

Blakesley CE Primary School
Blakesley
NN12 8RD
May 19th 2023

Newsletter 5 T5

Dear Parents and Carers,



Y6 Whitemoor Lakes Residential

Our Y6 children have had a wonderful time away at Whitemoor Lakes. So far the list of activities completed is the zipwires, climbing, abseiling, kayaking, fencing, raft building and circus skills. Despite lots of splashes there have been many laughs and smiles. The accommodation has been perfect, clean, and spacious. At mealtimes plates and bowls are always clean at the end as the food provided has been delicious, and plentiful.

Everyone should be very proud of our children's behaviour and manners. The leaders of activities here have been impressed. Thank you to the parents who organised the new hoodies too. They are so smart, and the children love wearing them.

Residential trips are planned to be challenging in many ways as they help children develop life skills, courage, and resilience. Our children have tested themselves by attempting new activities, encouraged each other so supportively and begun to widen their friendship circles. The satisfaction gained after completing each task has helped build confidence even more.



Bikeability

Bikeability, the government's national cycle training programme starts next week for our Y5 pupils that have signed up to participate. The course will help them to learn practical skills and understand how to cycle on today's roads. It will give our children the confidence to cycle and enjoy this life skill. Bikes can be kept on the school grounds overnight if needed.



Fizzy Friday

The last day of term, Friday 26th May, has been named 'Fizzy Friday' by our School council. On this day, children may bring into school a drink that they would not usually bring, for example, a can of Fanta/Sprite, or a fizzy drink in a small bottle. The drink does not even have to be fizzy, it may be squash or juice. This is because the school is trying to raise funds to for the charity 'Water', which we pledged to support earlier in the year.

Donations, a minimum of 50p per child, can be made on ParentPay. Please note inappropriate drinks, such as caffeine/energy based drinks, will not be permitted.

Compassion Courage Fellowship Thankfulness Wisdom

Safeguarding: Seeking Help

Helping young children in difficult situations to seek support has always been hard. Their minds are often not developed enough to understand bad situations. They are also unable to comprehend what they may need to do to get out of them. Often their limited vocabulary may reduce their ability to talk to adults effectively. ChildNet has released a downloadable story, Hanni and the Magic Window, on their site, aimed at children aged three and upwards. The objective is to make young children aware of how to seek help. The link below will lead you to the story:

<https://www.childnet.com/resources/hanni-and-the-magic-window/>



Safeguarding: Attendance

Compared to National average, attendance at Blakesley CE is good, approximately 96.6 %. However, at the start of the year a target of 98% minimum attendance for each pupil for the year was set. Whilst we know being poorly is unavoidable the importance of being in school every day cannot be stressed enough. Missed time away from school cannot be replaced. An average attendance of around 90% across a child's school career amounts to roughly missing a whole year from school.

Therefore, attendance records continue to be scrutinised regularly. Pupils with attendance figures below 90% are viewed as persistent offenders. In such cases, communication will be made with families. When communications are made these are now to be logged on 'My Concern', our Safeguarding software. Cautions are also being issued from the county's Educational Inclusion and Partnership (EIP) Officer.

Where families ask for permission to take their children out of school for holidays remember these days off school cannot be authorised. Holidays of more than a week may now trigger a fine. The importance of your child being in school every day cannot be stressed enough.



Praise

Well done to the following children who were nominated for Special Praise in assembly this morning. We are very proud of you all.

Pupils who received Praise from their class teachers	
Class	Names
1	Rafferty
2	Poppy + Amy
3	Hugo + Grace
4	Tilly

Forthcoming events

- Life Education Bus 22nd May
- Bikeability Y5 22nd -25th May
- Fizzy Friday Fri 26th May
- End of Term 5 Fri 26th May
- New Intake Evening 19th June 7pm
- New intake days
 - 20th June (9-11.30am)
 - 27th June (9-11.30am)
 - 4th July (9am-2.45pm)
- July 18th Sports Day (9.30am)
- July 20th Reserve Date for Sports Day (9.30am)
- July 21st Y6 Leavers Service (9am)

If there are aspects of the newsletter that you would like to discuss or if you have any issues or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Laurie Hill
Headteacher