January, 2018 Newsletter

Stanley St Andrew's

Church of England Primary School

Happy new year! Christmas seems such a long time ago. I trust that all our families and friends have had a good rest and are looking forward to yet another packed term.

The new term has started with lots of children suffering from high temperatures and generally feeling unwell. Just a reminder that we are unable to administer any medicines which are not prescribed by a doctor. If your child needs to take medicine during the day, it is essential that you see Katy in the office to fill out a medicine form and discuss your child's needs.

Although I appreciate that some children have been absent due to being genuinely poorly, it is essential that children are not kept off school unless deemed too ill to be in school. To have a day off school for a sore throat is very different to having a day off with tonsillitis. We have a handful of children in school whose attendance is below our targets and this is having an impact upon their ability to keep up with the teaching and learning. A child who misses a week from school potentially can struggle to catch up and will end up with gaps in their learning.

I have noticed a number of parents requesting holidays in term time again, this is not advisable as the impact upon children missing lessons is huge. Please can I ask you to use the school website to see the holiday dates before booking a holiday. If you look under the parents' tab on the school website, you will see the information that you require.

Attendance

2016/17 Overall attendance was 97.44%

Attendance from September 2017 – January 2018 = 97.11%

 Robin = 97.37%
 Kingfisher = 97.07%

 Puffin = 98.10%
 Eagle = 95.83%



Upcoming Events

Dates for your diary January 2018 19th – 29th January Mrs. Davies & Mrs. Stanley-Wainwright in India. February 2018 16th February Last day of term. March 2018 5th March Pace Club starts 9th March Mothering service in church 9:30 12th -14th March Lea Green 19th – 23rd March Science Stem Week. 21st March Parents evening 22nd March Parents evening 23rd March Church service 9:30 followed by bonnet parade 11:00 23rd March whole school ramble leaving at 1pm 23rd March Break Up

All children need a water bottle in school so that they can access water, could parents please support school in this matter. If you require a water bottle these can be purchased from the school.

Please ensure your child has water not juice in their water bottles.

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Website

Our school website needs to be your starting place to find information about school and to see what your child has been experiencing in school. Staff are very diligent in updating the class pages and the majority of our communication will be done through this platform. I would like to use this opportunity to thank Hodson Specialist Contractors for sponsoring our website.

<u>Kolkata Trip</u>

Most of you will know that Mrs. Davies and I will be travelling to Kolkata on Friday. We are going out to visit our school in Dum Dum taking a wide variety of resources out for the children and staff. Along with this we will be carrying out some professional development for the teachers in the Cathedral Relief Schools. In return we will gain a better understanding about Christianity in India and share some real cultural experiences. We are aiming to have more visits from our colleagues during the coming year to continue to strengthen the link between the two schools and our Dioceses.

I am delighted that so many parents within our school community have supported the fundraising because it has enabled us to buy resources along with quality toys. I know the children will love what we are taking out and will be grateful to all those parents, families and friends who have given. It makes me so humble to see our children coming into school to offer a toy, handmade object and greetings for the children in Dum Dum. Once again huge thanks. Please follow our adventures through the website under the About us tab - International link. We will blog daily and upload photographs and videos. Also follow us on Twitter @StanleyStAndrew.

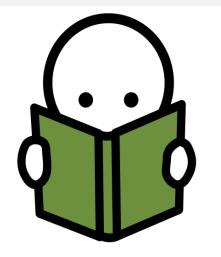
In my absence I know that staff will ensure things continue smoothly and effectively. Please speak to the class teacher if there is an issue or concern regarding your child. Also Liz Jackson Chair of Governors is in school on a daily basis and is always happy to support or help parents.

Reading

Reading remains a must for all children regardless of their age or ability. I have started to check reading records over the last week and it is obvious that some children never read at home. As a school we have invested in the traditional paper book through to E books and all children have access to a range of reading materials. If you are struggling to motivate your child to read at home, please see the class teacher. Children need to be exposed to a variety of reading materials as this gives them a wealth of experience that will impact upon their writing.

When you have heard your child read please record this in their reading record. The children with the best reading records will earn a reward at the end of this term.

We are always looking for parents who can help to hear readers or to help make resources if you can offer an hour a week please see your class teacher.



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