



Tuesday 1st February 2022

Dear Parents and Carers

Behaviour

Parents, children and staff are rightly very proud of the excellent behaviour of the children at our school. A few years ago, based on feedback from the children, we changed our behaviour systems to be focused on recognition which the children received much more quickly after doing something well and three behaviours which we taught the children. After conducting pupil voice with a range of children across school after Christmas, we are going to change the three behaviours we teach the children so they are more general, giving the children more opportunity to think about their behaviour. They will be to be respectful, safe and to be independent. During this week, the children will be discussing each area with their class teachers and teaching assistants so that they have an input into what being respectful, safe and independent would be like to them. Staff will then concentrate on modelling these behaviours and celebrating them through the school recognition systems.

Covid-19

Thankfully, the very high infection rates of January are now beginning to fall both nationally and within Rotherham, Barnsley, Doncaster and Sheffield. We are seeing this in terms of lower absence of children and staff in school over the last two weeks and thankfully less disruption to children's face-to-face learning with their class teacher. Thank you for your cooperation with all the measures which were in place after Christmas. However even as rates are falling, it is expected that these infections rates which lead to pupil and staff absence will remain higher than they were before Omicron. We have therefore been asked by Rotherham LA but also by the James Montgomery Academy Trust to maintain robust infection control systems in school. We will do this whilst providing wider opportunities which we evaluate based on the rate in individual classes. The following opportunities will begin in school again over the next two weeks; two year group assemblies [such as Year 5 and Year 6], sporting competitions, some mixing of children from different classes to provide appropriate interventions and dropping the requirement for parents to wear masks outside at drop-off and pick-up. The contingency measures we have had in place if cases increase in a particular class or across school will remain in place and will continue to be used when they are required. The new school risk assessment is available in the school website

<https://www.wathcofe.co.uk/>

Mental Health Week in Schools

In the week beginning the 14th February all classes will have a focus on mental health and well-being. We will be introducing a new way of talking about our emotions called 'Zones of Regulation' and children will be exploring how to understand and regulate their emotions in different situations. More information about this will be sent out to parents during this week so that children can continue talking about this at home.

World Book Day

World Book Day at Wath CofE Primary will take place on 08.03.22 and this year the theme for our school is a celebration of diversity to give the children the chance to investigate the fact we are different and special through books. Before the day itself, the children will read a class novel or stories linked to diversity in their daily story time. On the day itself, the children will explore activities linked to stories or poems in the

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morning and in the afternoon discuss what diversity means. The children's understanding of this will be supported by their learning through their class story as well as what has taken place during the morning. As the theme is diversity, we would like the children and staff to come dressed in clothing which is linked to a sporting skill, a musical talent, being a great artist or a completely different talent.

If you have any questions about the items in this newsletter, please contact me via the school telephone number of 01709 760471 or by emailing school@wce.jmat.org.uk.

Yours sincerely

Mr Beevor
Headteacher