

# Nursted Community Primary School



## Newsletter 13 Friday 12 January 2024

### Message From Mrs Vousden

Happy New Year everyone and welcome back. I hope you have a fantastic 2024.

This term in PSHE our whole school focus will be Dreams and Goals and I will start the children off with thinking about this theme in assembly today.

One dream I have for our school is to improve attendance and punctuality. You will have heard much in the press recently about the negative impact of poor attendance on children's life chances and you can find more details below. We understand that children get ill and need time off. We know that for some of our children, coming into school in the morning is very stressful for a variety of reasons. We want to work with you to try to help in these circumstances – please get in touch if you want to discuss this. We also want to help parents understand when their child is too ill to come to school and when they could just keep going, despite feeling a bit under the weather, please [Click here](#) to find more information from the NHS.

Over the next week some parents and carers will be receiving letters saying I would like to meet with them about their child's attendance, others will get a letter saying their child's attendance is being monitored and we hope it will improve. Some of you will get a letter to say we are pleased to see an improvement in your child's attendance, and finally some of you will get a text asking you to find ways to get your child to school on time. When children are regularly late, it is not only their education that suffers, but the education of all the children in the class.

We dedicate a lot of time and energy to communicating with parents about this issue because: 'Moments matter, attendance counts.' We nag because we care. Get in touch if you think we can help you improve your child's attendance.

Kay Vousden  
Headteacher

### Attendance – What does the data tell us?

The link between attendance and attainment is clear:

- In 2018/19, just 40% of persistently absent (PA) children in KS2 achieved expected KS2 standards, compared with 84% of pupils who were regular attenders.
- And 36% of PA children in KS4 got 9 to 4 in their English and maths GCSEs, also compared with 84% of regular attenders.
- More than half (54%) of pupils who were PA in Year 10 and then rarely absent in Year 11, passed at least 5 GCSEs, compared to 36% of pupils who were persistently absent in both years.2

But attendance is important for more than just attainment:

- Regular school attendance can facilitate positive peer relationships, which is a protective factor for mental health and wellbeing.

### Applying for a Primary School Place for your Reception child in September 2024

The last day to apply for a primary school place for your child is Monday 15<sup>th</sup> January

[Click here](#) to apply for a place.

## Online Safety

This continues to be an important issues and we will give you updates and information whenever we can. See attachments below on: What Parents Need to Know about Disney.

## Play Leaders

We are pleased to say that Mrs Hamilton, who works for the LA, will be visiting school for the next 6 weeks to train a group of our Y5/6 children in different play time games. These children will then help children across the school to play different games. We look forward to seeing what they can achieve! Fridays will be 'No football day' for this term and maybe beyond, as we try to encourage and support children to play in different ways.

## Board Game Club

This club on Monday at 3.15pm will not run on Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> January due to staff training, sorry for an inconvenience caused.

## Dates for Diary –

### Term 3+4

Last Day of Term 3 and Break the Rules Day (please see attached poster) - Friday 9<sup>th</sup> February.

Monday 19<sup>th</sup> February – First day of Term 4

Friday 15<sup>th</sup> March – Easter Bunny Bingo - School Fund Raiser

## You are invited to attend your child's class assembly at 2.40pm on the following dates

### Term 3:

- Saturn Class - 19.01.24 - Y6
- Jupiter Class - New date to be set due to swimming - Y5
- Venus Class - New date to be set due to swimming - Y4
- Mercury Class - 09.02.24 – Y3

### Term 4:

- Neptune Class - 01.03.24 – Y2
- Mars Class - 15.03.24 – Y1
- Pluto Class - 22.03.24 – YR

## Attachments

- What Parents Need to Know about Disney.
- Kidical Mass Ride
- PH Camps February half term
- Break the Rules Day

## From Other People

### Kidical Mass Ride Devizes/Street Tag – A message from Catherine Read

See attached information about this family ride on Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> February starting at 11am

Our family friendly ride will start in the Market Place finish at Hillworth Park. We encourage colourful dress and ringing of bells, plus bring a picnic/snack to enjoy at the end. This ride is organised as part of Kidical Mass action days to show how much we want safe spaces for children to cycle and get around independently in Devizes.

## Information from Wiltshire Council

Please see the following information from [Wiltshire Council](#) which you may find useful.

*Through kindness, teamwork and determination we thrive.*