



## Diary Dates

As you are already aware, one of our priorities this year is to develop wider curriculum opportunities throughout school and support learning with more real-life experiences in different contexts. Listed below are the visits and enrichment opportunities we have already booked this year— there will be more added in due course!

### **Wednesday 5 February**

Year 4 Science of sound workshop

### **Tuesday 11 February**

Road Safety Sessions

### **Friday 14 February**

School closes for half term

### **Monday 24 February**

School re-opens after half term

### **Monday 2 March**

Year 2 visit to St George's Hall

### **Thursday 5 March 2020**

World Book Day

### **Wednesday 11 March**

Year 2 visit to Skipton Castle

### **Tuesday 17 March**

Book Fair in school

### **Tuesday 31 March**

Easter Service at St John's Church, Ingrow

### **Tuesday 21 April**

Nursery visit to Nell Bank—Going on a Bear Hunt

### **Wednesday 6 May**

Reception and Year 6 class photos

### **Friday 8 May**

Bank Holiday—school closed

### **Week commencing 11 May**

Year 6 SATs week

### **Friday 15 May**

Magic Show 6pm

### **Tuesday 9 June**

Year 5 activity day at High Adventure

### **Week commencing 15 June**

Living Eggs Week—Chicks hatching

### **Thursday 16 July**

Year 6 visit to Keighley College (pm)

### **Wednesday 22 July**

School closes for Summer holidays

A huge well done to all pupils who competed in the cross country run; once again representing school so enthusiastically and showing incredible team spirit!



### **Aladdin**

### **Wednesday 11 March**

Movie night will finish at 4.45pm.

Tickets cost £2 and are available from the school office.



31 January 2020

## Headteacher's Message



Here at Worth Valley Primary School we are very fortunate to have a supportive and friendly parent body. Parents and carers recognise that educating children is a process that involves partnership between yourselves, staff and the school community. On a personal level, this week has served as a reminder of just how wonderful our school community is; from the positive feedback during Open Morning, to your generous donations on Australia Day, to your kind well-wishes and support for Mrs Batey whose son was seriously injured in a car accident last weekend. I would also like to extend a huge thank you to the Year 3 parents and Year 6 pupils who stepped in to ensure the morning mile still took place in Mrs Batey's absence. Your help is very much appreciated.

That said, effective partnerships can only be successful if *all* parties are fully committed to ensuring pupils have access to the best education for our children. Could I therefore draw your attention to the following areas which are intended to serve as a reminder of our expectations as a partnership:

## Attendance

I would like to remind you about the importance of good attendance and punctuality, which as a school we take very seriously. Days off school soon add up and missing lessons makes it hard to catch up; resulting in students having to work harder when they come back, missing vital information that will prevent their progress. There are 175 non-school days a year for holidays, cultural experiences and family time.

Currently, the attendance of a few pupils is below 90%, which is known as persistent absence. As advised by the Local Governing Body, we will now be exploring further options to improve the absence of these pupils, including issuing Fixed Penalty Notices.

Pupils being tired, sleeping in, having a tummy ache, headache, earache or similar, or parents having difficulties getting their children ready for school in a morning are NOT acceptable reasons for absence and will therefore be marked as an unauthorised absence and investigated further. This is in accordance with Section 7 of the Education Act 1996 which places a duty on parents to ensure that their child of compulsory school age receives a suitable education either by regular attendance at school or otherwise.



## Playground

Safeguarding is, and always will be, the overarching priority of everything we do at Worth Valley Primary. Many of our pupils are subject to a Child Arrangements Order or similar custody arrangements and it is imperative that pupils are sent home with adults who are authorised to collect them. Alongside this, at the end of the day teaching staff will be releasing children who have permission to walk home, speaking to parents, relaying messages and ensuring pupils are lining up safely. To help end-of-day arrangements run smoothly, please do not call your child from the line or take them without member of staff being aware.



## Nursery and Pre-school

Please ensure that children attending pre-school and Nursery are dropped off and collected punctually. Staff have less than 30 minutes between sessions in which they feed back to parents during the handover process, prepare for the next session and have lunch.



As a reminder, pre-school sessions are held from 8.40am-11.40am and then 12.15pm-3.15pm.

Nursery sessions run from 8.45am-11.45am and then 12.15pm-3.15pm.

## Communication

Newsletters are published fortnightly and are sent home every other Friday. They serve as the main form of communication and school information and as such are also uploaded to the school website and the unofficial Facebook page. In addition to this school also use texts, letters, the school website and Facebook reminders as additional forms of communication. Reading the newsletters is your responsibility and we cannot be held responsible if you miss events or key dates due to not reading them! Copies of the latest newsletters will always be available from the school office should your child be absent on the day newsletters are sent. Please inform the office if you have any other suggestions for alternative communication strategies between school and home.



## Equipment

In school we provide almost every single resource and item of equipment that pupils need in school.

Can we please ask that you support school by ensuring pupils bring their reading book and reading record to school EVERY DAY, and that you listen to them read regularly. I cannot stress enough how important regular reading is towards a child's progress and educational achievement.

Furthermore, too many pupils do not have the correct PE kit. Despite having some spare kits in school there are not enough for every pupil. Please ask your child where their kit is and ensure it is brought to school on Mondays and Fridays when PE and Kickboxing are timetabled. We will be contacting the parents of pupils who do not have the correct PE kit over the next couple of weeks. If you require any financial assistance towards purchasing a kit this can be arranged.

## Conduct and Interaction

Inevitably, given the nature of a school, there will be occasions when parents and carers are concerned, worried or (in very few cases) angry about things that happen. When such circumstances occur, it is important that school are made aware of it and can look into the situation in order to resolve matters appropriately and speedily. I have always endeavoured to ensure that myself or a senior member of staff are available to meet with you straight away, or arrange a telephone meeting.

Could I politely request that you think very carefully before sharing concerns or derogatory comments on social media. Like every other school, we have policies and procedures in place to resolve any concerns and complaints in a fair, effective and appropriate way—and these must be followed.

As adults working in partnership to achieve the best possible outcomes for children, we have a joint responsibility to be strong role models for our children. Thank you.

## Car Park and Driveway



The driveway is for the use of staff, visitors and deliveries only. Please could I ask that parents and carers do not use the staff car park.

Please ensure you use the pedestrian entrances only for access to and from the school building at all times. Pupils are aware that they should not be walking down the school drive due to the obvious risks.



## Attendance

Attendance figures for the last 2 weeks are as follows:

w/c 20 January 2020		w/c 27 January 2020	
Reception	94.35%	Reception	95.7%
Year 1	95.64%	Year 1	99%
Year 2	95.33%	Year 2	94%
Year 3	97.42%	Year 3	95%
Year 4	99.31%	Year 4	98.6%
Year 5	96.92%	Year 5	94.3%
Year 6	88.75%	Year 6	92.5%

## When should my child return to school?

<b>Chicken Pox</b> When all spots have crusted over	<b>Conjunctivitis</b> None*	<b>Diarrhoea &amp; Vomiting</b> 48 hours from last episode	<b>Glandular Fever</b> None*	<b>Hand, foot &amp; mouth</b> None*	<b>Impetigo</b> When lesions are crusted & healed or 48 Hours after commencing antibiotics
<b>Measles or German Measles</b> 4 days from onset of rash	<b>Mumps</b> 5 days from onset of swelling	<b>Scabies</b> After first treatment	<b>Scarlet Fever</b> 24 hours after commencing antibiotics	<b>Slapped Cheek</b> None*	<b>Whooping Cough</b> 48 Hours after commencing antibiotics
<b>Flu</b> Until recovered	<b>Head Lice</b> None*	<b>Threadworms</b> None*	<b>Tonsillitis</b> None*		

## Australia Day

The children had a fantastic day learning all about Australia: Year 3 particularly enjoyed making Anzac cake, and the rest of the school definitely enjoyed helping them eat it!

Thank you to everyone who donated. We raised over **£215** which will be sent to the World Wildlife Fund to help treat injured animals, restore wildlife habitats and support the response teams.



## Forest Schools

Reception class continue to enjoy their weekly Forest school sessions. This week they have been investigating animal tracks—well done to Joshua who worked out the mysterious tracks belong to deer! We were very excited to spot a couple of deer grazing this morning!

