

Mrs Mason's Messages Issue 11: Thursday 11th April 2024



Dear Parents/Carers,

We hope that you have all had a relaxing and restful break this Easter and that the children are ready for an active term ahead! After a very short Spring term (only 10 weeks in total!) the Summer term stretches out in front of us with lots to look forward to in school. We also have statutory assessments this term for Year 1 in Phonics, Y4 in Multiplication tables and Year 6 with their KS2 SATs. Parental advice sessions are available in all those year groups prior to tests taking place.

Our Summer term date list and parental engagement calendars will be sent out to you on Friday 12th April - please make sure you put dates into your diaries! As usual, the newsletter will have up and coming dates for the fortnight ahead as a reminder. Spring term reports, due to the short term length, will be sent out via your child's bag on Friday 12th April also.

We look forward to seeing you in school at some point over the next term to join in celebrating your child's learning journey. If at any point you have a concern or query, please do not hesitate to contact your child's classteacher or phase leader to resolve these.

Best wishes, and Eid Mubarak to our families celebrating this week!

Mrs Mason



This year, the focus of our annual 'Healthy Week' in the Summer term will be on Active Lifestyles, encouraging and educating our pupils in how to build activity into their daily lives and improve both their physical and mental health as a result. Whilst this will be the focus of our pupil-led 'Healthy Week', we are focusing on pupils attaining '60 Active Minutes' a day throughout the term.

It is vital that we encourage our pupils to develop active lifestyles. 1 in 5 pupils nationally leave primary school obese and 40% of Y6 pupils are overweight or living with obesity in Bradford schools. We look forward to working in partnership with pupils, parents and carers to raise activity levels this term!

We are starting our Active Lifestyles initiative this week through introducing the WOW Walk to School Challenge delivered by Living Streets, the UK charity for everyday walking. The pupil-led challenge enables children to self-report how they get to school every day. If they travel actively (walk/wheel, cycle, scoot or Park and Stride) at least once a week for a month, they get rewarded with a badge. We will be appointing WOW Ambassadors to help classes self-report their activity levels and be promoting active travel choices to pupils.

Where walking to school isn't an option, our school staff, led by our SENCO Mrs Kaur, will work with parents to establish a bespoke approach to WOW that works best for individual pupil needs.

What are the benefits of walking to school?

- Children feel happier and healthier
- They arrive to school refreshed and ready to learn
- Helps reduce congestion and pollution at the school gates

What if we can't walk to school? Children can 'Park and Stride' to earn their WOW badges. You can park or hop off public transport at least ten minutes away from the school and walk the remaining journey.

Small adaptations such as these will help pupils not only to develop active lifestyles but also to reduce traffic congestion around school at drop-off and pick-up times thus making the journey to school safer for our pupils. Please read the parental information letter being sent out today with your child.

Sports for Schools



Last term we had such fun when Sean Gaffney visited school as part of the Sports for Schools charity. We were inspired by his story and loved engaging in the activities.

A huge 'thank you' to the incredibly generous donations in sponsorship made by parents and carers - we raised an enormous £4730.95! This money is split between the charity and our own school - we will be liaising with our Sports Leaders to spend the money raised on new playground and PE equipment to encourage active playtimes and lunchtimes in school.



40 Acts of Lent



Our challenge as a school was to try and complete each challenge during Lent, spreading generosity through our communities.

We are reflecting on our 40 Acts of Lent in school this week, thinking how these supported our journey towards Easter. All families received a copy of the 40 Acts homework with your child last term -please return sheets with the activities completed marked off to school by next Thursday (18th April). Any picture evidence or similar would be much appreciated also!

Parental Engagement



We really value our partnership with parents in supporting their child's life at school. On Friday 12th April, the parental engagement calendar will be sent out to all families with dates for the term ahead and opportunities to come into school or support with school events.

Should there be opportunities as a parent you would appreciate to help you support your child's educational development at school then please do let us know and we will look to provide these if possible.

Reading: Please remember it is an expectation that parents and carers read with children daily. Books are sent home from school at an appropriate reading level to support this. In Reception and KS1 these

are phonic readers, matched to pupils' phonics development and providing opportunities for them to practise and consolidate these. As pupils become fluent readers, they move onto our 'Recommended Reads' for each year group. Pupils may prefer, once fluent readers, to read their own books at home or ones from the library. All reading should be recorded in pupils' reading record books and signed by a parent to say the child has read.

Maths: Pupils from Year 2 upwards should be accessing Times Table Rockstars to practice their times tables - this helps to support them in reaching the expectation of pupils knowing all their times tables facts by the end of Year 4. Without this knowledge it is difficult for pupils to access the Year 5 maths curriculum with confidence. Pupils in Year 5 and 6 have maths homework set via Mirodo and SATs Companion weekly. Alongside this, our year group based 'Maths Must Haves' provide additional focus for practice at home.

The building in of regular practice at home for pupils really helps to secure their learning from within school. Please see your child's Spring term report for individualised targets to support their development, and thank you for your support!

Educational Visits: We would be unable to run educational visits without parental support due to the supervision levels required and would like to extend our thanks to the parents and carers who have supported these this year so far.

Please note, it is school policy to place parental volunteers in a different class to their child unless there are specific SEND needs (as discussed with the SENCO) which mean this would be beneficial.

We would like to say a big thank you to Mrs Miller who coordinates walkers to and from church for our church services. A polite reminder to parents who volunteer to support on these occasions - we are very grateful for your support but must insist upon appropriate manners and conduct towards school staff. If you are not willing to accompany another class, according to school policy, please do not volunteer to support.

PTFA



Our next PTFA meeting will be held on Monday 15th April at 6pm.

All welcome to attend!

Safety



Next week we will be sending out our e-safety newsletter with updates for parents and carers on how to keep children safe online.

Have you seen our new Child Measuring Guide outside the office Reception? The guide provides important advice for parents and children on road safety, child car seats and in-car safety and has been given to us by the Bradford Road Safety team to promote safe travel.

Attendance Update



Each newsletter we will be updating you with our school's current attendance figures. The government target for attendance is **96%** and our attendance has now reached this figure! With the improving weather for the Summer term we are hopeful for further improvements in attendance due to a reduction in the usual seasonal illnesses.

Parents and carers should not that, in accordance with Bradford Local Authority guidelines, we **do not authorise** holidays within term time. Last year we processed 60 leave of absence fines for unauthorised holidays to the local authority. This has a negative impact on pupil progress due to missing school time and our overall attendance figures and we appreciate parental support by arranging holidays to coincide with school holidays.

Should you wish to discuss your child's attendance, please contact our Attendance Lead Mrs Craven.

Reminder - Data and consent forms



Parents and carers are reminded that any changes to data or consent forms for pupils should be made via the school office. Please either email enquiries@idle.bradford.sch.uk or call 01274 410111 should you need to inform us of any changes.

Diary Dates



Friday 12th April - Summer term date lists, parental engagement calendar and Spring term reports to parents

Monday 15th April - PTFA meeting 6pm

Monday 15th April - Clubs (Summer A) begin

Wednesday 17th April - Immanuel School of Rock performance - Year 5/6 to attend

Thursday 18th April - Community Breakfast and Prayer - Holy Trinity Church

Tuesday 23rd April - RS to Buck Woods am

Week beginning Monday 15th April - Online Safety Newsletter Issue 4

Week beginning Monday 22nd April - Newsletter 12

Prayer



Lord Jesus,
Give us **generous** hearts,
open minds,
caring hands
and kind words.
Amen

Contacts



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