

Friday 1st February 2019

Year 6 Young Voices Concert

On Thursday 17th January, a large group of Year 6 pupils and teachers went to represent Walmley Junior School at the Young Voices concert at the Genting Arena. We were part of a choir of 6,000 other children. Before the concert, we took part in a choir rehearsal with the principal conductor as well as joining in with a dance workshop. Our pupils worked hard to learn a variety of songs with varying melodies and harmonies as well as adding dance moves and accompanying high profile singers such as Tony Hadley. After a long afternoon of rehearsal and a short tea break, the concert itself was an amazing experience and we all had a brilliant time!



PFA Smarties Challenge

Congratulations to Class 9 who raised the most money for the Smarties Challenge! With your help, the PFA made a profit of £598.55. This money went towards each class having £100 to spend on new wet playtime games. Thank you to the school council for organising the ordering of the games!



Martin Luther King Day

It was brilliant to see everyone dressed in black and white for Martin Luther King Day on Monday 21st January. Children across all year groups were really engaged in finding out about who he was and what he stood for. After learning about his famous "I have a dream" speech, children thought about what their dreams would be for themselves, for their community and for the world. It was a lovely way to incorporate our "Right of the Month" on non-discrimination.

Sportshall Competition

On Tuesday 22nd January, nine children from Year 5 and 6 attended the PARA Sportshall Athletics Competition. The event aimed to promote inclusive, competitive sports for all, and our children pushed themselves in every event. In total, eleven primary schools attended and all our hard work was rewarded with a bronze medal overall after finishing first and second in the relay events. Well done to all the children who represented the school!



Netball Year 5 & 6

During January, some of our Year 5 girls took part in 2 netball matches. It was the first time they had ever played a competitive game and although they didn't win, their effort and enthusiasm was fantastic to see. A week later, our Year 6 girls played 2 matches against local schools. They won both matches by over 8 goals and showed how much they had improved since last year. Excellent work girls and thank you to all the parents who came to cheer them on!

Year 4 Visit from The Fire Service

On Tuesday 15th January, Year 4 had a visit from West Midlands Fire Service. Fire officers from Sutton Coldfield station talked to the children about fire hazards around the home and showed them what they should do in the event of a fire. Children learnt how to keep low to the ground below the smoke, how to check for signs of fire behind a closed door using the backs of their hands and the stop, drop and roll technique should clothing ever catch fire. It sounds very scary, but the important safety messages were delivered in a very accessible way for children and we all learnt a great deal in a fun way.

If you do not have a smoke detector in your home, the Fire Service can provide these free of charge. Just call: 0800 389 5525.





PFA Help

Our PFA do a wonderful job of raising much needed funds. Every penny is spent on the children, and just this week they funded lots of wet play games for each class. At the end of this academic year, many parents will leave when their child goes off to Secondary school. If we don't get any new volunteers, not only will we not be able to purchase these luxuries, but our children won't have fun events to attend such as school discos and our Christmas Fair. If you would like to join, but worry you won't have the time, or would like to find out more about what's involved, please email the PFA pfa@walmley-jun.bham.sch.uk or come and speak to Tina in the school office. Thank you.

World Book Day

We will be celebrating World Book Day on **Thursday 7th March 2019**. To celebrate this, we will be having a non-uniform day where the children (and teachers!) should come dressed as a book character. There will be prizes for the best dressed boy and girl and the best dressed teacher!



During this week, we will run our Readathon Challenge for charity to encourage children to read as much as possible and they can bring in books they no longer read (in good condition only please) and swap them for others. Children can also take part in the BBC Writing competition, writing a short story in no more than 500 words (see BBC website).

France Trip – 16-20th September 2019

We have now launched our France trip for September! We held a parent meeting recently and had a chat in school with all our current Year 5 children to answer their questions. If you would like your child to take part in this fantastic trip, please pay the online deposit of **£60 by 8th February** to book their place. Please come and see Mrs Smith if you would like any further information and she will be happy to help.

Ullswater – 11-15th November 2019

Last week we launched our Year 5 trip to Ullswater in the Lake District. A letter has been sent home with all current Year 4 children, outlining details of the trip. If your child would like to be part of this exciting residential trip, please make an online payment for the deposit of **£100 by 1st March**. Places are going very quickly; in the event of all places being taken, please speak to Mrs Harris to put your child's name on the waiting list as soon as possible.

Attendance

Could we please remind you to contact the school office as soon as possible on the first day of absence when your child is ill. It is the time of year when there are a lot of coughs and colds around, but please encourage your child to be resilient and come into school if at all possible. They often feel better once they get here!

Parents' Evening – Wednesday 13th & Thursday 14th February

A reminder that Parents' Evening slips need to be returned to your child's class teacher to book your time slot.

Hotdog Wednesday Lunch

After half-term we will be doing a Hot Dog Wednesday lunch, this will be on the 4th Wednesday of each month. As with all our special lunches that we offer to children who usually have sandwiches, a letter will go out and if you wish your child to have the lunch you will need to return the slip with payment in a named envelope by the return date on the letter. Please see dates below:

Wednesday 27th February

Wednesday 27th March

Wednesday 22nd May

Wednesday 26th June

Lunch Menus

When we return to school on Monday 25th February it will be week 3 of the lunch menu.

Dinner Money

Dinner money is £11.75 per week (i.e. £2.35 per meal). If you prefer to pay for the half-term in advance, it will be £82.25 for Monday 25th February 2019 to Friday 12th April 2019. Please ensure that payments are made promptly using our online system www.scopay.com/login Outstanding dinner money invoices will be sent by email and we wish to remind you that dinner money should always be paid in advance, not arrears. We hope that your child will have school dinners, but please remember to give the school office one week's notice in writing of any changes to your child's lunch arrangements.

Online Safety/Safeguarding top tip

If you use a mobile phone, enable a passcode to prevent someone else accessing it and pretending they are you!

P.E. Kits

Another reminder from Mrs Cornwall, please ensure your child has a suitable P.E. kit in school. This should be shorts and t-shirts, joggers, jumper, trainers and indoor pumps. Please ensure everything is named! Thank you.

Health and Safety – Children on the playground before 8.45 am

Please be aware when dropping off your children in the morning that there are no members of staff on duty in the playground until 8.45 a.m., therefore your children are not supervised until this time. We do however provide a before-school club for parents who need to drop their children off earlier than that. Any bookings should be made in advance via Mrs Hinks, our Earlybirds Club Manager, on 0121 351 6831 or 07967 150336.

Unless your children are registered for Earlybirds, they SHOULD NOT be on school premises before 8.45 a.m. as they are not supervised by adults in school.

Dates for the Diary

Spring Term 2019

7 th February	PFA Disco 5.30 – 7.00pm
13 th & 14 th February	Parents' Evenings (2 of 3)
15 th February	Break up for Half Term
25 th February	School Open
7 th March	World Book Day (dress up as a book character!)
15 th March	Comic Relief Day
27 th March	PFA Film Night 5 - 7pm
29 th March	Year 4 Mothers' Day Service at St John's Church
4 th April	Year 5 Roman Museum 4 – 5.30pm
12 th April	Break up for Easter

Summer Term 2019

29 th April	School Open
6 th May	May Day Bank Holiday
13 th - 16 th May	Year 6 SATs
20 th May	Y3.1 at Woodlands Camp, Aldridge
21 st May	School Photographer – classes/groups
22 nd May	Y3.2 at Woodlands Camp, Aldridge
24 th May	Y3.3 at Woodlands Camp, Aldridge
24 th May	Break up for Half Term
3 rd June	Teacher Training Day
4 th June	School Open
14 th June	Year 3 Fathers' Day Assembly (2.15pm)
20 th June	PFA Disco 5.30 – 7.00pm
8 th July	Sports Day
16 th July	Parents' Evening (3 of 3)
18 th July	Year 6 Leavers' Disco
19 th July	Year 6 Leavers' Assembly
19 th July	Break up for Summer Holidays
22 nd July	Teacher Training Day

Autumn Term 2019

2 nd September	Teacher Training Day
3 rd September	Teacher Training Day
4 th September	School Open
16 th – 20 th September	Y6 Residential trip to Le Touquet, France
25 th October	Break up for Half Term
4 th November	School Open
6 th – 8 th November	Y4 Whitemoor Lakes
11 th – 15 th November	Y5 Trip to Outward Bound, Ullswater
20 th December	Break up for Christmas

Spring Term 2020

6 th January	Teacher Training Day
7 th January	School Open
14 th February	Break up for Half Term
24 th February	School Open
3 rd April	Break up for Easter

Summer Term 2020

20 th April	School Open
22 nd May	Break up for Half Term
1 st June	Teacher Training Day
2 nd June	School Open
17 th July	Break up for the Summer
20 th July	Teacher Training Day