



10th May

Monday 13th– Friday 17th May
Y6 SATs week - Oak class

Thursday 23rd May
School open to pupils as normal—European elections

27th May– 31st May
Half Term

Monday 3rd June
INSET day– school closed

Thursday 13th June
New Reception Parents meeting

Wednesday 26th and Thursday 27th June
Studley High School Induction Day

Thursday 27th June
Alcester Academy, AGS, Henley High induction days

Thursday 27th June
Moving up day– each class to their new teacher– Y6 to secondary school

1st-5th July
Values week

Wednesday 3rd July
Sports day

Welcome!

Thank you to all of the children, parents, staff and governors for welcoming me so positively to Coughton Primary School. It has been an incredible start to the Summer Term with lots of amazing work having already been produced.

I will be hosting a 'Meet The Head' event on **Wednesday 22nd May at 6.30pm** in the hall if you would like to come along to get to know a little more about me and my ambitions for the school. I would also like to welcome **Mrs Lappin and Mrs Mills to the school community, they will be teaching Willow class this term.**

Forest school

A reminder that the classes doing forest school this term will be:

- Monday– Birch
- Tuesday– Oak
- Wednesday - Ash



Please ensure you have your forest school kit on the correct day.

Last week Oak class enjoyed creating Coughton Court using natural materials. "I really enjoyed making the court as I was able to use the resources that I had found for the design"

Birch class enjoyed going on a Bear Hunt at Forest school. "The swirling, whirling snowstorm was my favourite part".



Ash showed fantastic collaboration when designing and making toys using natural materials found in the forest. "I made a musical instrument for Maple to play with" .

Summer Term dates

Attached to this newsletter are all of the key dates for the Summer Term for your diaries.

SATS

We wish all of our Y6 pupils in Oak class good luck in their SATs next week. Whatever happens we will be proud of you!

A reminder for parents of pupils in Oak that children will be provided with a breakfast in school at 8.15am each day next week.

Polling station

On 23rd May the school will be used as a polling station for the European elections. We will continue to stay open as we did on May 2nd, and in previous years. If you have a child in Maple, Birch or Ash then hot meals will continue to be provided should you wish. If you have a child in Acer, Willow or Oak then please bring a packed lunch on that day.

Loose change prize

Congratulations to Ash class for winning the loose change prize. Your total of £76.95 was fantastic . Total raised was £317 well done!

Questionnaires

I have attached a questionnaire regarding the school that I would be grateful if you could complete and return by Friday 24th May. I am keen to involve parents/carers and family members in providing feedback on key areas of the school. Please answer honestly to enable me to identify strengths and areas that we can develop.

Holiday Requests

As many of you are aware, the rules for requesting holidays changed significantly in September 2013. All holiday requests will now be unauthorised unless the circumstances are deemed exceptional by the Executive Headteacher and Head of School. Should you wish to request leave of absence for you child(ren) please request a form from the office, giving as much information for the reasons as possible. More information regarding this is on Page 2 of this newsletter and can also be found on our website.

Many thanks for all of your support. Please contact me via the office if you have any matters that you wish to discuss.

Mr Alex Kolb
Head of School



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LEAVE OF ABSENCE DURING TERM TIME

UPDATED INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

The Supreme Court recently reached a decision in the case of *Platt v Isle of Wight Council* which has clarified the law on unauthorised leave, including holidays, during term time. The parents of children of compulsory school age are required to ensure that they attend school on a regular basis. The Supreme Court has made clear that attending school 'regularly' means that the children must attend school on every day that they are required to do so. As such, the parents of any child who is absent from school without authorisation for any length of time are likely to be considered as committing an offence under s444 of the Education Act 1996.

Head Teachers retain the ability to authorise leave in accordance with the Education (Pupil Registration) (England) Regulations 2006. When considering such requests for a leave of absence, the school are obliged to act within the law. Head Teachers may not grant any leave of absence during term time unless there are exceptional circumstances relating to the application. If the leave is granted, head teachers are able to determine the number of school days a child can be absent for.

It is for the Head Teacher to decide what is 'exceptional' and it is at their discretion if the circumstances warrant the leave to be granted. The school can only consider Leave of Absence requests which are made by the 'resident' parent.

Each application for a leave of absence will be considered on a case by case basis and on its own merits.

Where applications for leave of absence are made in advance and refused, the child will be required to be in school on the dates set out in the application. If the child is absent during that period, it will be recorded as an unauthorised absence, which may result in legal action being taken against the parent(s), by way of a Fixed Penalty Notice.

Failure to make an application for leave in advance can also result in a Fixed Penalty Notice being issued to the parent(s).

All matters of unauthorised absence relating to a Leave of Absence will be referred to the Warwickshire Attendance Service, part of Warwickshire County Council.

It is important to note, Fixed Penalty Notices are issued to each parent of each absent child, (for example 2 children and 2 parents, means each parent will receive 2 invoices in the amount of £120 each, totalling £240 for both children, this is reduced to £60 per child if paid within 21 days).

Where a Fixed Penalty Notice is not paid within the required timeframe as set out on the notice, the matter will be referred to Warwickshire County Council's Legal Services to consider instigating criminal proceedings under S444 Education Act 1996.

Fixed Penalty Notices are issued in accordance with Warwickshire County Council's Code of Conduct for Penalty Notices.

Your child's progress academically as well as socially is our shared priority

Warwickshire Primary School pupils recorded 29,703 half day sessions of absence due to holiday in the Autumn/Spring term during the academic year 2017/18. This is an increase of 6,256 on the previous year.