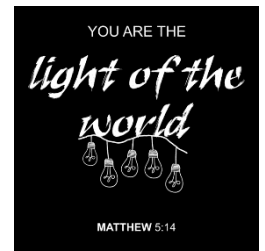


Dear Parents, Carers and friends,

This half term has once again been a challenging one! We close today for our half term break and return on Monday 28<sup>th</sup> February.

Thank you for all your support and engagement with school across the year so far, what we achieve together as parents, grandparents, children, teaching and support staff, governors, PTA and volunteers is truly amazing; so many of us, all wanting a happy childhood that helps our children to SHINE in their learning journey. THANK YOU ALL for making Wybunbury so unique and a special place to be. We all look 'towards the Light' - whatever your personal Light and Life may be!



A huge thank you to ALL the staff at Wybunbury Delves for **lighting the spark for a love of learning and of life** with all our children. So much goes into developing our children. It is a constant and fragile balance to encourage new learning in the right way. Thank you to ALL our staff (teaching and support staff) for their dedication, for the long hours they give and for seeing each child as a person.

**Our newsfeed** gives a wonderful insight into the world of everything Wybunbury Delves! Please check in with it regularly to find out about your child's learning and other enrichment opportunities school provides. Our news feeds directly into our Facebook and Twitter accounts. Please acknowledge your read of the news with a like or comment! Questions cannot be answered directly off our Facebook or Twitter feeds so please direct these by email to the office.

**Visits:** It was lovely this half term to see Year1 and Year2 go out to Chester Zoo – this is our first visit out in over 2 years! They had a fantastic day and loved seeing the animals. Thank you to parents who alerted us to the Chester Zoo schools free ticket scheme. The visit Y1Y2 made this half term was using free tickets we gained in the last round of the giveaway, we now cannot apply again for 3 years but we will be keeping our eye out in case they change the criteria!

Young Voices has now been given a new date in May – Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> May, which is just before the summer half term. More information about tickets and the event will come out nearer the time.

Year6 are looking forward to going out next half term on their residential to Edale.

We are planning other visits for other classes over the rest of the year. The cost of transport has risen a lot during the pandemic. As you will know yourselves from filling up your own cars, the cost of fuel has risen a lot and some places are introducing tolls for coaches to enter certain clean air zone areas, this is reflected in the prices given to school for transport and the choices we make about where we can travel to. You will find visits working out to be more expensive than in the past.

**Covid Update:** this half term has been very tricky and we have had to declare Covid outbreaks for classes and OOSC within school. Our staffing was particularly badly hit last week and although we had to close OOSC for a short period of time, we were able to maintain school being open to all. Our 'Covid Count' has slowed down and the number of positive cases is in single figures today.

Over half term, the government are set to make an announcement about how we live with Covid in the longer term and ease the remaining Covid restrictions. It essentially looks like we can return back to 'normality' but we will have to wait and see exactly what the announcement entails and what guidance is issued to schools. We will update you on how this affects us directly at Wybunbury once the DFE guidance and CE guidance is issued to schools.

There a number of **staff changes since we returned in January**. We have said our thank you's and goodbyes to Ashleigh Barrow - we wish her all the very best! In January we welcomed Miss Holliwell to our teaching team – she will be teaching Year 3 to cover Miss McCurrie's maternity absence. Miss Dunn has joined our TA team and Megan Critchley has joined our Preschool and OOSC team – we look forward to working with them!

Miss McCurrie and her partner have welcomed a beautiful **baby boy** into their family this January. Photographs have been shared with the children. We send them both our best wishes and congratulations as they adjust to their new family life.

**School Bicentenary Celebrations:** As you may have seen on our posters, this year we are celebrating being 200 years old! A main focus will be in the summer term. We would like to hear of people's memories of school through the years and access old photographs. If you can help please let us know! We have created a dedicated email address: [200years@wybunburydelves.co.uk](mailto:200years@wybunburydelves.co.uk)

**Clubs:** We have a range of clubs on offer and these are changed every half term. Bookings for Sportscoaching Group clubs can be made through their website: <https://www.sportscoachingnw.co.uk/courses/After-School-Clubs/Wybunbury-Delves>. The teaching staff are offering some clubs this half term, some are by invitation only and others can be booked via [schoolinterviews.co.uk](http://schoolinterviews.co.uk) using the code: **4n3ma**



Choir do not need to rebook, all bookings stand from last half term – if your child no longer wishes to attend choir, then please let the office know in order that they can cancel your booking and open it for someone else.

Staff running invitation only clubs will contact parents/carers of the children they wish to invite directly.

Please be mindful of the finish times for clubs and be on time to pick up. Staff have other jobs to do after the clubs have finished in order to get prepared for the next day. Anyone left more than 10 minutes after the club's advertised finish time will be taken across to OOSC and will incur a charge. Clubs pick up point will be on the playground after half term from Y1-Y3 double doors, can all parents wait on the playground please. Whilst we will always endeavour to keep staff run clubs happening each week, please do not rely on them for childcare because they may have to be cancelled in the event of staff meetings/absence. Clubs will restart from Monday 28<sup>th</sup> February.

### School Payments

We thank families for keeping on top of any monies owed to school through using ParentPay.

Our extended school services are run as businesses outside of the school budget. They have to meet their running costs and any profit is used to enhance the services and school resources. We have to monitor non-payment of services and take action if outstanding payments reach a threshold. This will be defined as:

- £25 per child for school dinners debt *or*
- £75 per child for OOSC *or*
- Preschool invoice not paid within 4 weeks *or*
- Total debts to school services (Dinners/OOSC/Preschool) exceed £100 per child

Once the threshold has been reached, school will contact you regarding the outstanding payment. Non-payment towards services used could lead to the use of them being withdrawn for your child.

*Please can you check your ParentPay accounts and settle any outstanding payments in readiness for the new half term. Thank you.*

**Free School Meals / Pupil Premium:** If you qualify for Free School Meals (FSM), regardless of whether you are in Reception, KS1 or KS2, there are benefits to be had both to yourselves and to school. Even if you find yourselves in a temporary situation of low income and at that point meet the Free School Meal criteria, school receives Pupil Premium for the period of receiving FSM and for 6 years afterwards. It is completely confidential if you do qualify. School can use Pupil Premium towards visits/visitors/part payment towards residential – you will have noticed this option on letters and ParentPay. It is only available to those which qualify. Pupil Premium is used in school to further resources and staffing, it cannot be used to subsidise OOSC. Cheshire East website has further information of this very simple process of applying for FSM.

### Income related free school meals (IRFSM)

If your child is in receipt of income related free school meals, they are automatically eligible for the [Household Support Fund](#).

You can claim free school meals for each child who attends school in Cheshire East if you receive one of these benefits:

- Universal Credit with no earned income or with net monthly earnings less than £616.67
- Income Support
- Income based Jobseeker's Allowance
- Income related Employment Support Allowance
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- The guaranteed element of State Pension Credit

- Child Tax Credit - as long as you have a yearly household income of less than £16,190 (as assessed by HM Revenue and Customs) and do not get Working Tax Credit
- Working Tax Credit run-on (paid for 4 weeks after you stop qualifying for Working Tax Credit)

Phone 0300 123 5012 for further information and help. Or access the Cheshire East website:  
[https://www.cheshireeast.gov.uk/schools/school-meals/free\\_school\\_meals.asp](https://www.cheshireeast.gov.uk/schools/school-meals/free_school_meals.asp)

**Attendance:** It is expected that your child is in school every day and our attendance target is 97%. Covid has brought many challenges to attendance. The government expectation is that every child is now attending school. Averages for this half term are:

**Reception** 95.5% **Year 1** 91.2% **Year 2** 94.3% **Year 3** 93.8%  
**Year 4** 95.5% **Year 5** 94.6% **Year 6** 93.7%

Well done to **Year 4 and Reception** who are our top attenders this half term!

We ask that medical appointments are, as far as possible, made outside of school hours. If they cannot be arranged at this time, please provide school with a copy of the medical appointment letter for our records. If you take a sibling out of school to attend their brother/sister's appointment, this is an unauthorised absence as the appointment does not relate to them and should only happen if you genuinely have no alternative. Sometimes when your child is ill it is difficult to decide whether or not to send your child into school, the NHS have produced this useful guide.

Please be mindful that whilst much of our focus on illness has been connected to Covid over the past 2 years, the more regular illnesses are still about! In particular, we have seen cases of sickness and diarrhoea over the last few weeks – this does require a 48 hour absence after the last bout.



## When should my child return to school?



This information is based on the Public Health Agency guide - full copy here

\*No need to stay off but school or nursery should be informed.



**Fixed Penalty Notices** apply to all types of unauthorised absence, not just those accrued through holidays in term time. Holidays within term time cannot be authorised by school.

If 10 or more unauthorised absences (1 absence = 1/2 day) are accrued over two consecutive terms then school will consult the LA on the issuing of a Fixed Penalty Notice. The cost of which is £60 per parent per child if paid within 21 days increasing to £120 per parent per child to be paid within 28 days if remains unpaid will be processed to Court for prosecution. These Fixed Penalty Notices have been introduced as part of the government's drive to improve attendance. Please see our attendance policy on the website.

**CDAT Links:** We are beginning to meet up once again with our colleagues from the other CDAT schools and we are planning in the near future to look at ways the children from the different schools can begin to meet each other or work on joint projects, either in person or via Zoom/MS Teams.

The Trust now comprises 11 schools across the Diocese of Chester. We are all very different and can learn a lot from each other and the context of where we are. The schools in our trust are: Astbury St. Marys CE Primary; Bredbury St. Mark's CE Primary; Brereton CE Primary; Bosley St. Mary's CE Primary; Christchurch Moreton CE Primary; Little Bollington CE Primary; St. Georges CE Primary Hyde; St. Matthews CE Primary Stockport; Utkinton St. Pauls CE Primary and ourselves. We have made a display by the office for the children to see where the other schools are. More information about CDAT can be found on their website: [ww.cdat.co.uk](http://ww.cdat.co.uk)

**Lost property:** Please may we ask that you check all your child's belongings they bring to school to ensure they are clearly named. Being young, children leave their uniform, drinks bottles, shoes etc ... all over the school premises and we can only return lost property if we know who it belongs to.

**Parking:** We have received a phone call from a member of the public concerned about our children getting out of cars into the road rather than the pavement. As we are all aware our road is narrow and dangerous, please park responsibly and use the car park whenever possible. We would encourage you to park in the village and walk up to school – we will be opening the bottom gate on Bridge Street after half term.

**Kitchen Staff Casual Vacancy:** Cheshire East Catering have asked us to include the advert below in our newsletter

**Kitchen vacancy:** We are looking to recruit a kitchen assistant at Wybunbury Delves Primary School. This is a term time only contract. Uniform and training will be provided. This is subject to an enhanced DBS, 2 references and an online medical questionnaire. Please contact Lesley McAulay (Operations Manager) on 07970 819700 for further information

We wish you all a lovely half term break!

Kind regards

Mrs Chesters and the Wybunbury Delves Team

### Term Dates for 2021/2022

Holiday Period	Date of Closing	Date of Re-Opening
Spring Half Term 2022	Thursday 17th February 2022	Monday 28th February 2022
Easter 2022	Friday 1st April 2022	Tuesday 19th April 2022
May Day 2022	Friday 29th April 2022	Tuesday 3rd May 2022
Summer Half Term 2022	Friday 27th May 2022	Monday 6th June 2022
Summer 2022	Tuesday 19th July 2022	--

#### Inset Days 21/22 (already included in calendar above):

- Friday 18th February; Wednesday 20th July; Thursday 21st July

*Please note these dates take into account the additional Bank Holiday for the Queen's Platinum Jubilee – we have taken Friday 22nd July in lieu of the bank holiday.*

### Term Dates for 2022/2023

*These dates follow the Cheshire East pattern of holiday dates, they do not necessarily match the dates of other local school who may have made different decisions about their holidays.*

Holiday Period	Date of Closing	Date of Re-Opening
Summer 2022	Tuesday 19th July 2022	Monday 5th September 2022
Autumn Half Term 2022	Friday 21st October 2022	Monday 31st October 2022
Christmas 2022/2023	Friday 16th December 2022	Tuesday 3rd January 2023
Spring Half Term 2023	Thursday 16th February 2023	Monday 27th February 2023
Easter 2023	Friday 31st March 2023	Monday 17th April 2023
May Day 2023	Friday 28th April 2023	Tuesday 2nd May 2023
Summer Half Term 2023	Friday 26th May 2023	Monday 5th June 2023
Summer 2023	Thursday 20th July 2023	--

#### Inset Days 22/23 (already included in calendar above):

- Thursday 1st September; Friday 2nd September; Friday 17th February; Friday 21st July

*Please note there is one other CDAT INSET day to be added to the calendar*