**20th December 2019**

Dear Parents/Carers,

It has been lovely to see so many of you in school in recent weeks at the read and rave events, Christmas Fayre, our nativities, assemblies and Christmas singing. Our digital storytelling session for Y3 and Y4 children was also a huge success with parent feedback being extremely positive. We hope to have further creative family learning sessions later in the school year.

**School success** – last week saw the release of the school performance data for 2018-19. We are proud to say that our Y6 combined reading, writing and maths attainment score was the 4th highest in Rotherham last year. 84% of children achieved age-related expectations in all three areas with success in reading reaching 89%, all significantly above national averages. I am really proud of our recent academic success and thank you for your continued support of your children, particularly in reading at home, which we know has a huge impact on children being able to reach their potential as they move through school.

**These links below offer good reading resources for parents to use at home:**

Oxford Owl - Phonics support for parents of children in F1 to Y2.

You will need to set up a login but it is free.

<https://www.oxfordowl.co.uk/for-home/reading/phonics-made-easy/>

Website with free stories for all primary aged children

<https://www.freechildrenstories.com/>

**Goodbye and a huge thankyou** to our school business manager, Mrs Broadhead. Mrs Broadhead is retiring today to spend more time with her young grandchildren, including her newborn grandson. She has given 12 years of her working life to Wath Victoria and whilst we are really sad to see her leave, we wish her all the best for her new adventures! We will miss you!

**Hello and welcome** - We are pleased that Mrs Salmons will be joining us as school business manager from January. Also, we have a third Miss Shaw who has joined us this week (this might get confusing!). Miss Shaw will be working as a teaching assistant in EYFS and KS1.

**After school clubs** – as a result of feedback from the school council and parents, we have once again increased the number and range of after school clubs available from January. We now offer 16 different after school clubs. As you will appreciate this level of provision takes a lot of organisation and monitoring and we try to manage this as fairly and efficiently as we can for all children.

**School car park** – this is for staff only. Parents/carers should not access the car park unless they have a valid disabled parking permit from school. **Please note the car park gate closest to the school building remains locked during the school day for safeguarding purposes**, so accessing the car park during the day means you will have to walk the whole way back round unless we are already aware of your disabled access need.

**Mobile phone numbers** – if you change your number, please let us know. It is essential that we have up to date contact numbers for all parents/carers.

**Attendance**

Thank you for your efforts in supporting your child’s attendance. Well done to the 55 children in school who have 100% attendance this term. We appreciate that illness has hit hard recently and know that all parents recognise the importance of high levels of attendance and punctuality on children’s learning.

**Dates for your diary**

We break up for Christmas today and **re-open on Monday 6th January 2020.**

**6th January –** Y3/4 AMRC Robotics day in school

**7th January** – Y1/2 AMRC Catapults design day in school

**9th January** – Flu immunisations in school.

**13th January** – VEX Robotics competition 1 – Y5/6 afterschool club teams

**24th January** – Online safety day – PSHE curriculum day

**3rd February** - VEX Robotics competition 2 – Y5/6 afterschool club teams

**4th February** – Safer internet day

**7th February** – Time to talk day – mental health and wellbeing

**10th February** – Science Week

**12th February** – Movement evening at Wath Academy – after school club performance

**25th February** – Family learning session F2 and KS1 – details to follow.

**We break up for half term on Friday 14th February.**

*Everyone at #TeamWV wishes you and your family a happy Christmas and a peaceful new year. We look forward to some more brilliant learning in 2020!*

**Mrs C Miller**

**Headteacher.**

