



January 2017 Newsletter

25th January 2017

Dates to remember:

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Upcoming Dates

Safer Internet KS2 work-
shop 3rd February
Internet Safety Day 7th
February
Half Term 20th—24th Feb-
ruary
Mothers Day Meal 22nd
March
Parents Meetings—week
beginning 3rd April
Easter Holidays 10th—21st
April

Internet Safety Day

This takes place on **Tuesday 7th February** and we would like to invite parents and family members to join us in the hall for a presentation by some KS2 children on all aspects of safety on line and using any devices at home. You are then able to join your child in class to work with them on keeping safe. This will be informative for adults but also reminding children of what we teach them about Internet Safety appropriate to their ages.

Please come into school for 9am. The assembly will be for about 20 minutes and activities in class until 10am.

Key Stage 2 'right click' training

We are hosting an after school workshop on Thursday 3rd February delivered by BT volunteers. It explores internet safety with children and families. A letter has gone home and we just ask that you send in the reply slip so we know how many to cater for.

Mothers Day Meal

This has been planned for Wednesday 22nd March for children in school who have a dinner and would like to invite a 'mother' / female relative to join them for dinner in school. Information will be coming out nearer the time.

Parents Meetings

These will take place during the week beginning 3rd April where parents / carers are invited into school at 2.40 to find out about supporting your child with reading and strategies we use to help.

Nursery Pet

Nursery are interested in introducing a school pet and wondered if anyone has a 'small pet' cage / run etc to help us reduce costs before deciding which pet might be most suitable. Please let anyone in school know if you have anything that we could have.

Attendance

December's attendance:

FS 2	89%	Top Table Winners:	
Yr 1	94.4%		
Yr 2	94.5%	02.12.16	Year 4 (95.3%)
Yr 3	92.6%	09.12.16	Year 5 (99.3%)
Yr 4	91.5%		
Yr 5	94.9%		
Yr 6	95%		

Overall school attendance for December was only: 93.2% and since September is: 95.3%

Congratulations to Year 6

Gong to Year FS2- keep trying to improve EVERYONE

Lateness

Can we remind all families that it is very disruptive for school staff and is very difficult for children to come into school late. They miss the register and therefore additional work has to be done by staff to ensure they are in class, are marked correctly in the register, are put down for a school meal if needed. The teachers have to find time to catch the children up with what they have missed as teaching starts at 9.00am sharp. Most children are also upset at walking into class late. We will be sending letters home to those families whose children have a pattern of coming in late after the register and may start requiring them to complete late slips giving reasons. If this continues to become an issue then a meeting will be required with school to plan how this can improve.

5 minutes late each day = 3 days of school lost

10 minutes late each day = 6.5 days of school lost

15 minutes late each day = 10 days of school lost

20 minutes late each day = 13 days of school lost

30 minutes late each day = 19 days of school lost

Gentle reminders

It is really helpful if you name all children's clothes including P.E kits

No children, whatever age should be on the playground before 8.50 unsupervised

We still have some children without P.E.kits in school and we have very few spare kits.

Children's Health and Safety

In the Autumn Term the children were asked to discuss sensible bedtimes for their age groups and reasons why. This is what they said and hopefully it may help if you are having difficulties with getting your child to bed at a sensible time:

FS2 7.00pm *"so we are not tired and are ready fro school in the morning"*

Year 1 7.00pm *"so that we don't get tired during the day"*

Year 2 7.00-8.00pm *"so we can learn and are awake to ask questions and to help us concentrate"*

Year 3 7.30-8.00pm *"we need the sleep to help us to learn the next day"*

Year 4 7.00-8.00pm *"we need to get lots of sleep so we have energy for the next day "*

Year 5 8.00 -8.30pm *"so we can learn more and won't be yawning in class, we need to be wide awake to learn"*

Year 6 8.15pm *"this gives you time to read and relax before you doze off.*

8.30pm it's not too early and not too late for a good night sleep!"

Christmas—Thank you!

I challenged the school at the start of December to think about things we could do for other and wishes we could make for our school, for their home, the local community, the country and the world to make Christmas special. These are your children's acts of kindness (with your help).

Our Community:

Singing at the Care Home and donating the left over party food to the Salvation Army Foodbank.

The UK:

Children responded enthusiastically to making and sending Christmas Cards for Bradley and Heart Radio came into school to collect them

In Europe:

The Shoe Box appeal- with over 40 boxes going from our school to children in orphanages and displaced children in refugee camps in Bosnia and Romania

Internationally:

Wearing the Christmas Jumpers raised funds to support Save the Children's work to improve the life chances of children. They work in Tanzania where our link school Mahoma is where 42% of under 5's are still undernourished and high % suffer from some kind of physical violence.

What caring and generous families and community you are.

Staff and Governor news

We welcome Miss Stott, a highly experienced KS2 teacher , to join the teaching staff working in Year 4.

Welcome back to Claire Ferdinand in the office after her maternity leave.

Kerry Dodgson will continue as a Parent Governor—we still have one vacancy for another Parent Governor and I would welcome conversations from anyone who would like to know more or is interested in this role.

Class news

Nursery—they are really looking forward to having a little class pet if anyone can help!

FS2—They are having an exciting visit from Zoolab to help them learn more about pets

Year 1—can't wait for a trip to The Botanical Gardens looking at the Seasons

Year 2—wow ask them about the World War 1 Soldier who visited their classroom this week!

Year 3—are so lucky to have a teaching student with them and also had a visit from an Anglo Saxon this week! I wonder what they found out?

Year 4— Miss Stott has a Bronze Age workshop booked in for you.

Year 5—What exciting science fun they are having with workshops from Bishop Barrington as well as a visitor exploring volcanoes with them.

Year 6—have been learning all about rocks and fossils with a real palaeontologist.

Maeve Mackenzie

Head Teacher
