



# Spring Half Term 1 (February 2024)

## Hey with Zion V.C. Primary

To do  
the best  
we can



### Dates to remember

<b>Fri 16 Feb</b>	School closes
<b>Mon 26 Feb</b>	School re-opens
<b>Wed 28 Feb</b>	Year 5 - Viking visit
<b>Tue 05 Mar</b>	Richard O' Neill - Author
<b>Thurs 07 Mar</b>	World Book Day
<b>Fri 08 Mar</b>	Victoria Day (whole school)
<b>Thurs 21 Mar</b>	Year 2 Trip to Eureka
<b>Thurs 28 Mar</b>	School closes
<b>Mon 15 April</b>	School re-opens
<b>Tue 30 April</b>	Year 4 trip
<b>Mon 06 May</b>	Bank holiday
<b>Week Beginning Mon 13 May</b>	SAT's Week
<b>Fri 24 May</b>	School closes
<b>Thurs 06 June</b>	School reopens
<b>Thurs 08 June</b>	School re-opens
<b>Tue 11 June</b>	Reception Trip
<b>Wed 12 June</b>	Nursery Trip
<b>Wed 03 Jul</b>	Reception/Year 1 Trip
<b>Tue 09 Jul</b>	Year 5 Trip
<b>Wed 10 July</b>	Year 1/2 Trip

Dear parents and carers,

Another fantastic half term has been and gone! I am amazed at how quickly we are moving through the year and how our wonderful children are progressing so well!

I am very pleased to announce that I will be the Headteacher of Hey with Zion from September 2024. I am thrilled and honoured to have been interviewed and selected by the governors. I will endeavour to make our school the best it can be, and I am looking forward to working with you all!

As you are aware, Mr Clowes is on a phased retirement and will sadly leave school in the summer. The governors have agreed that Mr Clowes can reduce his days at Hey with Zion after Easter, to support other schools in the Epworth Trust where his expertise will be most welcome. He will be in school for one and a half days each week and will continue to work hard for Hey with Zion.

Please listen to your child read each day! We are aware that some of the Key Stage 2 children can read but are not being extended at home to discuss vocabulary, plot, and characters. Please spend just five or ten minutes each day and support your child as much as you can.

Our attendance has dropped below the expected target, please do not take holidays in term time as your child will miss out on valuable learning and fall behind. The government have now approved new substantial fines that will be issued. Children need to be in school for 9 o'clock - remember doors open from 8:50am.

Here are just some of the great things our children have experienced: Year 6 boys and girls represented the school in football and gave their best! The girls were commended for their resilient and positive attitudes, not just by the coaches at Manchester City but also by the teams they played against. Miss Farrar, Mr Clowes, and I are very proud of them.

Our school trip programme has started with Year 3 and year 3/4 visiting Manchester museums. Thank you to the staff for arranging them and to the PTFA for subsidising the transport costs.

Our children took part in the "Love Your Shoes" competition and decorated their shoes or bicycle helmets. These photos will be sent on to Oldham transport department and all entries are in with the chance of winning a scooter. Please walk to school if you can and keep our roads safe.

Our St Valentine celebration has brought about a marvellous response and your donations to the school's food bank are very much appreciated.

VIP lunch time treats have been awarded this week. A big well done to the children selected by the lunch supervisors! House captains have also inspired their teams in their "House Lunch Date!"

We are very sad to announce the death of Mrs Coutts whom some of you will remember. Mrs Coutts worked at Hey with Zion for many years as an administrator, lunchtime supervisor and highly respected colleague. She loved our school. She will be missed.

## After School Clubs

For **term 4** the following clubs will be running:

### Monday

- Phonics Club invitation only  
- Free

### Tuesday

- Multi-Sports Club (years 1 & 2)  
3.30 pm - 4.30pm  
(£8 or if pupil premium £4)
- Choir (years 3 - 6) - Free

### Friday

- Tennis Club (year 3 & 4)  
3.30 pm - 4.30 pm  
(£8 or if pupil premium £4)
- Chess Club (years 3-6)  
3.30 pm - 4.30 pm  
(£5)



## Car Park

Please can we ask that **NO** parents bring their cars in to the school grounds at any time. (unless they have writtend permission from the headteacher). The car park is strictly staff only.

Pedestrians should not walk across the car park at any time but use the walkways, as cars may be coming and going throughout the day. There have been occasions when staff are leaving school during the day, at home time and after evening clubs where children are walking across the car park. In the interests of health and safety for your children please do not do this.

Thank you.

## No lunchtime return

Please note that if your child is absent for a morning session but will be present for an afternoon session the start time is:

Nursery	-	12.25pm
Reception	-	12.45pm
KS1	-	1.00pm
KS2	-	1.25pm

We can only accept children back into school before this if they were registered at the beginning of the morning session and we know of their return. These are health and safety precautions, as your child will not be recorded as being in school until the afternoon register has been taken.

Thank you.

## Changes to normal collection routine

If there are changes to your child/children's collection routine, please call the school office **as early as possible** so we can inform the class teacher of the changes.

Thank you.

## Absence from School

We are all working hard towards improving our attendance figures and would ask that parents continue in their efforts to bring their children to school on time.

If it is unavoidable that your child is absent, we have a telephone answering system where you can leave a message for their class teacher giving their name, class and reason for absence. ***You can also register your child's absence on ParentMail via the app.***

Please call before 9 am; otherwise, Miss B Clarke our Learning Mentor/Attendance Officer will contact you for an update.

If your child has an appointment during school time please bring their appointment card or letter in to school so that, we can note the details for our records.

Thank you.

## Dinner Money

As you are aware, the cost of school dinners has increased to £2.70 per day (£13.50 per week). For those parents who pay their child's dinner money half-termly, the cost of school dinners for the first spring half term is **£64.80**.

We are a **cashless school**. All items including school dinners **must** be paid via ParentMail. **CASH OR CHEQUES WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED IN SCHOOL!**

**NO CASH  
ACCEPTED**

After half term, we will be continuing offering to all packed lunch children the opportunity to join the other children with a hot school meal. These adhoc dinners can be selected on a **Tuesday and Friday only**.