

10/09/18

Nursery Hill News

ON TOP OF THE HILL AND REACHING FOR THE STARS

July Attendance

In July there were 14 school days. In this month alone we had 171 sessions of school missed, which is the equivalent of 85.5 days.

This is the equivalent of just over 1/2 years of school for one child.

Our attendance target for the year is 97% and in May our actual attendance was 95.6%. This was higher than attendance in June.

Attendance Matters.

If you have any concerns, please speak to your child's class teacher, the Head Teacher or Amy Morris, our Attendance Governor. Thank you for working with us to improve attendance at Nursery Hill.

Dates for your Diary

- 09/10/18 Year 6 School Nurse Health questionnaire
- 15/10/18 Individual school photographs, sibling groups for children not in Nursery Hill at 8.30am
- 26/10/18 Break up for half term
- 05/11/18 Teacher training day. School closed for all children
- 06/11/18 School open for all children
- 16/11/18 Children in Need
- 21/12/18 End of term award ceremony 2.30pm
- 21/12/18 Break up for Christmas holidays
- 07/01/19 Teacher training day. School closed for all children
- 08/01/19 School open for all children
- 11/01/19 Reception and Y6 height and weight check
- 08/02/19 Teacher training day. School closed for all children
- 15/02/19 Break up for half term
- 25/02/19 School open for all children
- 12/04/19 End of term award ceremony 2.30pm
- 12/04/19 End of term
- 07/05/19 Class photographs
- 27/06/19 Induction Day



It's a girl!

I'm so delighted to announce the birth of Connie Ann Makey. Connie was born at 7.09am on Saturday 11th August, weighing in at 7lbs 8oz. The whole family is doing really well and we wish them every future happiness.

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September Newsletter

My Summer Holiday went really quickly! I didn't really do too much or go to anywhere exotic, but time spent with friends and family made it one of the best ever. I've now become the mother of a teenager and I'm really not too sure how that happened or how I actually feel about it. Children are little for such a short time and they grow so quickly! I can't actually remember Scarlett being the size of Connie. Mrs Makey is smitten with her baby girl and the cuddles have been delightful!

September marks all of our children getting a 'year older', with some children starting

school for the first time and others moving into Year 6 for their last year at Primary. I was really impressed with how smart the children looked. They have grown over the summer and I was particularly pleased with how Key Stage 2 were setting a behaviour standard to our younger children in Assembly today.

Along with the new children and families that we are welcoming this term, we have a few new members of staff who I am sure that you will get to know quite quickly. Miss Higgins, Miss Pilgrim, Mrs Goodman and Miss Lala have worked hard over the summer to get to know our

school and our policies. I have no doubt that they will fit in well and help us to achieve the most successful year we have had so far.

I hope you all had a great holiday.

Becky Pebody
Head Teacher



Nursery Hill
Primary

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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 Attendance, Compliance and Enforcement Service 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.

School Uniform

We wanted to take the opportunity at the start of term to remind everyone of our uniform expectations. Children should come to school in:

- A navy sweatshirt, jumper or cardigan
- Grey or black trousers, skirt or shorts
- A white shirt (with optional tie) or polo shirt
- Grey, black or white socks or grey or navy tights
- Black shoes
- PE kit: White t-shirt with navy or black shorts and pumps.

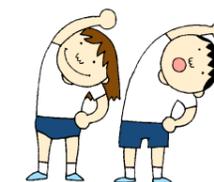
Please ensure that all clothes are clearly named. Children should not come to school wearing jewellery. We only allow a pair of studded earrings.



All children should bring a coat when the weather turns colder.

P.E. Kit

This year, the Governing Body have paid for a specialist Sports Teacher to teach PE across the school on a Wednesday and Thursday. We are really pleased to welcome Mr O'Connor to the team.



Children will need a PE kit in school on these days at least (some classes will have PE on other days as well—please check with your class teacher or look on the website).

You do not need to buy an expensive, branded kit if you do not wish. Just a plain white t-shirt and simple shorts will suffice. As

After School Club

We would like to congratulate Angie Hughes for successfully becoming our new Before and After School Club Leader. Ms Cope will also be continuing to support Club. From Monday 10th September Club will now be in the New Hut adjacent to the school building. Just to remind parents/carers that Club is open from 7.45am – 8.45am in the morning and from 3.15pm -5.00pm after school. If you would like your child to attend any session or part of a session, please speak to the school office or Miss Hughes (who is based in Year 5/6)



We are excited to let you know that there will be 'special event' sessions planned throughout the year such as 'Film Nights,' or 'Crafty Makes.' Miss Hughes would like to start the term off with Cooking Sessions on Tuesday 18th September and Wednesday 19th September.

Fence Update

I am pleased to announce the fence and gate project has now been completed. We had problems with the existing walls and all the bad weather at the start of 2018 that were not planned for and I would like to thank you for all your co-operation during this period.

We now have a camera and speaker system on the pedestrian gate to make the site more secure. The gate will be unlocked before and after school as normal. To gain access during the school day you will have to press the 'CALL' button on the panel next to the gate, this will notify office staff who will then be able to see you on the small screen in the school office, you may be asked for a reason for your visit. Please speak clearly into the panel if required.

To unlock the gate when you exit the site, please press the large grey switch situated on the ramp gently. The gate is on a timer so may lock again if you do not leave immediately. Please do not hold the gate open for people you do not recognise.

This is a new system, so please can I ask for patience and understanding while we are getting used to it.

Please do not hesitate to contact me over any concerns regarding Health & Safety at Nursery Hill.

Michael Brown, Caretaker and Health and Safety Governor