



Newsletter | 3 17th September 2021

Attendance

As a school, we want our attendance to be as close to 100% as possible. This means we need all children in school and on time every day. Children should only ever be absent if they are too unwell to be in school (including covid symptoms) or they have an appointment which has been prearranged with the school office. When possible, please try to make all appointments (e.g. dentist) outside of school hours.

Even 90% attendance means that a child has missed 1 day every two weeks. This would mean missing roughly 4 weeks in the school year! Good attendance means at least 97%.

Safeguarding Update

This week I asked two of our brilliant Year 6 pupils about one of the most important ways they stay safe in school.

'A safeguarding hand is a paper hand where you write five names on who you trust – two friends and three adults. We make hands at the start of the school year (we came in on a Friday and did activities to get to know everyone). If you ever feel unsure or unsafe you can talk to these five people or any other trusted people. You can put your really good friends, teachers, TAs, Mrs Clark.'

You might want to talk to your trusted adults about:

- Bullying*
- Someone touching you in a way that you don't like*
- Something online that upset you*
- Any kind of abuse*
- Someone saying something rude*
- A person being rude or unkind to someone else*
- Anything upsetting you at home or school'*

I'm sure you'll agree that these children explained this amazingly. Thank you to **Kai** and **Noyem** in Snowy Owls.

Values

This week, I asked two children in Year 5 to think about our value of **respect** in sport.

'Respect is an important value in sport. If your teammate scores and you don't congratulate them, it could make that teammate upset. You can show respect in any sports and PE lesson by supporting people when they are doing well, on either team, and celebrating with people who do well.'

By **Jonty** and **Samik** in Peregrines.

Reading

The power of reading with children goes far beyond their reading level at school. Studies have found that reading with a child:

- 1 Improves well-being and mental health.**
- 2 Improves understanding of language.**
- 3 Increases chances of successful exam results at secondary school and beyond.**
- 4 Increases employability as an adult.**

Remember that the best home reading involves the adult listening to the child read **and** the child listening to the adult read. Even when children can read independently in Key Stage 2, they still need to read to an adult.

Dogs

Please do not bring dogs up to the school gates. On Wednesday a parent reported dog mess on the path close to school. This presents a serious hygiene risk for our children.

Parking

Please do not park close to school and under no circumstances park on the pavement. This is illegal.

Meal Bookings

As we are now having hot meals, we are not able to add children to numbers during the week or after the bookings close on Parent Pay, which is **Midnight Tuesday**. If no bookings are made on Parent Pay, your child will need a packed lunch.

Childcare Clubs

Please remember to book your child in to Breakfast and After School Clubs by **Midnight Tuesday** for the following week. We can amend bookings if needed, as long as we have 24 hours notice. **Please do not bring your child/ren to Breakfast club if they have not been booked in on Parent Pay** as we only have staff ratios to the number of children who have booked in.

PE Forest School

Please find attached the dates for PE and Forest School, children need to have two pieces of kit in for these classes, trainers/pumps for PE and Wellingtons for Forest School. Also for PE, if your child has pierced ears, they must be capable of removing these independently or they will need to cover them with plasters or surgical tape.

Meet the Governors

Our governors play a vital role in the running of our school. Over the next few weeks, the school governors will be introducing themselves. This week is the turn of our Deputy Chair, Chris Wright, who is also a parent.

Chris Wright – Deputy Chair & Champion for Maths and Assessment

Chris has worked within engineering for the British Army for 17 years. Chris has experience in education and instructing and hopes to bring the knowledge and experience from this time to assist Zouch Academy in its mission to become outstanding. He has a child that attends Zouch Academy, and as a parent governor, he is keen to provide the governing body with an understanding of issues from the view of parents/carers.

Nut Free School

Please ensure your child/ren's packed lunch **DO NOT** contain nuts of any type. We have several children here at Zouch with severe Nut allergies. Thank you

School Application Deadlines

The deadline for **Year 6** children to apply for a secondary school place is **12 Midnight on Sunday 31st October 2021**.

For **Reception 2022** Applications, the deadline is **12 Midnight on Saturday 15th January 2022**.

All application must be made via the Wiltshire Council Website, please see attached notices for more information.

Dates for the Term:

Tues 5th Oct – Individual School Photographs

Monday 18th Oct – Flu Immunization Whole School, more info to follow

Wed 20th Oct – Break up for Half Term, early finish at 1PM

Monday 1st Nov – Teacher Training Day. School closed to pupils.