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School Values

Responsible Excellence Share Polite Encourage Communicate Truth

Newsletter – 20th December 2016

Dear Parents/Carers,

I can't believe it is the Christmas Break already! It has been a long term, but it has gone very quickly. As you are aware from the weekly newsletters, we have had a lot of exciting times and lots of things to celebrate this term.

Today your children will have received a special gift and took part in an end of term celebration. Thank you to the Carpenters Company for their kind donation which enables these things to happen. The children and families really appreciate it.

I have listed below key dates for the Spring term 2017. I wish you all a restful break with your family; Merry Christmas to those celebrating Christmas and a very Happy New Year to you all! Thank you for your continued support and I look forward to working with you again in 2017!

Diane Barrick - Headteacher

SDP Update

'To drive standards so that the school is at least in line with National Expectations under the new curriculum and testing framework, with a particular focus on Reading, Maths & Attendance.'

So what have we done so far this year?

Reading:

- Embedded whole class teaching through the reciprocal reading programme;
- Provided weekly test style questions so that children are familiar with the kinds of questions they will face;
- Reading comprehension homework has been introduced so children can practise at home and parents/carers can see the kind of skills children need to develop;
- Purchased a large number of new books to support children's reading during class sessions and to take home to read;
- Focused skill of the week to ensure all skills are taught over the academic year;
- Developed reading corners so that they support children's learning and enjoyment of reading.

Maths:

- Embedded the Maths No Problem teaching into the maths learning journey;
- Used more pictorial and concrete resources before children move on to more abstract learning;
- Provided challenges through test style questions to familiarise children with problem solving and reasoning questions;
- Incorporated journaling into maths teaching to find out how children solve different maths concepts;
- Introduced maths learning walls to support children's learning during the maths journey;
- Provided a variety of staff training opportunities to increase staff skills, knowledge and understanding of Maths.

Attendance:

- Use of the local authority Attendance Management Officer to work with parents/carers of those children with historical attendance and punctuality issues;
- Introduced a link Governor to challenge and support the work of the school;
- Made clear the expectations of parents/carers when they are unsure about whether to send their children into school;
- Ensured that children have conferencing time with an adult following an absence so there are no gaps in their learning;

Fundraising

Over the last few weeks we have had a number of fundraising events. I am delighted to share with you the amounts raised:

- Wear a Christmas Jumper Day - We raised a whopping £298.90 (compared to £170 last year).
- Christmas Concerts - £138.60 & Christmas Discos - £298.30.

Many thanks for your continued support. We will let you know as soon as a decision has been made about how the money should be spent following your suggestions.

Starting School

A reminder that the deadline for online applications via eadmissions.org.uk for Starting School in a Reception Class from September 2017 is 15th January 2017. Children born between 1st September 2011 and 31st August 2012 must apply. Should you require any advice or support in completing the online form, please contact the school office.

Governor Update

Attached to this newsletter is a Governor update detailing the work they have undertaken this term.

Thank you to all of the parents/carers who we spoke to last night to complete the Governor questionnaire - it was good to hear your views. In the new year the results will be analysed and we will update you through the weekly newsletter.

Attendance

A reminder to all parents/carers, that holidays during term time, or attached to a school holiday, will not be authorised, except in exceptional circumstances. We have already had a number of families whose children have been absent from school and we have not been able to make contact with them. This leads us to believe that some families may have taken their children on holiday without authorisation. Any parent/carer who takes their child/ren on holiday without authorisation will be issued with a penalty notice with a charge of £60 per parent per child. Should your child/ren not return to school on Thursday 5th January 2017, we will expect a note from your child's local GP to confirm their sickness/absence. Any parent/carer who does not provide this information will also be issued with a penalty notice with a charge of £60 per parent per child.

Dates for your diary

4 th Jan	School closed - Staff training day
5 th Jan	Children return to school
9 th Jan	Year 4 swimming for 2 weeks
11 th Jan	Year 6 Parent/Carer Meeting - SATs
11 th Jan	Year 5 Parent/Carer Meeting - Fairplay House
12 th Jan	Year 2 Parent/Carer Meeting - SATs
18 th Jan	Year 1 Parent/Carer Meeting - Phonics
25 th Jan	Maths Day
30 th Jan	Chinese New Year Assembly - Yr 1 - All Welcome
w/c 6 th Feb	e-Safety Week
7 th Feb	Bring a Parent/Carer E-Safety Workshops
7 th Feb	Safer Internet Day
w/c 13 th Feb	SCHOOL CLOSED - HALF TERM
20 th Feb	Children return to school

Whole School Attendance - 6th September - 20th December 2016

EYFS & KS1:

Sunflower - 91.9%	Snowdrop - 92.8%
Bluebell - 96.9% WELL DONE!!	Marigold - 96.0%
Daisy - 97.1%	Poppy - 96.2%

KS2:

Rose - 97.0%	Fern - 98.2% WELL DONE!!
Willow - 92.7%	Pine - 96.2%
Chestnut - 97.3%	Oak - 96.7%
Tulip - 97.6%	Holly - 97.1%

Whole School Target 2016-2017 - 96.2%

Whole School Attendance this week (w/e 20th December) - 93.5%

Whole School Attendance this term - 6th September to & 20th December 2016 - 96.0%

Well done to Bluebell & Fern for best attendance this term - A special visit will be organised for you next half term!

Keep working hard to ensure your child attends school every day and on time (8.55am)!

Carpenters Attendance - Autumn 2016

100% Attendance

More great news to celebrate: 161 children, 36% of the school from Nursery to Year 6, achieved 100% attendance this term. Well done to all those children! There are too many to list but they each received a special treat for this amazing achievement.

Class Attendance

I am delighted to announce the following classes have won 'Best Attendance' for the Autumn term 2016.

KS1 - Bluebell Class

KS2 - Fern Class

Both classes have been rewarded with a special visit which will take place in the New Year. Well done to all children in both classes.

Child of the term - Autumn 2016

Well done to the following children who have been awarded 'Child of the term', in recognition of their hard work, improvements and/or overall performance this term:

Yusra Halim, Atas Kasparavicius, Bradley Marquis, Harry Elves, Leonard Nakamura-Laska, Dhru Koriya, Mahnaz Basaduzzaman, Aiden Hinton, Ray Elombah, Amicet Upate, Salina Stankulova, Aarush Bhatt, David Akaolisa, Raihana Bhiuyan, Fatima Toure, Amera Khan.

Each child received a special chocolate treat - Enjoy!