREN'S MENTAL HEALTH WEEK

We are proud to be taking part in 'Children's Mental Health Week' from the 6th to 10th February. This year's theme is 'Let's Connect' and we will be encouraging children and adults to connect with others in healthy, rewarding and meaningful ways.

Children will:

- take part in daily well-being activities in class. These will also be posted on social media so you can enjoy at home as well;
- learn more about the importance of mental health in a special worship;
- enjoy a PSHE lesson about the theme of 'connection';
- have fun expressing themselves through an art activity.

Attached is a 'Top Tips for Parents and Carers' poster produced by the organisation Place2Be. This shares different ways in which families can connect with their child and help them make meaningful connections with others. <https://childrensmentalhealthweek.org.uk/families/>

We look forward to a fantastic week and sharing lots of our learning with you.

Beth Manning

PSHE Lead

HELPING HANDS ETHOS GROUP

Yes, you can!

We have set up new Ethos groups on both sites. The children in these groups will be our charity champions and will lead the work we do as a school helping our local and wider community. The children have got lots of ideas about who they want to help and what we can all do. To start with the children in our 'Helping Hands' club would like to invite you all to bring in just one can of something for the food bank during the last week of term 3- next week (it could be soup, rice pudding, custard,



baked beans, etc.) If every child brought in just one can, we would have a couple of hundred cans to pass on to the food bank. The Ethos Club's mission is to help our community and this is one of their first initiatives - please support if you can and watch this space for more of their amazing fundraising ideas. The slogan above 'Yes you can' came from the children. Let's support this group help us all make a real difference.

KINDNESS AND RESPECT

Sadly, I am having to ask again that parents and carers treat all school staff with kindness and respect. The vast majority of parents and carers are incredibly supportive, however, there have been recent occasions where school staff have been verbally abused in front of children – this is simply not acceptable. There have also been unpleasant comments written about school staff on parent groups on social media. These comments are usually shared with members of school staff and cause enormous upset. Please be respectful at all times including when sending emails to school staff. We expect our children to show respect at all times – please can we all model this. Verbal or written aggression towards members of school staff may result in those parents and carers being excluded from school property. We are all working incredibly hard and doing our absolute best, but even more importantly we are human beings who have feelings. Thank you to all our parents who do appreciate the work we do and are always kind and supportive. If you have any concerns about your child and their education, please talk to a member of school staff – we will do our absolute best to help.

WEDUC – ATTENDANCE

As the Weduc App is unable to synch with the attendance data on the school Sims platform beyond 90 days, and there has clearly been an issue with synching since September, it means that the attendance data on the Weduc will never be accurate, therefore, for the rest of this year, attendance data has been removed from Weduc to avoid any confusion.

REMINDERS

Please can we remind children not to bring any trading cards into school. Much as we want to support children to collect and swap with other children, it always ends up with lost cards, mistaken swapping and upset children. Please encourage your children to keep the cards at home.

Another reminder that when it is your child's birthday, we are sorry but it is not school policy to allow children to give out sweets to their classmates during school time. Please do not send your child into school with sweets or treats to give out.

LEARNING REVIEW MEETINGS

Our next learning review meetings are scheduled for Tuesday 7th February and Thursday 9th February. A link to sign up to meet your child's teacher has been sent out on **today** via Weduc.

APPS FOR HOME LEARNING

We have a number of subscriptions for Apps that support children's learning. These can be found on class pages on the school website.



Your children have individual log ins for Spelling Shed and Times Table Rock Stars. They are very useful Apps for your children to use at home to support regular practise of spellings and times tables. Please encourage your children to practise at home. Please check class pages for links to other useful websites to support learning.

Here are a list of some useful websites to support learning.

<https://www.topmarks.co.uk/> - great for maths games and activities

<https://readtheory.org/> - reading comprehension for KS2

<https://www.phonicsplay.co.uk/> - Phonics

<https://home.oxfordowl.co.uk/> - reading

NUT REMINDER

Please can we remind everyone that we are a **nut-free school**. Snacks and lunch boxes must **not** contain anything nutty including chocolate hazelnut spreads like Nutella or peanut butter. PLEASE support us. If it was your child who was severely allergic, you would want everyone to support them and keep them safe. Please consider the safety of others. Your consideration and co-operation is greatly appreciated.

DIARY DATES

Wednesday 1st February – Busy Bees trip to the Garden centre at Hewish

Monday 6th February – Year 4 Family worship @ Hewish and @West Wick

Wednesday 8th February – School nursing team – National height and weight and hearing BB and Yr6 @H

Wednesday 8th February – Year 3 Ukuleles with NS music service– @Hewish and @WW

Thursday 9th February – Yr4 – 6 School swimming galas

Thursday 9th February – School nursing team – National height and weight and hearing BB and Yr6 @WW

Friday 10th February – Last day of Term 3

Monday 20th February – First day of Term 4

Monday 27th February – Reading for pleasure week

Tuesday 28th February – Bedtime stories at school

Friday 3rd March – Book day celebrations – dress as a book character. (See separate letter)

Friday 31st March – Last day of Term 4