

Friday again! Where has this week gone?

This week, Miss Roberts, Mr Barnes and some of our other, highly dedicated staff took the Y2 children to Anglesey for their one night overnight residential. I was able to join them all later during the day and stayed overnight and I must say, I was blown away by the absolute amazing behaviour that each and every child showed; the Y2 children were a credit to their parents and families. The children were polite to staff and each other, willing to try all of the adventurous activities and loved the sleepover with their friends. The children (in the main!) slept really well and I must confess, we were all surprised at just how tidy the children's bedrooms were kept; parents – you have trained your children well! As ever, a big thank you to all of the staff for giving up their time (away from their own families and commitments) to take the Y2 children away – it is truly appreciated and wonderful memories have been made.

On Thursday, as the nation came together to celebrate VE day (Victory in Europe) the children across school had the opportunity to join in with some activities to help them understand why we commemorate VE day. You will be aware that 80 years ago, on 8 May 1945, people in Britain and across the world celebrated Victory in Europe, which marked the unconditional surrender of Germany and meant an end to nearly six years of war. The junior playground was decorated with bunting (designed by the children) and they listened to war time songs and music from that period of time. Children joined in with traditional style games, such as the making of paper airplanes to race against each other, skipping rope games, skittles and hopscotch. Our older children were able to reflect on what it might have been like during World War 2 and, across school, we have all thought about and gave thanks to those people that fought for our country 80 years ago. Our fabulous PTA sourced and donated ice lollies for all of the children to enjoy during their VE day celebration and it was lovely to see our older children buddying up with their younger peers whilst celebrating this thought provoking, special day. Whilst an extremely poignant day, it was wonderful to see children and adults engaged and immersed in our fun VE day celebrations.

Our Y6 staff have continued to prepare the children for their upcoming SATs next week. As shared with you previously, the Y6 children are invited to a Y6 breakfast club next week (Monday-Thursday) before school at 8.30am via the main junior office door. For some of our children, they will take each SAT test in their stride whilst others may be feeling anxious about some or all of the tests – both are perfectly normal feelings to have. I would encourage you over the weekend to try to remind your children that they need to rest, relax and to give them the opportunity to take part in some fun activities that are not SAT related. I also know the Y6 staff have a little treat planned for the children on Friday, after SATS, along with the now traditional post SATS Y6 group photograph – please do ensure your child wears full uniform on Friday for their photograph!

Several staff attended training this week. On Tuesday, our teachers attended Hoole Primary School and undertook Literacy Company training with a focus on moderation of writing. Mrs Morphet attended a resource provision working group party on Wednesday and we also welcomed visitors from The Arches and Our Lady of Star into our school to enable some of their staff to gain ideas and inspiration from our successful resource provisions on site.

Today, in Y3 & Y4, we had some visitors from the animal kingdom. Zoo2U visited the school and some of the animals that the children learnt about, to support their work around rainforests, included a tenrec, a hissing cockroach, a boa constrictor and a Kookaburra. Our fab PTA funded this wonderful experience for the children so huge thanks to them! I know that all of the Y3 & Y4 children really enjoyed their interactions with the animals and learnt lots of fascinating facts!

This afternoon we planned to host a Mental Health Support Team (MHST) parents' drop-in aimed at Y5/6 parents. The session would have focused on providing strategies and ways of how best to support your child who may be presenting with anxiety. Unfortunately, there were no attendees. They are offered to parents free of charge and give an opportunity to network and chat things

through with other parents of children who may have children experiencing similar feelings and emotions as your child. Please do look out for any future MHST flyers advertising other MHST workshops/drop-ins – previous parent feedback indicates that the meetings are informative and useful.

Last week we emailed all parents about the use of the staff car parks. I appreciate that we are all very busy both before and after school and by default, being a parent means we are all rushing from A to B, but I must remind you that use of either of the staff car parks is restricted to staff and our RP taxi provisions only. Unfortunately, we still have a small handful of parents who feel that perhaps this does not apply to them – I respectfully ask that everyone adheres to what we, as a school, are putting in place to ensure the safety of ALL of the children. To be clear, there will be no entry to the school car parks, even for dropping off and collecting children at Sunbeams before and after school club, at any time. The only exception to this is for taxi escorts dropping children off who attend our resource provision classes. Please can I also remind you that parking on the yellow zig zags is also prohibited.

We currently have a vacancy for a cleaner, to be based primarily on the junior site. This role is for 15 hours per week, from 3-6PM daily and the closing date for applications is June 1st. If this is something you, or maybe a member of your family is interested in, please do pop to see Sue Moss, in the junior building, for more information and an application form!

I wish everyone a lovely weekend and see you all on Monday for a full, five day week!

Mrs Liversey