

Newsletter



Mrs R. Mander - Headteacher

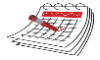
13th September 2024

National Fitness Day

National Fitness Day 2024 will take place on **Wednesday 18th September**. By taking part in this day, it enables us to raise awareness of the importance of physical activity amongst our pupils, and encourages them to lead healthier lifestyles. **Pupils from Year 1 to Year 6 are asked to come to school in their PE kits on 18th September, as they will be taking part in additional physical activities that will promote healthy lifestyles.** Nursery and Reception pupils will take part in additional activities as well however, they will not require their PE kit.



Forthcoming Dates:



Week beginning 16th September 2024 – Menu week 3.

17th September - PTFA Welcome / Coffee Evening – 7.15pm KS1 Staffroom (*All Welcome*)

18th September – National Fitness Day 2023 – Year 1 to Year 6 pupils to wear PE kits to school.

27th September - Individual Photographs – Tempest Photographers

1st October - PTFA AGM – 7.15pm KS1 Staffroom – *All welcome.*

10th October – Young Minds 'Hello Yellow' / World Mental Health Day (*More details to follow*)

11th October - Sibling Photographs – Tempest Photographers

W/B 14th October - Parent/Teacher Consultations (*Face to Face After School Appointments*)

17th October - Foundation Stage, Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2 Parents' Evening Consultation Appointments 6.00pm – 8.30pm

25th October - School Closes for Half Term (*Normal Times*)

4th November - School Opens

W/B 11th November - Anti-Bullying Week (*More details to follow*)

15th November - Children in Need Day (*More details to follow*)

22nd November - Enrichment Day - International Day (*More details to follow*)

Further dates will be added to the Newsletter as we progress through the year.

Admission to Secondary School for September 2025

Year 6 parents should have received an individual letter regarding the online application process for your child's secondary school place. Please be aware that applications need to be made by **31st October 2024**. Please see page 3 of this newsletter for further information regarding admission arrangements.

Reading Mentors

Here at Five Ways, we always endeavour to work in close partnership with families so that our pupils receive the best provision possible.

You may be aware that each year, we organise for 'Reading Mentors', who are volunteer parents and carers, to be trained in hearing children read in school on a weekly basis. If you or a family member are able to volunteer a little time for this purpose, please leave your contact details at the school office and we will arrange for the necessary training to be delivered. Thank you.



Five Ways Primary School

Langholm Drive

Heath Hayes, Cannock, WS12 2EZ

Web Site Address: www.fiveways-primary-school.org.uk

Tel No: 01543 278071

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Childhood Flu Vaccination Programme

I am pleased to inform you that as in previous years, pupils from Reception to Year 6 are eligible to receive their free NHS Nasal Spray Flu Vaccination at school on **Thursday 26th September**. The School Age Immunisation Team will be using a paperless, e-consent form, which is quick and easy to use, and can be completed on any electronic device. Please click on this link: <https://forms.mpft.nhs.uk/> to complete the e-consent form. The code required for our school is **SS124070-24**. Parents are asked to complete the form by **10.00am on Wednesday 25th September 2024 at the latest**. Please be aware that even if your child received the vaccine last year, it is recommended strongly that they have it again this year.

Parents are asked to complete and submit your child's consent form promptly, whether you wish your child to be immunised or not; please only submit one consent form per child. If you have any concerns or would like to discuss any matters further, please do not hesitate to contact a member of the NHS Immunisation Team on 0300 124 0366 (Monday to Friday 8.30am – 4.00pm).

For further information, please see the letter sent home this week. If you have any further questions or need more information, parents are asked to ring the NHS Team rather than contacting the school office, as the NHS Team are specialists within this area.



Sporting Success!

I am pleased to report that Isabelle H, Isabelle N and Aaliyah performed at the Prince of Wales Theatre in a show called Fables and Fairy Tales, representing Cannock Academy of Dance. The girls worked very hard and danced so beautifully in all of their dances. Congratulations; this is super news!



ASDA Cashpot for Schools

Please be aware that between **2nd September and 30th November 2024**, every time customers shop with Asda, using the ASDA Rewards app, ASDA will donate 0.5% of the value of their shop to their chosen Primary School. In addition, for every customer who chooses Five Ways Primary, Asda will put £1 into our school's Cashpot, and another £50 when our school's first opted-in customer spends in-store or online!

Please share this information with your family and friends, and ask that they also nominate our school to receive rewards. I look forward to sharing with you how much is raised with 78 days still to go! I am pleased to report that **£132.12** has already been raised for the benefit of Five Ways pupils, which is incredible!



Changes to the Law for taking Leave of Absence during Term Time This is an important reminder that the Department of Education made important changes to the law for families wanting to request leave of absence in term time. The changes made it clear that **Headteachers may not grant any leave of absence during term time unless there are exceptional circumstances.** The Local Authority and our school governors support this; therefore, children will only be given permission to take leave in term time if there are exceptional circumstances. ***Please be aware that Staffordshire County Council state that exceptional circumstances no longer include, family weddings or Special Educational Needs of pupils or family members.***

As a school, we are obliged to inform you that you may be subject to a Penalty Notice if your child's absence from school is unauthorised and not categorised as a absence related to exceptional circumstances. This is in line with Staffordshire County Councils' Code of Conduct and the "Working Together to Improve School Attendance" statutory guidance (effective 19th August 2024). The penalties for unauthorised leave of absence in term time will be:

For a **First** offence the Penalty Notice fine would be:

- £80 per parent, per child if paid within 21 days, rising to
- £160 per parent, per child if paid between 21-28 days.

For a **Second** offence within 3-years of the first penalty notice being issued, the penalty notice fine would be:

- £160 per parent, per child if paid between 28 days.

Following the second offence **every new offence within the 3-year period, will be prosecuted** under S444.1 of the Education Act 1996. I must advise you that if the prosecution takes place, the maximum fine is **£1,000 per parent, per child**. This reflects the seriousness of unauthorised absence from school.

Kingsmead High School – Year 7 Admissions I am pleased to make you aware that recently, Five Ways and other local primary schools, have formed a partnership with Kingsmead School, to further solidify and deepen learning opportunities between local schools, benefiting local children and the local community. Being part of this partnership, called 'Chasing the Future', provides Five Ways pupils, along with pupils attending the other schools involved, advantages of academic support, pastoral support, SEND support and the sharing of resources. However, I feel it is important to stress that currently, this partnership **DOES NOT** provide pupils from Five Ways with a greater advantage of being admitted to Kingsmead School in Year 7. I would also like to make parents aware that the Senior Leadership Team and staff from Five Ways are not permitted to have any involvement in the allocation of High School places or admission arrangements, as this is organised by the Local Authority, following their admissions policy. For more information regarding High School Admissions, please follow this link: [Admission to secondary and high school - Staffordshire County Council](#) Kingsmead High School's admission arrangements can be viewed by following this link: <https://www.kingsmeadschool.net/home/joining-us/admissions/>

PTFA News! The PTFA would like to welcome everyone back following the summer break and give a warm welcome to all of our new Nursery and Reception families. The PTFA are currently finalising this year's event calendar that will be sent home soon.

PTFA 'Welcome' Meeting - Tuesday 17th September at 7.15pm in the KS1 staffroom. Everyone is welcome! This is a great opportunity to meet the PTFA team, as well as finding out more about what they do and how you can get involved. We look forward to seeing you there!

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