



29.9.2023

Dear Parents,

We are three weeks away from half term and a busy few weeks they promise to be. The weather is so changeable at the moment so please make sure that your child has a waterproof coat for those inevitable showers and downpours.

Football

Yesterday, after school, Mrs Brown and Miss Kirkham took two teams to the Year 5/6 St Nicholas cluster mixed football competition. One of our teams came fifth and one came second only losing out to the winners by a goal difference of 1! Congratulations to them all. You were amazing.

Next week we will be taking team(s) of Years 3&4 to the cluster mixed football competition.

Morning Drop Off

Please ensure that children are supervised in the morning before school. There are no staff outside until around 8:15am. Some of our older children walk through the campus on their own. If your child does this please remind them of the need for safe road crossing especially for the two roads near Greenbank School.

Reception Intake September 2024

This year we are not holding an 'Open Day' but rather want to encourage people to visit and be taken on a tour of school during a normal day. If you know someone who has a child who will be starting school next September, tell them to ring up and book a tour of our wonderful school. We have done several this week and have some in the diary for next week. We cannot accept drop ins as we need to ensure that a member of the Senior Leadership Team is available.

Grapes

There have been concerns raised over some of our children having whole grapes for snack or in lunch boxes. Whole grapes are a choking hazard for young children so we would ask that they are cut in half or quarters lengthways before giving them to children.

The Joshua Tree

Thank you so much for supporting this wonderful cause today. All the yellow in school was lovely to see. I do not have the amount raised yet but I am sure it will be put to very good use by the charity.

Parents' Evenings Appointments

These will go live next week.

Lunches

Please make sure that you book your child's lunch in advance and that they know what they are having.

School Office

If at all possible please email in any queries especially on Fridays when there is only one member of staff in the office. Thank you.

School Building Fund

I have attached a leaflet from Bishop Mark about the School Building Fund. Over the past few years St Wilfrid's has benefitted from a lot of work carried out by this scheme.

- Roof resurfacing
- New wall panels and fascia around school
- A new fence to separate the car park from the path
- The top playground resurfaced
- One of the school boilers replaced
- New line markings on the playground

And in the next few weeks work will be starting on:

- The paths around the front of school being resurfaced
- The last piece of wooden fencing replaced by Pre School
- A new metal gate to replace the wooden one at the front of school
- New windows to replace our courtyard classroom windows

I know that the cost of living is hitting lots of our families but the more people who contribute to the School Building Fund means that there is more money in the scheme to improve our school for all the children. Some schools have raised the amount but we have kept it at £15. You can use the normal school payment system as the School Building Fund has been added.

Request for Leave of Absence

There has been so much in the press about absence rates having increased since COVID. We as a school are attempting to reduce our persistent absence rates and discourage time taken off school particularly for holidays. If you need to take your child out of school during term time you will need to fill in a *Request for Absence* form which can be found on the Parents tab of the website under 'Forms'. If you email a request in you will be asked to complete a form. A copy will then be returned to you and the original will be filed for the Attendance Officer's annual Register Inspection. Only exceptional circumstances will lead to time off being authorised and the previous and current years attendance will be taken into account.

Have a lovely weekend.

God Bless.

Justine McEniff Headteacher