

# William Shrewsbury Primary School

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@WilliamShrews



## Newsletter No 5 January 2019

Dear Parents,

I am happy to report that the children have settled into 2019 very quickly and are all enjoying their learning. Year 5 have already taken part in some exciting activities at Standon Bowers and thirty three of our children have represented the school at the Young Voices concert at the Resorts World Arena in Birmingham. Years 1 and 3 have been working together on a project based on the book 'The Green Ship by Quentin Blake.' This was a project planned by the teachers across all of the Central Co-operative Learning Trust schools and it was lovely to see so many parents who came in to see the exhibition of the children's work last week. As the term goes on, there will be lots more to enjoy. We are looking forward to Science week which commences on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> February. During this week all of the children will enjoy a special demonstration from a visiting Scientist and we will have a non-uniform day to raise money for this on Friday 15<sup>th</sup> February. Alongside all of this the children will be working hard to improve their skills in English and Maths and we thank you in advance for your continued support in this.

I have one piece of sad news to report and that is that after 15 years, Mr Doherty will be leaving us at February Half Term (Friday 15<sup>th</sup> February). He will be moving to start a new venture in France. I would like to thank him for everything that he has done for the children and staff at William Shrewsbury and wish him all the very best for his future. After Half Term 3R will be taught by Monique Nichols - an experienced teacher who has been working here for a number of years.

Mrs Curtis

### eSafety Week

The week commencing 4<sup>th</sup> February is eSafety week. We will be teaching the children about keeping safe online and there will be special assemblies on this theme. Please reinforce these important messages at home as well and make sure you know which websites your children are using. If you need help with setting parental controls you can contact us at school for advice.



### Safety message

Please try to ensure that you keep the pavement outside the junior gate clear so that children and parents can pass without having to walk round onto the road.

Also, please be aware that children are not allowed on the train and the boat on the infant playground after school.

### Good Neighbours

Please could we ask parents to help our school remain on good terms with the local community? We have received complaints recently about a number of issues:

- Please do not allow your children to run around on people's drives and gardens on their way to and from school.
- Please ensure that you park carefully to ensure that residents can access or leave their properties for appointments.
- At this time of year when the weather is so wet, please avoid parking on the grass as this makes it very messy and unpleasant for local residents.

### Attendance at school

We are pleased with the good levels of attendance in school so far this year. Thank you for your co-operation with this and especially to the many families who do not take their children on holiday in term time. This is very beneficial to your child's progress in school. We will be sending percentage attendance letters to all parents again in February.

**All term time holidays are now unauthorised but it is particularly important to avoid taking children out of school between 29<sup>th</sup> April and 28<sup>th</sup> June as this is when the annual tests are taken.**

Please remember to ring school by 9.30am when your child is ill or email the office

[absence@williamshrewsbury.staffs.sch.uk](mailto:absence@williamshrewsbury.staffs.sch.uk)



### Crossing Patrol

You may have read in the local press recently that Staffordshire County Council were considering cutting School Crossing Patrols due to lack of funding. Fortunately, due to representations made to the council, they have decided to continue the service which is good news for the safety of our children



### Spare PE/Games Kit/ Pump bags

Do you have spare PE kit or pump bags that your child has grown out of or no longer needs? We often need some spares as children regularly forget to bring their kit in and we don't want anyone to miss these important lessons! Thank you.

### Living in a pleasant environment

In previous newsletters, we have been reflecting on some of the things that might contribute to our children being happy as they grow up to be adults. One of these things might be feeling that the environment we live in is pleasant. Of course our choices about where we live are broader if we are financially independent (which was the subject of the last newsletter) but there are also things that we can do to help children learn about the environment so that they appreciate it and look after it wherever they find themselves. Here are some of the things that we do in school:

- We expect the children to contribute towards keeping the inside of the school and the outdoor areas clean and tidy and as staff we role model this to them.
- We use the school grounds and the local area (eg the Jinnie Trail) to help them learn about the plants and wildlife and develop a caring attitude towards them.
- We encourage the children to grow flowers, fruit and vegetables.
- Children learn about different habitats around the world.
- They learn about threats to the environment, how humans impact on this and what they can do about this - now and in the future
- We teach them to understand what makes a pleasant social environment and how to contribute to a positive community spirit (This links with the area of building positive relationships).

### School Lunches

Please put these dates in your diaries for our very popular school lunches:

Valentines Lunch - 14<sup>th</sup> February

Pancake Day - 5<sup>th</sup> March

Easter Lunch - 10<sup>th</sup> April

Round the World Lunch - 2<sup>nd</sup> May



### Nursery Applications

Nursery application forms for September 2019 are now available on our website from Monday. You will need to apply directly to school at: [www.williamshrewsbury.staffs.sch.uk](http://www.williamshrewsbury.staffs.sch.uk) The closing date for applications is Friday 1<sup>st</sup> March.

### Dark Nights

It is getting a bit lighter in the evening but it is still very dark after school. Members of the community have reported seeing children out on their bikes with no lights on. Please make sure your child is seen and is safe.