

## Diary Dates

### Monday 7 October

Primary Panathlon event

### Wednesday 9 October

Movie Night

'50 things to do before 5' event

Year 4, 5 & 6 Bonfire Safety Talk

### Tuesday 15 October

5k in a day fundraiser



### Thursday 17 October

Year 1 food technology day

### Monday 21 October

Nursery trip to Birchfield Farm

### Tuesday 22 October

Whole School Photos



### Friday 25 October

School closes for October half term

### Monday 4 November

School re-opens after October half term

### Tuesday 19 November

Year 5 & 6 Fire Safety talk

### Wednesday 11 December

Movie night



### Thursday 19 December

Whole School Christingle Service

### Friday 20 December

School closes for Christmas holidays

### Monday 6 January

School re-opens after Christmas holidays

### Wednesday 29 January

Movie night



### w/c Monday 12 May

KS2 SATs week

### Monday 21 July

School closes for summer holidays



### Staffing Update

I am delighted to let you know that Mrs Batey has begun her steady return to work. Many of you will have seen her on the gate this week and I know how much your positive words and gentle hugs meant to her!

Also, a very warm welcome to Ms Callanan, who joined the Early Years team this week.



Wednesday 9 October

'Gnome Alone'

Movie night will finish at 5.00pm approx.

Tickets cost £2 and are available on parentpay



# Worth Valley Primary School NEWSLETTER



4 October 2024

## Headteacher's Message

### Working Together to Improve School Attendance—National Framework



Whilst the vast majority of our pupils have excellent attendance, I wanted to make everyone aware of recent changes to the national framework regarding attendance:

As you are aware, it is extremely important that your child attends school every day, on time, if they are able to do so. Regular attendance helps children to get the most out of their school experience; including their achievement, wellbeing and wider life chances. There are only a few circumstances in which a child is able to miss school, such as illness or if permission has been given because of an exceptional circumstance.

If your child misses school without a good reason, the local authority can intervene and you may be issued with a fine. From September 2024, the Department for Education has introduced a new national framework which means that the same rules apply to all schools and local authorities when considering whether to issue a fine.

### Under the new framework, all schools are required to consider a fine when a child misses 10 or more sessions (five days) for unauthorised reasons.

School and the local authority will offer support to try to improve your child's attendance first, but if this is not effective, or the absence is for an unauthorised holiday in term time, you could be issued with a fine.

### From August 2024 the amount of the fine is increasing to £80 if paid within 21 days or £160 if paid within 28 days. If a second fine is issued for the same child within a three year period the amount will be £160.

The number of fines you can receive for each child is capped at two within a three year period from the date of the first fine. If this limit is reached, other action, such as a parenting order or prosecution, will be considered. Fines are issued separately to each parent.



For more information, or to read the full national framework, please visit

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/working-together-to-improve-school-attendance>.





## Attendance

**Attendance data for the last 3 weeks is as follows:**

w/c 23.9.24		w/c 30.9.24	
Reception	95.7%	Reception	95.4%
Year 1 	98.6%	Year 1 	98.6%
Year 2	94.4%	Year 2	95.2%
Year 3	93.3%	Year 3	97.0%
Year 4	87.4%	Year 4	91.9%
Year 5	94.8%	Year 5	98.4%
Year 6	95.0%	Year 6	97.0%
Butterfly Room	85.7%	Butterfly Room	88.6%

Congratulations to year 1 who achieved the highest class attendance for 4 consecutive weeks!

We hope you are enjoying reading the books you were awarded in recognition of this fantastic achievement and you've also earned a non-uniform day on Monday!

 Keep up the good work! 



## 5k in a day fancy-dress fundraiser



Tuesday 15th October

Pupils and staff at Worth Valley Primary School will be completing 5k in a day\* in fancy dress!

Sponsor forms will be sent out this week.

Every single penny raised will be spent on replacing the damaged or stolen outdoor furniture and resources.

Thank you!

*\*younger pupils and those requiring reasonable physical adjustments will complete 5 laps of the cycle track rather than 5k*

## Changes to fines for term time holidays and unauthorised absence

With the introduction of the new National Framework for penalty notices, the following changes came into force for penalty notice fines issued for unauthorised holidays recorded by schools **from 19 August 2024**.

### National threshold

There will be a single, consistent national threshold for when a penalty notice must be considered by all schools in England of 10 sessions (usually equivalent to five school days) of unauthorised absence within a rolling 10 school week period.

### Who may be fined?

Penalty notice fines are issued to each parent who allows their child to be absent from school.

For example: three siblings absent for term time leave would result in each parent who allowed the holiday receiving three separate fines.

### First offence

The first time a penalty notice is issued for an unauthorised term time holiday, the fine amount will be:

**£80 per parent, per child if paid within 21 days, increasing to £160 if paid between days 22-28.**

### Second offence (within three years)

The second time a penalty notice is issued for unauthorised absence, the amount will be:

**£160 per parent (who allowed the holiday), per child, payable within 28 days.**

### Third offence and any further offences (within three years)

The third time an offence is committed, a penalty notice will not be issued and local authorities will need to consider other available measures to address the absence concerns.

This may mean that cases are presented before a Magistrate's Court.

Prosecution can result in criminal records and fines of up to £2500 and/or a term of imprisonment not exceeding 3 months.