Willowpark Primary Academy Newsletter

January 2020

Our Willowpark Academy Values;
RESPECTFUL | RESPONSIBLE | RESILIENT | SAFE

Our Curriculum drivers;
ENTERPRISE | SPORT | MUSIC | OUTDOOR LEARNING

Dear Parents and children,

Welcome to the January Newsletter

What a super Spring term we have in store for us – there are lots of exciting topics, trips and experiences planned for our pupils this term! We can't wait to get started!

Our topics this term are listed below:

Nursery: Winter & Transport

Reception: Winter & Polar Animals

Year 1 & 2: Where in the World (Geography) and Living things and their Habitats (Science)

Year 3 & 4: The Romans (History) and Forces (Science)

Year 5 & 6: The Titanic (History) and Light (Y6 Science)

Alongside these topics, we will also have a numbers of enrichment activities running this term including;

- Safer Internet day (Computing & PHSE)
- Spelling Bee (English)
- Number Day (Maths)
- Mindful Monsters Week (Mental Health Awareness Week)
- World book Day (English)
- Science Week

Attendance & Punctuality

Attendance and good punctuality continues to be a focus for the year ahead and **we expect all our children to achieve at least good attendance (95%)**

Our Attendance Officer in school, Ms. Reid, is around to support if you have questions about your child's attendance. Please don't hesitate to contact her on 0161 359 5699

Reminder – Leave of absence requests relating to family holidays in term time will **NOT** be authorised.

Spelling Bee

We are very much looking forward to our Spelling Bee event later this term. All children in Ys 1-6 should have received their spellings to learn and a sponsor form for the event. This was a great success last year and raised valuable funds for our library and reading provision in school. We would like to do even better this year so please encourage your children to learn their spellings for the event and collect some sponsors along the way!

Reminders for parents

School Uniform

We have an increasing number of children not wearing the correct school uniform to school. Please can we remind parents that children should attend in full school uniform, including grey skirt/trousers, school jumper/cardigan and completely black shoes. If you are struggling with your child's uniform for any reason, please comes and speak to us in school. Texts will be sent out to parents for those children affected.

PE Kits

Please could we remind parents that **ALL** children need a PE kit in school to fully access the curriculum and provision in place for their child/ren. Children cannot always join in with activities if they do not have to correct equipment with them to be able to participate safely – PE kit consists of black shorts and t-shirt and black pumps/trainers and children should have this in school everyday!

Social Media & Gaming

We have recently had a spike in incidents involving children from school having disagreements and arguments whilst accessing social media and games such as Fortnite outside of school. Whilst school is aware that most children have access to mobile phones/internet in their free time, please can we encourage **ALL** parents to monitor carefully what their children are accessing online, who they are speaking to and what is being said/done. School are very vocal when discussing access to the these games and apps in that it is not appropriate for children of primary school age to have unsupervised access to them and age limits for these apps suggest that access below 13 is not legal.

'We are losing lots of learning time in school dealing with situations that start at home in the evenings and at weekends and this is having a big impact on the progress children are able to make in school.'

Whilst this involves mainly Upper KS2 children, we are seeing incidents occuring more frequently with Lower KS2 and sometimes even younger children.

Parent Workshop – online safety

School will be looking to host a parent workshop related to keeping children safe online and a letter will be coming out in the near future with more details about this. Keep an eye out for this if it is something you would be interested in attending.

In the meantime, please look out for our safeguarding posts and tweets on our social media pages for more information.

Snapchat TikTok

Diary Dates

January	
6th	BACK TO SCHOOL
February	
6th	School Spelling Bee Competition
7th	Number day in School
11th	Safer Internet Day in School
13th	Valentines Disco – KS2
14th	FINISH FOR HALF TERM
24th	BACK TO SCHOOL
March	
5th	World Book day – VOCAB DAY
10th	Science week in school

#Strongandeffectiveleaders
#Highperformingstaff
#Successfulstudents
#EngagedCommunity

Please follow our social media pages for more news and information about what's going on in school.