



HEADTEACHER COMMENT

I must welcome back all the children, parents and staff to a new term and hope that the break has refreshed and refuelled us for the summer. This term is packed full of events, including Reception Induction, trips and many sporting events. It is also the term where the children are assessed and this includes the end of Key Stage 2 Assessments (SATS) so it is a really important term to have great attendance and punctuality.

Last year the government conceded that the changes in the National Curriculum are far too extensive and have put a great deal of pressure on the children. They changed targets so that they more realistically reflect these changes. They have also suggested in the Education white paper that schools could also become Academies and suggested that this would give Headteachers more power. As a Headteacher for over twenty years I know this is a complete "red herring," we have more than enough control of how schools are run. The Governors will however examine the pros and cons of academy status and decide in due course.

I can also add that over the last twenty years I have been increasingly aware of the political influence on Education Policy, it has never been as pointed as it is at the moment and will no doubt be used as a political weapon in the forthcoming general election.

ATTENDANCE (W.B. 03.04.17) (REMEMBER ABSENCE LINE: 675 4525)

Class	Lates	%Attend	Days Lost		Class	Lates	%Attend	Days Lost
RSBS Otters	0	84	4		RSBS Deer	0	90	4
RA	2	97	4.5		3B	3	94	9
RM	0	97.67	3.5		3S	0	98.33	2.5
1B	2	95	7.5		4B	1	98.67	2
1F	0	91.33	13		4T	1	94.67	8
2B	0	94.67	8		5A	0	99.31	1
2P	0	87	19.5		5H	0	95.86	6
					6H	0	99	1.5
Total	9	95.48	97.5		6S	0	97.67	3.5

Well done to RM and 5A who won the pandas for the last week of last term. Thank you for your support, we are now at 96.18% and I remain hopeful that with your help we will reach our target of 97%.

FIDGET SPINNERS IMPORTANT

The latest craze that has hit the shops seems to be fidget toys, as you will no doubt know. When I first saw children with these they seemed to be harmless but unfortunately they have become a major distraction and are causing issues in and out of class. Therefore I am now saying that they should be left at home, this is in line with the school's policy about bring toys to school.

PLEA FROM BREAKFAST CLUB

We are looking for some new toys, games, etc to entertain the children with. If anyone has any games they would like to donate please bring them into Breakfast Club or drop them at the school office, thanks from Mr O'Rourke.

HSBC BANK (KS2): The next visit from Miss Howes will be on 15th May then on 19th June, 3rd July and 17th July. Thank you.

BOOK FAIR – THURSDAY 27th APRIL TIL WEDNESDAY 3rd MAY

The Book fair will be running in the Library during both Parents Evenings and till 4pm on Friday 28th and Wednesday 3rd May. Lunchtimes: Children can also visit the library to purchase any books should they wish to.

Thanks Mrs Haddock.

PUPIL PREMIUM GRANT – IS YOUR CHILD ELIGIBLE?

We would like all our children to receive all the funding to which they are entitled. Your child may be eligible for additional funding of up to £1320 per year through the school's budget if you are eligible for any of the following:

- Income support • Income-based jobseekers' allowance • Income-related employment and support allowance
- Support under Part IV of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999 • The guaranteed element of state pension credit
- Child tax credit, provided that you are not also entitled to working tax credit and have an annual gross income of £16,190 or less • Universal credit • Funding is also available for service children, adopted children or any child who has been looked after by the local authority.

Even if you do not want your child to have a school lunch we would encourage you to apply for free school meals to ensure that our school receives the maximum amount of funding possible. Forms and pamphlets with more details are available at the school office. Forms only need a very small amount of information and are strictly confidential. Please ask to speak to Mrs Powell if you require any support in completing the forms.

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

MAY

Monday 1st May

- Bank Holiday – school closed

Tuesday 2nd May

- Parents Evening with Reports

Week commencing 8th May

- KS2 Year 6 SATS week

Week commencing 15th May

- Year 2 SATs week

Week commencing 22nd May

- My Money Week

Friday 26th May

- End of Half Term

JUNE

Week commencing 12th June

- Year 1 Phonics Screening

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK

“My will shall shape my future. Whether I fail or succeed shall be no man’s doing but my own. I am the force; I can clear any obstacle before me or I can be lost in the maze. My choice; my responsibility; win or lose, only I hold the key to my destiny.”

~ Elaine Maxwell

Many thanks

Mr. S. Dix
(Headmaster)