

Friday 17th May 2024

Re: Great British Bark Off



Dear Parents/Carers

We are delighted to inform everyone that we will be taking part in "The Great British Bark Off 2024". We will be celebrating this dog themed day on **Friday 28th June**. [Underdog International](#) is a charity which works with rescue dogs and trains them to become therapy dogs. Dogs come in all shapes, sizes, colours and have wildly different skills and talents, just like humans – however, they also have the huge gift of being totally non-judgemental, making them ideal companions and able to bring out the very best in humans. The star of this year's event is [Henry "Wee Wheels"](#) who continues to make the most of life despite requiring his very own, custom built set of wheels – demonstrating inclusion and diversity in everything he gets up to. We are going to be raising some money on the day, through donations, in order to fund a Therapy Dog to come into Ecclesall on a regular basis next academic year – we are also hoping that Irma (pictured below) and her human, Holly will come in to school on Friday 28th June to meet everyone.

As well as a series of class-based activities throughout the day, we would love the children to **dress up** with a simple "Dog themed" outfit. This could be as simple as a mask or as complicated and creative as you want to get! We will be holding a classroom based "Bark Off" event based around **biscuit decoration**. (We will liaise re. allergens nearer the time).



Similar to the event we held as part of Queen Elizabeth's Jubilee celebrations in 2022, we will be holding our very own **Dog Show**. This will take place at 2.45pm on the bottom part of the school fields. There will be a short "course" for the dogs (and owners) to negotiate and a final parade for all participants. We will have a maximum of 30 dogs (on a first come basis) taking part and all dogs will be the responsibility of parents/carers at all times. They will not be allowed to be off the lead at any point and please bring your own poo bags to dispose of any mess that may be created. If you would like to participate in this part of the day, please complete and return the slip below to Mr Willatt ASAP (a suggested donation of £5.00/dog on the day is requested to go towards the overall fundraising event).

Kind regards

Emma Hardy
Head Teacher

Nicole Ramsey
Deputy Head

Guy Willatt
Deputy Head

Dog Show reply slip

Child's Name: _____ Current Class: _____

Dog's Name: _____

I agree to keep my dog on a short lead throughout the event and clear up and remove any mess from my dog.

Signed (parent/carer): _____ Date: _____