



Richard Wakefield C.E Primary Academy



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Dear Parents,

We are already over half way through the term yet it only seems two minutes since we were first welcoming everyone back through the gates. Our classrooms are filled with children working hard and enjoying a greater freedom on our playgrounds.

Our new assembly program is now in full swing; with our numbers increasing rapidly over the past few years we are conducting our collective worship in Key Stages with EYFS joining our KS1 children. It has been a delight to hear the children singing again and lovely to be able to teach our younger classes some of our much-loved hymns. We have taken a blended approach to our worship delivering two of our assemblies each week via Zoom. This has enabled us to celebrate as a school and to see each other on the class whiteboards. I have loved visiting a different class each week for our awards celebration; each of the classes so far have been brilliant hosts and their teachers have perfecting their 'filming' skills!

We are in the process of organising some much missed events from previous years. You will notice that we have booked in dates for Christmas Carol Services in December. With ever-growing cases we are hoping that this will allow us all to celebrate Christmas together but equally be totally adaptable should there be a sudden outbreak of cases in the preceding weeks. Our EYFS team will be filming their Nativity to share with parents following the success of last year's celebration.

As always, if you have any questions or if any issues arise, please speak to the staff, Mrs Wiles or myself at your earliest opportunity. Please do not wait to contact us because the sooner we know about any issue the quicker we can resolve it.

Sports Fixtures

Sport is an area of the school in which we are very proud to be a part of with so many tournaments and partnerships. The sports events have been sorely missed over the past two years and we are thrilled that we are hopefully able to continue taking part in a variety of events this year. Children in our Year 4, 5 and 6 classes have already had the opportunity to represent the school in two Dove Valley football fixtures and a 6-a-side tournament on Friday after school.



WORK HARD, BE KIND,

CHOOSE WISELY.

Value of the Month

EQUALITY

Our value for October is 'Equality'. We have been talking to the children about the importance of treating others fairly and equally regardless of age, gender, race or religion. This has been particularly relevant alongside some of our work relating to 'Black History' month; in the coming weeks the children will be looking at books written by black authors and recognising key figures in history that have influenced where we are today.

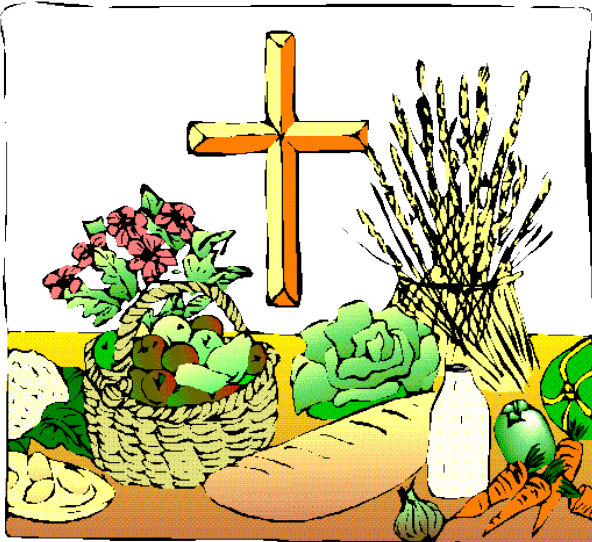
Galatians 3:28

There is neither Jew nor Gentile, neither slave nor free, nor is there male and female, for you are all one in Christ Jesus.



Harvest Service - Wednesday 13th October

We will be holding our Harvest service in school this year to minimise the numbers of classes and adults congregating in one location. Each year we like to support a local charity with donations of food to support those children, adults and families who are less fortunate than we are. Therefore, please could we ask if you could donate to our Harvest Festival by sending your child in to school on Wednesday 13th October with a tin or packet of food (non-perishable items only).



Increasing Covid cases in Staffordshire

Staffordshire Health and Safety team has advised us that cases are rising across the county. At the moment cases are very low in our school but we must remain ever vigilant. We will continue to encourage children to wash their hands regularly, all rooms will be well ventilated and additional cleaning of high touchpoints and toilets will continue during the school day.

Please remember that pupils should not attend if they have any Covid symptoms. If you or a family member has symptoms they must book a PCR test, an LFT only tests for asymptomatic cases.

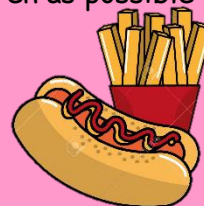
We will keep you informed if the situation changes. Please be aware that all future calendar events are subject to changes in guidance.

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Census Day - Thursday 7th October

Thursday is Census day in all schools. The data collected on this day influences our budget for the coming years. One of the most influential factors is the number of school dinners that are taken up on the day, particularly children who are entitled to Universal Free School Meals (our EYFS, Year 1 and Year 2 children). To encourage as many children as possible to have a school meal, the catering team will be serving the popular meal of Hot Dogs and Chips (there will be a vegetarian option) with ice-lollies and cupcakes for dessert. Thank you for your support.



PTA

Thank you very much to everyone who attended our PTA AGM on Monday night. The team has been incredibly busy over the past twelve months and have continued to raise a superb amount of money to fund projects and treats for your children in school. Thank you very much for supporting their events. Keep an eye open for the many wonderful events that they have planned for the coming term.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

Friday 8 th October	Tempest - individual portrait photographs
Tuesday 19 th October	Parent Consultation evening
Wednesday 20 th October	Parent Consultation evening
Monday 25 th October- Friday 29 th October HALF TERM - School Closed	
Monday 1 st November	Inset day 2 - School closed
Tuesday 2 nd November	Inset day 3 - School closed
Friday 26 th November	Inset day 4 - School closed
Monday 13 th December	Year 5&6 Carol Service in Church <i>(This is subject to government/health and safety advice at the time)</i>
Tuesday 14 th December	Year 1&2 Carol Service in Church <i>(This is subject to government/health and safety advice at the time)</i>
Wednesday 15 th December	Year 3&4 Carol Service in Church <i>(This is subject to government/health and safety advice at the time)</i>

Vacancies

We are still seeking to appoint an additional lunchtime supervisor. Please enquire at the school office if you would be interested in further information or for an application form.

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