

**Newsletter
Term 5
Friday 24th May 2024**



Dear parents and carers,

We have come to the end of a short but very busy term! All our children have worked incredibly hard this term and we have been very proud of their efforts. Term 6 is always an exciting one and we have lots to look forward to. We have a trip to the seaside booked for our year one children and a singing festival for year 3 and 4. The whole school will take part in Enterprise week and our children are desperate to organise a talent show!

We will all start to think about the next academic year too. All the children will meet their new class teachers in June. We will meet our new Reception children and their families and our year 6 children will spend time in their secondary schools before entertaining us with their production. I hear this year it is going to be a very funny show! I can't wait!

Enjoy the Bank holiday and the half term holiday. See you all on the 3rd June.

Emma Hardy-Smith

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Follow me on Twitter @StAnnes_EHS

HEALTHY ME WEEK / SPORTS DAY / WALK TO SCHOOL WEEK

What a fantastic week of activities we have had this week. Thank you to all the staff involved but especially Miss Williams, Mr Webster and Mrs Hodges for all their hard work in bringing Healthy me week together. The children have tried lots of different sports and activities including Laser run, yoga, Curling and Tri Golf. We were very fortunate to have pupils from Priory Community school leading sporting activities for our children on both sites. A huge thank you to the staff at Priory and the students who were amazing ambassadors for the school.

As part of our Healthy schools programme, our children have all had the opportunity to cook healthy food this week too which they have thoroughly enjoyed. Hopefully, they have been inspired to recreate the recipes at home.

Our sports days were fabulous family occasions. Thank you to everyone who came along to support the day. We are loving our new school houses. We will be carefully counting all the points amassed on sports day and a trophy will be presented to the winning house on both sites. A big thank you to the staff of Elmtree Learning partnership, who gave up their time to support us by running our refreshments stalls on both sites.

Thank you for supporting children to walk and scoot to school this week when you could.

Here are a few images of the week so far - Please follow our Twitter feeds and class pages on the website for lots more photos of the week.



SUMMER FAYRE

This year our Summer Fayre will be held @West Wick on **Saturday 6th July 11.30am-2.30pm**. The PTFA do a fantastic job of organising this event and would love any offers of help either on the day or organising beforehand. If you are able to help in any way please contact the PTFA via Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/groups/659082187570336/> or email stannesptfa@gmail.com

More information about the fayre will follow soon – save the date!

CHANGES TO PENALTY NOTICES FOR UNAUTHORISED ABSENCES



As we have previously shared, the Department for education will introduce statutory guidance for **all** schools to improve attendance in **August 2024**, ready for the new school year in September. This Dfe guidance must be followed by all schools.

There are some changes to the penalty notice framework which all families need to be aware of. This will affect term time holidays and unauthorised absences from September 2024. Penalty notices are increasing and court action is recommended for repeated unauthorised absences. Please be mindful of this when planning holidays next year.

1. Fines are increasing from £60 to £80 per child, per parent for unauthorised absences- this is 10 sessions within a 10 week period- it may not be consecutive days. (5 days unauthorised absences in a 10 week period)

2. A second penalty notice for the same child for 5 days of unauthorised absence within any **three-year period**, will immediately be charged at the higher rate of £160. This means that if a second holiday is taken within 3 years, the penalty notice will be £160 per child for each parent.
3. Penalty Notices will be capped at two fines within any three-year period. Once this limit has been reached, any further unauthorised absences will result in the local authority pursuing other actions like parenting orders, education supervision orders and court prosecutions. If prosecuted, fines could be up to £2,500.
4. The threshold at which a penalty notice **must** be considered is 10 sessions in a 10 week rolling period. This includes all unauthorised absences not just holidays.
5. Local Authorities (LAs) will have a duty to check with other LAs if a penalty notice has previously been issued in the preceding 3 years, which means that even if families move areas, any previously issued penalty notices by another LA can count towards the 2 penalty notice limit per parent per child in the 3 year period.

This new statutory guidance will mean that our Trust policies and practices will be updated for September. Until the end of the year, we will continue to follow our current practices.

School attendance is mandatory for all children. **Please be aware that holidays in term time will not be authorised.** If you are considering booking a holiday in term time for next year, please read the guidance carefully and take into account the increases to penalty notices, parenting orders and education supervisory orders that may be issued as a result. This is DfE guidance that all schools must follow.

Unfortunately, some parents and carers are not always truthful about holidays and leave messages that children are absent due to illness, please be mindful that if schools have reason to believe a holiday has been taken (children are always excited and tell their teachers and their friends) the absence will be recorded as unauthorised.

Please be very mindful that children who arrive at school late after the registers have closed are marked as absent. This is recorded as an unauthorised absence and this could result in penalty notices or further action being required. Please ensure children arrive at school on time to avoid this.

We ask that all parents and carers work with us and support us to ensure that attendance for all pupils is strong.

Please see the link below for some useful information.

<https://educationhub.blog.gov.uk/2024/02/29/fines-for-parents-for-taking-children-out-of-school-what-you-need-to-know/>

The full DfE document for schools– working together to improve school attendance- can be found here:

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/65f1b048133c22b8eecd38f7/Working_together_to_improve_school_attendance_applies_from_19_August_2024.pdf

SUN PROTECTION

Now that warmer weather has arrived, we need to be mindful of sun protection. Please make sure your child has a **named** sunhat to wear outside. Please ensure children have **water bottles** in school. (Please only put water into bottles – squash is attracting ants!)



We advise that you apply high factor once a day sun cream before school but children can bring sun cream if needed. Sun cream must be applied by the child and cannot be shared with other children.

MEDICAL APPOINTMENTS



Medical appointments during the school day are usually unavoidable and we do understand this, but if you are collecting your child for an appointment, we ask that you provide evidence of this appointment. This can either be in the form of an appointment card, appointment letter or a text message or email from the healthcare professional. Please notify the school office in advance of any

appointments for your child. Without evidence of the appointment, the absence may be recorded as an unauthorised absence.

FOODBANK



If you are experiencing any hardship, Weston-super-Mare Foodbank are able to offer support. In order to access this help you need to be given vouchers. As a school, we are able to issue these vouchers so please speak to us or follow this link for more information: <https://westonsupermare.foodbank.org.uk/>

If you would like to make a donation to Foodbank we have collection points in both of our foyers. This link will have a list of current most wanted items: <https://westonsupermare.foodbank.org.uk/give-help/donate-food/>

SAFEGUARDING

The Designated Safeguarding lead at our school is our principal, **Emma Hardy Smith**. Deputy Safeguarding Leads are Diane Martin (SENCo), Ian Phillips (Vice Principal) and Rachel Few (Learning mentor)
Please share any concerns with any of the safeguarding team.

Our safeguarding governor is Kate Sargent Kate.sargent@saca.theplt.org.uk

Our school website has lots of safeguarding information and many links to other helpful sites. The North Somerset safeguarding partnership has lots of useful information for parents and carers available. Please click on the link below for additional support.
<https://www.nsscp.co.uk/resources-parents-carers>

DIARY DATES

Friday 24th May – Last day of Term 5
Monday 3rd June - First day of Term 6
Saturday 6th July – Summer Fayre 11.30am-2.30pm
Tuesday 9th July – Tulip Photography class photos @ H
Tuesday 9th July – Y6@WW Production
Thursday 11th July - Y6@H Production
Friday 12th July – Tulip Photography class photos @WW
Wednesday 24th July – Last day of Term 6

INFORMATION

ParkPlay is helping build happier, healthier communities in North Somerset through the life changing power of play. ParkPlay happens in Weston-super-Mare every Saturday at: Castlebatch Recreational Ground 9.30am – 11am

We aim to bring families and friends of all ages and abilities across communities together to have fun through a variety of games and activities. Aunties, uncles, grandparents are certainly most welcome and encouraged to get physically involved. It's a FREE, safe, welcoming and an inclusive way for many to connect and have fun. To find out more go to: <https://park-play.com/parks/south-west/>

To keep up to date go to Better Health North Somerset Facebook page. <https://www.facebook.com/BetterHealthNS/>

Or call the physical activity team, Public Health North Somerset Council 01275 88 2731

