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HEADTEACHER - Mr M. Gilbert
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MISSION STATEMENT
Believe and Achieve

We are committed to the protection and safety of our pupils and safeguarding is a priority

NEWSLETTER - Spring Term 2016 - Issue 14 - Thursday 24th March 2016

Dear Parents,

This will be the final newsletter of the Spring Term, and following several parent workshops, a parents evening and open afternoon to come and view books, I hope that you feel updated with your child's progress and achievement in school. As some parents may know we, like other schools, are continuing to adjust to the new ways in which children are assessed and tested and we will continue to keep you informed of the progress and changes during the summer term, especially for Y2 and Y6 who are the first group of children being assessed against the new criteria.

ATTENDANCE WINNERS

WB 7th March - Year 6

WB 14th March - Year 5

Well done to all the children in each class, they have received the trophy and attendance teddy, with a lollipop for each child.

This term we have introduced a new attendance certificate at the end of the term to recognise those children that regularly have good attendance (95% or more). We hope to continue this into the Summer Term, and congratulate those children who achieved 95% or more so far.

STAFF & GOVERNOR NEWS

During this term we have had a few changes to governors, which will be updated for you more specifically after Easter, with a governor newsletter. But in summary, Mr Chris Birkett our chair of governors has stepped down along with Mrs Vivienne Elmore and Mr Ken Smith. Mr Birkett served the school for over 5 years and I would like to thank him personally for the support he gave through the transition of a new Headteacher & Deputy Headteacher. He was also chair during two successful Ofsted inspections. Mrs Elmore, as many of you may know, was a member of staff at the school for many years, and as a governor she has been able to continue

to be supportive and challenging of the progress we are making. She can now retire properly, and hope she continues to keep in touch with the school. We wish Mr Smith all the best in retirement as well. Mr Malcolm Hinks is now our new chair of Governors and can be contacted via the school office. Mr Hinks has been a governor for over 10 years at Abbey, so knows the school very well indeed. Mrs Deborah Steen, a deputy head at a school in Walsall, is now vice-chair, with Mrs Lynn Bland and Mrs Harry Mall taking up the two co-opted governor's positions. The parent governor position is currently being decided upon by parents, with results announced after Easter.

After Easter we welcome to our staff, Miss Perry who will working as a teaching assistant in Year 5. We would also like to announce that Mr Grocott, Year 1 teacher, will be leaving us at the end of the Summer Term. He has worked at the school for just over a year, and we wish him every success in his new adventures.

Congratulations are also in order for Mrs Winstone, who is expecting a baby. It is likely that Mrs Winstone will be here for the remainder of this academic year, and will be on maternity leave during Autumn Term. We will keep you updated with further staff news as we get it.

Miss Dawes, nursery teacher, is also expected to be back during the Summer Term, following her recovery from surgery. Thank you to Mrs Crooks who continues the good work in nursery.

EASTER

Well done to year 3, who led the Easter Service on Tuesday. It was good to see so many parents in attendance. Also thank you for your support with the Easter gardens and bonnets, it was pleasing to see so many creative designs - prizes were awarded at the Easter Service on Tuesday. Well done to all who took part.



DOGS ON SCHOOL SITE

Can I remind parents that dogs are not allowed to be brought onto school site at Abbey Primary School. This is to ensure that the children and the school grounds are kept safe for the children to use.

WORLD OF WORK WEEK

Every two years we hold our World of Work week, where children get to learn more about different jobs, professions and skills, including how to manage money and be responsible for budgeting etc. This year it is being held on the week of **Monday 27th June 2016** and we have already arranged two visits for two year groups. With your support we would like to arrange for further visits or visitors to come into school. This could be a short talk to year groups on a particular job, a demonstration to children of a task or skill or perhaps even a place of work that could be visited. If you have any ideas or contacts please speak to Mr Gilbert, or your child's class teacher.

ACTIVE KIDS VOUCHERS

We are collecting Sainsbury's Active Kids vouchers, which will be available until 3rd May. These will help us obtain new equipment for playtimes and encourage healthy living.

SPORTS RELIEF

Last Friday the children got to dress up as a sports personality, run a mile for Sports Relief, attempted to Beat the Goalie and take part in other sporty activities. Thank you for your support, the school raised over £130.00 for this important charity.

MARIE CURIE

In the entrance to the school, Marie Curie has a Great Daffodil Appeal where you can donate a suggested amount of £1 and wear a daffodil. Please see Mrs Bowater in the office.

DATES FOR THE DIARY

Monday 11th April - start of Summer Term

Wednesday 13th April - Y3-Y5 swimming sessions start

Thursday 21st April, 2.15pm - Y1 Parent session for Phonics Screening check (**all Y1 parents to attend**)

Friday 22nd April - Y5 out at Brownhills High School, Y2 to bring P.E. kits for an extra P.E. lesson on this day

Monday 2nd May - MAY DAY, school closed

Week beginning Monday 9th May - Y6 SAT'S WEEK, all children to attend every day. No boosters this week, but breakfast will be provided free of charge for all children from 8.30am.

Week beginning Monday 16th May - Y6 Bryntysilio Week

Week beginning Monday 23rd May - Y2 SAT'S WEEK, all children to attend every day.

Monday 23rd May & Wednesday 25th May - Y6 Bikeability (1st group of 12 children)

Thursday 26th May & Friday 27th May - Y6 Bikeability (2nd group of 12 children)

Friday 27th May - Break up for Whitsun week

Monday 6th June - **TEACHER TRAINING DAY - school closed to pupils**

Friday 10th June - School Street Party for the Queen's 90th celebrations (more information to follow)

Monday 27th June - World of Work week

Tuesday 28th June - Y5 out at Blithfield Reservoir for World of Work week

Wednesday 29th June - Y4 out at Whitmore Hall for World of Work week

Friday 8th July - KS2 sports day AM, EYFS and KS1 sports day PM (all nursery in PM session)
Reports to parents

Monday 11th July, 3pm - Parents open afternoon, including meet and greet new teachers

Thursday 14th July - Y6 PROM

Tuesday 19th July, 9am - WOW of the Year and celebration attendance assembly. Break up at 1.30pm

Wednesday 20th July - **TEACHER TRAINING DAY - school closed to pupils**

