

February 2023

Headteacher's Monthly Newsletter



General information:

Strike action

With more strike action planned for 15th and 16th March 2023 I would like to reiterate how important good attendance is right now. We all agree that our children have missed so much already and it is not an easy decision for teachers to strike as we all want the best for our children. However please remember that this is not action against the school but is about concerns over teachers' pay and working conditions and the poor funding levels for schools.

Attendance so far this year still stands at 92.4% which is much lower than pre Covid times. Please remember that if your child is unable to attend school for any reason that you MUST inform the school office by 9am. I cannot emphasise this enough as any unauthorised absences may result in a fine.

Holidays taken in term time can result in families receiving a fine too as we do not authorise holidays taken in term time.

The class attendance figures this year so far is:

FS2: 91.7%

Year 1: 93.6%

Year 2: 92%

Year 3: 95.2%

Year 4: 91.3%

Year 5: 93.5%

Year 6: 90.7%



Fairtrade Fortnight

Next week the Fairtrade Council will be leading lots of exciting activities as we take part in Fairtrade Fortnight. We will end our week with our annual Fairtrade Bake Off on Friday at 3.30pm in the school hall. Stockport's Mayor and Mayoress, the Co-op's Fairtrade Ambassador and our favourite Fairtrade advocate Mrs Poppleton will judge. This is always a popular event so please complete the attached application form if your child wishes to take part and return it to their class teacher asap. We will be serving Fairtrade refreshments so please come along and enjoy the event.

Outwood's Clubs

At Outwood we offer a range of extra curricular clubs to enrich our children's experiences in school. Extra-curricular activities boost confidence to interact socially with others; extend our children's social networks; and provide them with new skills and abilities.

Miss Gough has recently set up an art club which was really popular therefore we will be offering more places next term. The newspaper club is just about to publish their second edition of the 'Outwood Observer' and the coding club has been investigating code using Scratch. The choir and steel pan band have really enjoyed performing in the community and soon will perform at our Mother's Day Tea and Fairtrade Bake Off.

These are all offered by our teachers however, our after school sports clubs are led by our sports coaches. To book a place on these please book through

<https://www.sportscoolcheshire.org/>

Attendance

Total attendance for February is 94.1%
The winning class was Year 3 with 98.5% - Well done!



Children's Mental Health Week



The children really enjoyed thinking of ways to look after their own mental health as part of Children's Mental Health Week. Some activities included relaxation sessions and learning mindfulness techniques. This year's theme was Let's Connect, this is about making meaningful connections as it is thought that people thrive in communities, and this connection is vital for our wellbeing. The children learned that when we have healthy connections such as with family, friends and others, this can support our mental health and our sense of wellbeing.

Arrival and Collection Arrangements

Just a reminder that all children should be brought to their class entrance at the start of the school day and collected from the same place at home time by a trusted adult. Please inform the school office of any changes to arrangements in advance; this is to safeguard your children. If you are running late please call the school office to let us know and if you are later than 10 minutes you may incur a charge. In Year 6, children are permitted to walk to and from school on their own if we have written consent from their parent/carer.

Healthy Tuck Shop relaunch!

From Monday the School and Fairtrade Councillors will be relaunching our healthy tuck shop. This will be for Years 3 to 6 initially as the younger children are provided with free fruit daily. The tuck-shop will be open every day and will consist of healthy snacks that are Fairtrade where possible at a cost of 40p per item.

<u>Date</u>	<u>Spring Term 2023 key events still to come</u>
February	
27.02.23 – 12.03.23	Fairtrade Fortnight
March	
02.03.23	World Book Day
09.03.23	Thumbs Up Thursday (8.30-9.30am)
06.03.23 – 10.03.23	Assessment Week
10.03.23	Fairtrade Bake Off (3.30pm)
13.03.23 – 17-03.23	British Science Week
15.03.23	Young Carers Action Day
15.03.23	Proposed strike action (not all classes – parents/carers informed asap)
16.03.23	Proposed strike action (not all classes – parents/carers informed asap)
17.03.23	Mother's Day Tea (2pm)
17.03.23	Red Nose Day
22.03.23	KS2 Young Carers Workshops
27.03.23 – 29.03.23	Parent / Teachers Progress Meetings
31.03.23	School closes for Easter break