



NEWSLETTER

FRIDAY 12TH JANUARY 2024

ISSUE NO.16

EXCELLENCE IN EVERYTHING



 **WARREN FARM**
PRIMARY SCHOOL


Ofsted
Good
Provider

2024

*Excellence is a process of evolution, of cumulative learning and incremental change.
Excellence is NOT perfection!
Excellence is constant improvement and constant change – no matter the starting point.
Excellence is the small steps leading to a mighty leap.*

EXCELLENCE IN EVERYTHING-ACHIEVING GREATNESS THAT LASTS A LIFETIME

Message from Mr Taylor

Welcome back to our first newsletter of 2024. I hope that all of our children, families and community had an enjoyable Christmas and we wish you all a prosperous new year in all that you do. As is often the case, we start the new year with resolutions, hopes and aspirations for the year ahead. This week in my welcome back assembly with children and during our staff training, I spoke of the importance of a positive mindset and inner voice and how your mindset can set you up for either success or failure. The easiest way to shift your mindset from 'can't' to 'can' is to change the way you talk to yourself. We discussed the impact of adopting a positive mindset and committing to 'Things that require zero talent' such as: being on time, attitude, being prepared, having a strong work ethic and having good energy (to name but a few) and how they develop your character, helping you to achieve greatness that lasts a lifetime. Alongside the development of our 'World Class Basics' and 'Team Rules' (for both children and staff), this will ensure **Excellence in Everything** embodies everything that we do.

The Spring term has also seen the start of our new clubs to extend our curriculum offer. This week we have launched KS1 and LKS2 Yoga with Mrs Wood, UKS2 Debate club with Ms Purcell, Year 6 Sew and Stitch with Miss Groves and KS1 Science club with Miss Osborn and Mrs Young, alongside Dodgeball delivered by Sparkactiv to each phase across the school.

A final reminder that if your child was born between the 1st September 2019 and 31st August 2020 they will be able to start school in September 2024. The deadline and closing date for applications for Reception places for children starting school in September 2024 is 15th January 2024 at 11:59pm. A reminder that even if your child is currently in our Nursery or has siblings at Warren Farm and they will be starting in Reception in September 2024, you must still complete and submit the application form. Further information and applications can be found via this [Birmingham City Council website](#) link. We are here to serve our children, families and community and would love to have you on the team and set your children on the path to **Excellence in Everything!**

Make it a great weekend

Mr Taylor

SUCCESS IS NOTHING MORE THAN
A FEW SIMPLE DISCIPLINES
PRACTICED EVERY DAY

DATES FOR YOUR CALENDAR

Tues 23rd January	1/2YG School trip to Warwick Castle
Fri 2nd February	Dental checks Nursery to Year 6
Tues 6th February	Parents Evening
Wed 7th February	Parents Evening
Thur 8th February	2HM School trip to Warwick Castle
Thur 8th February	Valentines Disco
Thurs 8th February	Finish for Half Term
Fri 9th February	School Closed Training Day



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EARLY YEARS



Happy New Year! We've had such a warm welcome into 2024, and everyone in Early Years has settled back into school life with a positive attitude. This week, some of Nursery have started their 'Ready Steady Go' challenges in Maths, which will help prepare them for moving into Reception. In RMH and RLM, we have been exploring Chinese New Year. Everyone was so brave when we tasted Chinese food! This term in P.E we will be doing gymnastics; children must have a full P.E kit including pumps/trainers in order to use the gymnastics equipment. Please continue to check Class Dojo for further updates.



KEY STAGE 1

Happy new year! We hope you have had a wonderful, restful break. We have kicked off 2024 with another busy week. Allotments have started for 2HM and this week, the children investigated the challenges of being a tree in winter and why sunlight is so important. The children also looked at the ingredients of soil and explored how leaves are broken down to make nutritious soil for our plants and flowers to grow. 1/2YG children will be swimming every Friday so please make sure your child is sent into school with their swimming costume and a towel.



ATTENDANCE

As many of you will have seen on Class Dojo, this half term we are challenging the children, collectively in their key stages, to exceed our aspirational attendance target of 96% for the first 4 weeks of this half term. If they achieve this, they will get to watch a film in the hall, and school will provide popcorn.

You may have noticed on the news this week that there has been a major national drive to improve school attendance with the government announcing that attendance hubs will more than double to support 1,000 more schools and there will be a £15 million investment to expand the attendance mentor pilot programme. This shows very clearly how serious the problem of poor attendance is nationally. Please remember that we are here to help and support any parents who have genuine concerns around their child's attendance. Please do reach out to us!

NAH	92.4%
RMH	91.7%
RLM	89.6%
1CO	97.5%
1/2YG	85.4%
2HM	94.2%
3AB	95.4%
3/4SK	92.5%
4DN	91.4%
5AG	96.7%
5/6NW	87.1%
6BP	87.5%

TERM DATES 2024

Spring Term 2024

Starts: Monday 8th January 2024
 Finishes: Friday 22nd March 2024 AT 13:00
 Half Term: Monday 12th February 2024 to
 Friday 16th February 2024

Summer Term 2024

Starts: Monday 8th April 2024
 Finishes: Friday 19th July 2024 AT 13:00
 Half Term: Monday 27th May 2024 to
 Friday 31st May 2024

**Summer Holiday 2024 commences
 Monday 22nd July 2024**

Training Days 2024

Friday 9th February 2024
 Friday 3rd May 2024
 Friday 28th June 2024





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SAFEGUARDING

This week's focus will be on how the police support us with our safeguarding procedures in school. We have a proactive and supportive police community liaison officer who often comes in and discusses topics such as knife crime, online safety, gangs and drug misuse with the children. He supports the school with the junior PCSO scheme which helps to prepare children for later life. The school also use the police, when they are unable to contact a family, this is called a safe and well check. The school complete a referral form which is then picked up by the police, they will then go out to the house address to ensure that the child who the referral has made for is safe and well, therefore it is really important to make contact with the school when your child is at home due to medical or any other reason.

PARKING



This week we have received a number of complaints from local residents regarding parents/carers who are parking over driveways preventing residents from leaving or accessing their own house. It's important that as a school we foster strong links with the local community.

Please be mindful of parking when dropping and collecting your children at the start and end of the school day. Thank you for your continued support.

SEND

Welcome back!

A big thank you for your continued support. We are working hard to support your children and have various visits from the multi agencies who work with us, planned for this half term. This is to help with ensuring the most up to date support is being provided for the SEND children within our setting.

If anything has changed over the holiday period regarding SEND and Medical needs, that is important towards your child's education then please let the school know. This will ensure that provision is adapted.

LOWER KEY STAGE 2

Happy New Year! We have had a great start back to school this year and the children have been ready to learn lots of new and exciting things. On Wednesday we welcomed the West Midlands Fire Service into school to deliver a fun and exciting session all about fire safety. This term, the children in 3/4SK will be swimming every Friday. Please see Dojo posts for P.E and swimming kit requirements. Also, from now onwards, the children in Year 3 and 4 will alternate between Monday and Thursdays for their PE lessons so it is vital that the PE kit is in school everyday. If you wish to wash your child's PE kit please make sure it is returned the following day.



UPPER KEY STAGE 2



Happy 2024 everyone! We've had a wonderful start to the year and we're enjoying learning new and exciting topics; in History, we started our 'Crime and Punishment' unit which had the children engrossed in Roman Law; in Art we began studying the artwork of William Morris and in Science we have learnt all about how we see. Year 5 continue with their Young Leaders programme - this week focused on communication and it was an opportunity to practise our speaking and listening skills. Year 6 are starting preparations for their SATs as parents were invited into SATs workshops to ask / answer queries regarding the tests, which will be taking in May. Thank you to all those who attended! We really appreciate your support.



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**“THIS MORNING,
HE HAD A RUNNY
NOSE... BUT LOOK
AT HIM NOW!”**



**MOMENTS
MATTER,
ATTENDANCE
COUNTS.**



HM Government

Head to the NHS website to find out more.



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At National Online Safety, we believe in empowering parents, carers and trusted adults with the information to hold an informed conversation about online safety with their children, should they feel it is needed. This guide focuses on one of many issues which we believe trusted adults should be aware of. Please visit nationalcollege.com for further guides, hints and tips for adults.

What Children & Young People Need to Know about

FREE VS HATE SPEECH

Everyone in the UK has the right of "freedom of expression". That's the right to voice your opinions and share information and ideas with others. It's *not* the right to say whatever you want without regard for others' feelings and values. We all have a responsibility to use this right properly: being respectful and inclusive to those around us, rather than making offensive and threatening remarks. That's called 'hate speech' and knowing the difference is incredibly important.

Free speech is a person's legal right to share information, opinions and ideas without fear of retaliation, censorship or legal consequences. This freedom of expression is recognised in international human rights legislation, and here's what it does for us in our day-to-day lives ...

The Human Rights Act 1988 states that everyone has the right to express themselves freely – even if their views are unpopular and might offend others.

Freedom of expression encourages listening to others and allowing opposing views to be heard. It's important to respect someone's opinion, even if we disagree with it. Free speech lets us engage in meaningful discussions with people who feel differently.

Any concept could potentially offend someone. Galileo's theories were incredibly offensive to many at the time, while not everyone agrees with Darwin, even today. A frequent exchange of ideas is vitally important for a healthy society.

Free speech allows us to engage people we disagree with in a debate. The ability to challenge others' views is healthy – while having ours challenged helps us learn how to deal with criticism and think deeply about what we say and believe.

Freedom of expression includes the right *not* to do something, like not standing up for – or singing – the national anthem. Even though some people would find that offensive, it isn't illegal. By law, nobody can force you to say anything you don't want to.

Free speech is a powerful tool for change, justice and reform. Many modern UK rights – such as women being allowed to vote, decent working conditions or same-sex marriage – couldn't have been achieved without it.

Hate speech refers to any communication – like talking, texting or posting online – that negatively targets a group or an individual because they are perceived to be different in some way. Demoning and dehumanising statements, threats, identity-based insults, offensive name-calling and slurs would all count as hate speech. Here are some common forms it takes...

Targeting people or groups because of a protected characteristic – like race, gender identity, sexuality, nationality, religion or a disability – and verbally abusing them with slurs and name-calling. The Equality Act 2010 has more information on this.

Content that dehumanises people based on the same characteristics: referring to them as if they were animals, objects or other non-human entities, for example. Separating the target from other human beings is usually an attempt to justify the speaker's bigotry.

Calling for violence or hatred against certain people or groups and justifying and glorifying those actions. Suggesting that a certain group should be removed from society could be seen as a call to arms, for example – potentially putting people from that group in danger.

Claiming that specific types of people are physically, mentally or morally inferior (or even that they are criminals) to encourage others to view them in the same way. This kind of thinking is always incorrect – but can be incredibly harmful to the group in question.

Spreading damaging misinformation about a person or group that the speaker views as "different" – essentially, trying to turn others against them by lying. Someone might claim that a recent tragedy is the fault of this entire group, when this is simply not possible.

Promoting the segregation of certain groups, or discrimination against them, because of who they are. This has been illegal in the UK for a long time – but some people still try to promote the exclusion of others, which can cause a huge amount of distress.

Meet Our Expert

The Global Equality Collective is an online community for homes, schools and businesses, a collective of hundreds of subject matter experts in diversity, equality and inclusion, and the organisation behind the GEC app, the world's first app for diversity, equality and inclusion.



Source: <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2010/16/contents>
<https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/1988/42/schedule/1#p3-3x11> Everyone's right to the right to freedom of expression



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