



## NEWSLETTER 12<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER 2014



### Dates for your diary

Friday 14 <sup>th</sup> November	Children in Need Day
Monday 17 <sup>th</sup> November	Inset Day
Thursday 20 <sup>th</sup> November	9.00am Parent Forum
Friday 28 <sup>th</sup> November	Christmas Fayre
Monday 8 <sup>th</sup> December	Last Day for Art Club (Year 2 only)
Monday 8 <sup>th</sup> December	1.30pm Xmas performance (dress rehearsal - grandparents and pre-school siblings invited)
Tuesday 9 <sup>th</sup> December	1.30pm Xmas performance (parents invited)
Tuesday 9 <sup>th</sup> December	Last Art Club (for second course)
Wednesday 10 <sup>th</sup> December	9.15am Xmas performance (parents invited)
Wednesday 10 <sup>th</sup> December	Last day for Belinda's Street Dance
Thursday 11 <sup>th</sup> December	6.00pm Evening Xmas performance
Thursday 11 <sup>th</sup> December	Last day for Sports Challenge - Years 1 & 2
Friday 12 <sup>th</sup> December	Last French Club
Wednesday 17 <sup>th</sup> December	Christmas Shopping Day
Thursday 18 <sup>th</sup> December	Christmas Lunch / Christmas Party
Friday 19 <sup>th</sup> December	School finishes at 3.00pm for Christmas
Monday 5 <sup>th</sup> January	Spring Term begins at 8.45am
Thursday 15 <sup>th</sup> January	9.00am Parent Forum
Wednesday 21 <sup>st</sup> January	7.00pm-8.00pm Curriculum Info Evening
Friday 23 <sup>rd</sup> January	Inset Day
Friday 30 <sup>th</sup> January	January Disco
Monday 9 <sup>th</sup> February	8.45am Sharing Time
Tuesday 10 <sup>th</sup> February	Parents Evening (time TBC)
Wednesday 11 <sup>th</sup> February	Parents Evening (time TBC)
Friday 13 <sup>th</sup> February	Comic Relief (more info to follow)
Friday 13 <sup>th</sup> February	School finishes at 3.00pm for half term

### Important thing to remember

- Everything your child wears or brings into school must be labelled
- All children require a water bottle in school every day
- PE kits must be in school at all times and include a tracksuit and trainers for outdoors
- Children must be registered with Cool Milk ([www.coolmilk.com](http://www.coolmilk.com)) in order to receive milk in school, even if they are entitled to it free of charge. This includes children who are entitled to free milk until the term before they turn 5.
- Could you qualify for Pupil Premium? Apply online at <http://www.southampton.gov.uk/learning/schools/schoolmeals/fschm.aspx>



It doesn't seem possible but we are now beginning to think about Christmas and the children are already learning the songs for the Christmas play. There is a separate letter coming out today explaining how the ticketing works for the performances - we have to limit numbers due to the size of the hall and health and safety requirements. We made the decision to put on an evening performance to help those parents who find it difficult to get time off work. We realise that this means that children will need to

be brought back for the performance and we appreciate your co-operation with this. As you will see from the letter, we would like the children to get back to school at 5.20 to give us time to get them changed.

We had a very successful maths open session with some lovely comments from parents. We will be holding one of these every term so look out for dates on the newsletter. Here are a few of the many comments made by parents:



- "It was really brilliant having the children teach us - I actually understood it and maths was fun. Thank you!"
- "Very interesting - all the children were keen to show what they are learning - more of the same please"
- "Fantastic to see how all different maths processes are done. Thank you"

### Children in Need



As per the letter from the Pupil Council on 4<sup>th</sup> November, to show our support for Children in Need, we will be making a collage of Pudsey the Bear using coins. If you wish to make a donation please send any spare change into school with your child on Friday 14<sup>th</sup> November; any coins would be helpful from 1p's to £2 coins. It all helps!

For your information, children are required to wear full uniform on this day.

### Morrisons Let's Grow Vouchers

We apologise for not letting you know sooner, but we are collecting the Let's Grow vouchers from Morrisons. If you have any at home please send them into the school office via your child's book bag.



### School Dinners

School dinner orders are sent to the kitchen at 9.30am each day. Please ensure that if your child will be arriving late to school, for example after a medical appointment, and would like a dinner that you order it in advance. This can be done by informing the office the day before or over the phone.

### Morning Arrivals

We'd like to remind all parents that the classroom doors will be open in the morning between 8.45am and 8.50am. If you arrive at the classroom with your child after the doors have closed you will need to bring them to the school office to be signed in. Whilst we appreciate that this is unavoidable on the odd occasion, it can be unsettling for a child to arrive after all of their friends have entered the classroom when the other children are already working, and therefore it should not be a regular occurrence. Under no circumstances should parents knock on a door and expect a child to open it. This is a safety issue and goes against what we are teaching the children about staying safe.



For your information, children arriving after 9.00am but before 9.20am will receive a late mark in the register. Children arriving after 9.20am will be recorded as unauthorised absence.

### Attendance

The Autumn term is always a difficult one for attendance, with the sharp change in temperature often making us all more prone to illness. 2013-2014 was a fantastic year for us for attendance, achieving 96.9% for the year, beating our target by 0.9%! In order to help us achieve, and hopefully exceed our target of 97% for 2014-2015, we need the support of all our children (and their parents!).

Our whole school attendance to date is currently at 97.5%, and we had 113 of our pupils achieving 100% for the first half of the Autumn term. All those pupils had their name read out in assembly and were awarded an attendance sticker. Their names are also on the Attendance board in the school office.

We have now devised a bronze, silver and gold reward system with all the JET schools, for pupils achieving excellent attendance. Pupils achieving 97% or above for the whole of the Autumn term will receive a pin badge in the corresponding colour, as well as a certificate. The bands we are working to are:

- 97% - 98.4% Bronze
- 98.5% - 99.9% Silver
- 100% Gold



Every term, the badges will be swapped to reflect the child's achievement for that term. This system allows us to recognise not just the children that achieve 100%, but anyone that achieves 97% or above, and is therefore helping us to meet our target. It's fantastic to see how excited the children get about the class attendance during the Celebration Assemblies on a Friday, and we hope this system will continue that enthusiasm.



As a reminder, children should be kept off school if they have a high temperature, and in the case of vomiting or diarrhoea they must be kept off until 48 hours after their last symptom. Children should be attending school if they have a cold or a cough, and remember we can administer antibiotics or other medicines in school providing you bring the medication to the office and complete the required paperwork.

Wherever possible, medical or dental appointments should be arranged outside of school hours and certainly avoid registration times (9.00am and 1.00pm). For example, for an appointment at 10.00am we would expect you to bring your child to school as normal, then collect them in time for the appointment and return them straight after. We realise there is no choice on times and dates for hospital appointments, but following our guidelines will help to minimise your child's absence.



If your child is going to be absent from school for any reason, you must inform the school office by 9.30am that day. We have a voicemail facility, but please make sure you leave a detailed message including child's name, class and why they are off. Saying 'unwell' does not provide us with enough information. We attempt to make contact with parents when we are not notified of a reason for absence, but if we do not hear back from you the absence will be recorded as unauthorised.

Thank you for your co-operation with all of this.

W/C	Foxes	Hedgehogs	Squirrels	Rabbits	Badgers	Owls	Overall
Autumn 1	96.1%	96.4%	96.2%	98.2%	97.4%	98.3%	97.4%
03/11/14	96.7%	97.0%	96.2%	98.6%	98.0%	99.3%	97.6%