



St. John's CE Primary School

NEWSLETTER

March 2018



REPORTING ABSENCE

In line with Oldham LEA guidance, we now hold half-termly attendance panel meetings with parents of children who have attendance levels below 90%. We also regularly monitor attendance of all children, and where there are concerns and attendance drops below 95%, we contact parents to explain our concerns, and invite them into school to see if there is anything we can do to help. If after these meetings, there is not a significant improvement in attendance, the school will no longer be in a position to authorise any absences. Below is a copy of the letter that is then sent out:

As you may be aware, we are concerned about the level of attendance for your child since the start of the school year. As their attendance has dropped to below 95% they are at risk of becoming what is categorised as 'persistent absenteeism'.

From today, the school will not be in a position to authorise any medical illnesses or appointments for your child unless they are confirmed by medical evidence (e.g. prescription or prescribed medicine bottle, appointment card, hospital letter etc.). Without this evidence school will record the absence as unauthorised. All other absences, unless for exceptional circumstances, will also be recorded as unauthorised.

If your child accumulates 10 sessions (10 half days, or 5 full days) unauthorised absence, then it will be passed on to Oldham Local Education Authority who will be asked to issue a warning letter. This letter will give notice that attendance must be improved over the next 15 days.

If there isn't an improvement in attendance after this warning letter, the local authority will issue a penalty fine notice.

If you require clarification on these points, please contact either Miss. Bonter in EYFS/KS1 or Mr. Gibson in KS2.

PARENTS' EVENINGS

Letters will be sent out detailing appointment times for the Spring Parents' Evening during the next week in KS2. For EYFS/KS1, Mrs. Parkin will be available from 9:15 on Monday 12th March, in the school hall. After 9:30, you may make a telephone appointment via her on 0161 681 5270. In KS2, please make sure appointment letters (these will be sent out during next week) are returned to school as soon as possible. Termly report sheets will be sent out for the children next Friday, and these will be used to help facilitate the discussions during parents' evening.

CONTACT DETAILS/SNOW

Unfortunately, as you will be aware, we had to shut school on two days last week due to health and safety concerns due to the severity of the weather. It did however highlight the fact that we don't have up-to-date contact / mobile details for some children. We sent out 3 texts relating to snow closures and World Book Day last week. If you didn't receive these texts, could you please contact school to ensure that we have the correct number to contact you on.

WORLD BOOK DAY

Once again, the children came to school in some incredible book related costumes. It is brilliant to see the time and effort that children (and parents / carers) have gone to bring to life characters from books. All children have received a certificate and bookmark in recognition of their truly amazing costumes.

BOOK CLUB

Anyone wishing to purchase anything from the book club (letters were sent out yesterday), needs to ensure that the completed order form and payments are returned to school by next Friday, 16th March.

KS2 CLUBS CANCELLATIONS

Unfortunately, there are occasions where staff, for a variety of reasons, are not available to run a club. We always try to ensure enough notice is given for parents to sort out alternative arrangements for their children. The children in Mrs. Fotheringham's SATs Booster Club were all told last week that next week's (Monday 12th March) club will have to be cancelled. Also, Mrs. Clayton will not be available on 26th March, so her Advanced Writing will not take place then. There will also be no clubs on the final day of this term (29th March) - this will affect both Homework and Y3/4 Indoor Games.

UPCOMING EVENTS

16th March: Termly Assessment Sheets sent home
20th March: Parents' Evening – KS1 (afternoon)
21st March: Parents' Evening – KS1 (afternoon)
22nd March: Parents' Evening – KS2 (afternoon / evening)
28th March: Cllr P. Jacques C4/C5 Talk
29th March: Easter Service – KS1 & KS2
29th March: Final date for Robinwood payments
29th March: School closes for Easter
16th April: School reopens for Summer term
17th April: NSPCC Assembly KS1 & KS2
19th April: KS2 Karaoke Disco
25th April: Attendance Panel Meetings – Summer I

KS1 CELEBRATION ASSEMBLY

Key Stage 1 Celebration Assemblies have begun again. They take place every Friday morning, at 9:15, in the infant site hall. Parents, carers, friends and family are warmly invited. Please could we remind everyone that Celebration Assembly is one of our daily acts of worship and we ask that everyone is respectful during this time. This includes, remaining seated, joining in with prayers, listening and participating in the Celebration. Also, please remember the taking of photographs is not allowed on school premises. Thank you for your co-operation in this matter and your continued support.

EASTER SERVICES

There will be Easter Services held at both site on the last Thursday of the term (29th March). The service will start at 9:15am in EYFS/KS1 and at 2:00pm in KS2 – both will take place in the respective school hall.

EASTER EGG RAFFLE

In KS2, there will be an Easter Egg raffle that has been organised by the Y6 Enterprise Group. Details of this will be explained to the children in assembly next week. In EYFS/KS1, tickets will be sold before the Easter Service and then the draw will take place at the end.

ROBINWOOD TRIP

The final payment of £100 is due to be paid before we finish for Easter, on 29th March. Individual letters have already been sent out to remind parents of the exact amount owed.

KS2 ENTERPRISE GROUP EVENTS

The Year 6 Enterprise Group have been busy organising up-coming fundraising events. Over the next couple of months, we have a KS2 Disco and a Fashion Show. More details about these events will be sent out as soon as it is available.

SCHOOL WEBSITE

Information about the school, including important up-coming dates and events will be on the school's website, which can be found at www.stjohns.oldham.sch.uk. Copies of this letter and any other 'whole school' letters can be found on there. Copies of any class, or year group specific letters, can be obtained from the relevant school office, or the class teacher. We are currently updating a large number of our policies and these can also be found on the school website.

For further information, contact the relevant sites: 0161-681-5270 (EYFS/KS1) or 0161-681-5713 (KS2). You can visit the school website at www.stjohns.oldham.sch.uk, which contains the Infant site blogs. Thank you for your continued support

Miss L.Bonter (Head of EYFS/KS1 Site) and Mr. C. Gibson (Head of KS2 Site)