

SCHOOL NEWS

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Spelling Bee

Three of our champion Year 6 spellers went down to The Kingsway School this week to take part in an inter-school spelling bee. They did really well, only getting one spelling wrong which is just fantastic. In fact, the only reason they didn't win was due to speed on the buzzers!! They thoroughly enjoyed themselves and made a great representation for our school. Well done Adam, Jake and Eesa (pictured below with their certificates and dictionaries!)



Library Visit

Next week, our Y3 children will be visiting the library in Heald Green. This is a highly valued link with our local community and reinforces all the positive messages we promote regarding reading. We encourage our pupils to join the local library where possible and choose books to widen their reading experience.

We will also be doing the "Book Factor" reading project hosted by Simply Books in Bramhall. This will involve all children in EYFS and KS1, as well as Years 4 and 5. More information to follow.

PTA Meeting

Next Monday, 1st February, the PTA will be holding a meeting for everyone who is interested in attending. It is taking place at the Hallmark Hotel. The meeting will start at 8.30pm, but you can arrive from 8pm for an informal chat first. We will be discussing the monies raised so far and possible spending projects for the school. Future events will also be on the agenda. Your ideas are very important to the PTA and help us to get events organised effectively and to suit the majority of people. Please come along and give your support.

Healthy Snacks

At the Parent Council meeting we discussed the issue of healthy snacks. It was decided to reinforce the original guidance that snacks for playtime should only be fruit or vegetables. This does not include cereal bars or crisps. In line with 'everything in moderation', we allow a treat snack on Fridays, but would prefer this not to be sweets. We would really appreciate it if this policy is followed and respected.





Medicines

Just a reminder that all medicines which need to be administered to children should be brought to the school office by an adult. A form needs to be filled out so we are clear about the dosage and frequency of the medication. We have had some incidences of medicines being handed to staff or children bringing them in themselves. We are happy to administer medicine but we do have to follow Health and Safety procedures.

If your child suffers with asthma, please could you ensure that we hold an inhaler at school in case it is needed. Again, please bring it to the office and ensure it is named. Many thanks.



Appointments

We continue to have a significant number of children attending medical or dental appointments during the school day. We appreciate that some appointments such as those with hospital consultants or Speech and Language Therapists are long awaited and difficult to change, but do request that routine appointments are made out of school hours. If you do have an appointment during the school day, please bring in a copy of your appointment card so it can be verified.



Jewellery and Nail Varnish

I would like to remind both pupils and parents that nail varnish and jewellery should not be worn to school. This includes items such as necklaces and bracelets. We are seeing more and more of these being worn which can pose a safety risk as well as the potential for them being lost. Only stud earrings should be worn for school and they must be removed for PE by the child. If this isn't possible, micropore tape needs to be placed over them. This is Local Authority guidance. We would be grateful if you could send tape into school with your child and show them how to apply it themselves.

3 Day Nanny

You may have seen the Channel 4 programme '3 Day Nanny'. This is a show which focusses on good parenting skills. They are looking for recruits for the new series. Attached to the newsletter is a letter inviting expressions of interest to appear on the show!

Parent Council Feedback

The Parent Council had an excellent meeting earlier this week. The newsletter with full details of the discussions is currently being prepared and will be attached and added to the website when completed. As well as the playtime snacks, the other points raised were:

- ▶ Please do not ride bikes or scooters on the playground or paths before and after school
- ▶ We will be holding a second hand uniform sale at various points through the school year, so hang on to your outgrown items and we will give you dates nearer the time.
- ▶ Very positive feedback regarding the new Breakfast and After School Club provision. Thank you.

Kind regards,

Cathy Beddows and the
Etchells staff

