

“Every child is a unique child of God.”

WHINMOOR



Dear Families,

10.03.22

Attendance and Punctuality

Within the St. Paul's community, we all want our children to succeed. Children only get one chance at school and this chance is affected by not attending school every day and on time. If your child is poorly and unable to attend school, please inform us by ringing school by 9am at the latest. Please rest assured that if you send your child to school and they become poorly, we would ring you and let you know. When children do not attend or are late, they often struggle to keep up with schoolwork and miss out on the social side of school life. Poor punctuality and attendance can often affect their ability to make and keep friendships, which is such a vital part of growing up. Lateness not only affects the child, but other members of the class, as the teacher often has to stop the lesson and go over key learning points..

100% Attendance	0 Weeks of missed learning
95% Attendance	2 Weeks of missed learning
92% Attendance	3 Weeks & 1 day of missed learning
85% Attendance	6 Weeks of missed learning (a full half term!)
75% Attendance	9 Weeks & 2 days of missed learning

Our expectations for a 'SMART start:'

Doors open at 8.40am and children can come straight into class and begin their learning tasks. At 8.45am the bell rings and doors close at 8.50am. At this stage, you need to bring your child to the school office and sign them in. We welcome in our Y6 children at 8.30am, who kindly support us in getting 'learning ready' for all our other classes of children.

Message from Mrs. Sharkey: Rhythm of Life – A Journey for Lent 2022

The Rhythm of Life is a fabulous resource from the Diocese of Leeds, which we use during Lent. It is based on the seven Rhythm of Life habits (Celebrating, Sharing, Reflecting, Encouraging, Praying, Creating and Resting) that were introduced in Advent, Lent and Pentecost last year. These habits can help us to flourish and to learn to understand our lives, our relationships and ourselves. They can also help us to learn more about God and his love for us. During Lent, we look at six 'relationships' which are a part of our lives. We will reflect on why each is important and what we can do to develop it. We will explore these relationships during our Collective Worship within school and will provide families with reflections and actions to explore over weekends. These will be available on our Worship page on our school website each week.

The final week of Lent is Holy Week, running up to the great Christian festival of Easter. During this week, we will provide families with resources to think about the Easter story and its meaning for Christians. This will be sent home with children and available on our Worship page on our school website. Lent is not just about listening and thinking. It is not even about giving something up. Lent is about taking action and learning to live a better life. So our children are thinking about what behaviours we can 'fast from,' and what behaviours

we can 'feast on,' to bring peace to this earth. We look forward to sharing our 'Journey for Lent' with you via Twitter and would love to see what you get up to at home. Please share your reflections and actions by tagging our Twitter page @WhinmoorStPaul's.

Ukraine Crisis

As a community, we continue to be shocked and saddened at the ongoing crisis in Ukraine. Our older children watch Newsround, which is produced for a young audience and we have answered their questions and addressed the conflict at an age appropriate level. We have thought about our Christian and British values, particularly peace and reconciliation and linked these to a peaceful resolution. We hold all those affected by the terrible crisis in our thoughts and prayers. Please visit 'Documents' on our website, where we have uploaded some links to support families discussing the invasion with their children.

Message from Mrs Vaughan - World Book Day

I would like to say a huge thank you to our families for the enthusiasm they showed towards World Book Day. The children had a fabulous day completing a range of reading activities such as participating in virtual author events, the Masked Reader, Musical Theatre Workshops and entering the Potato Character Competition. Please do look at our school Twitter page for photographs of the day! Developing a love for reading amongst our children is vital and hugely valuable. The benefits of reading include increased general knowledge, a positive impact on academic achievement, enhanced reading ability and vocabulary growth!

Outdoor Libraries

We are very lucky to have two outdoor libraries within our school grounds. The purpose of the outdoor libraries is for the school community to share their love of reading! Please feel free to have a look and take a book! Please add books that you would like to donate/share with others and remember to bring them back when you have finished! The outdoor library for Early Years and Key Stage 1 can be found in the Quad and the outdoor library for Key Stage 2 can be found at the end of the Key Stage 2 playground (outside the Year 4 classroom). Happy reading!

Message from Mrs. Wallis: Bikeability for Year 5

Confident cycling opens up a world of opportunity – commuting to school, out for a family bike ride, keeping fit or just cycling with friends. We are so pleased that our year 5 children are now confident cyclists, after completing their Bikeability training course last week, with some children even completing their Level 2 award. This allowed the children to learn how to handle their bike in an urban environment, in our local area. Well done to Year 5, you worked hard and the coaches were extremely impressed with your attitude to learning.

Message from Miss Hamilton: Community Page

As a school, we have lots of information passed on to us by different companies and agencies as well as competitions and opportunities for different activities children can participate in. We like to keep you informed of these deals, offers and workshops and regularly update the Community page on our website. You can find it under the 'Parents' tab on the website. Please do check this page out to keep up to date with activities that may be of interest to you.

Message from Miss Naylor – Red Nose Day

Friday 18th March is Red Nose Day. To celebrate, we will be having a 'Wear Red Day'. Children are invited to come to school in non-uniform and wear a hint of red (if you have any). Children are also invited to enter a joke competition. If they have a tummy tickler or a belly laugh joke, then please write it on a piece of paper with your child's name and class on the back. These must be handed in to the class teachers by Thursday 17th March. You are able to make a small donation via School Money for Comic Relief.

As always, we thank you for your continued support.

Miss McBride
Head teacher

