



NEWSLETTER

Friday 12th January 2024

Dear Parents/Carers

WELCOME BACK!

The children have a brilliant first full week back at school. The new learning is fully underway, and parents should have received Topic Letters for this term. There is a lot to squeeze in this half term so please keep an eye out on Facebook and in your inbox for events coming up.

ATTENDANCE & LATENESS

This week the Government has launched a national campaign surrounding improving school attendance. As a Trust, we support this campaign and understand that attendance is everyone's responsibility.

Attendance matters, not only because of the importance of learning but for the wider, holistic benefits for children's wellbeing and happiness.

That moment they found a new best friend queuing up for pudding.

That time fractions suddenly clicked.

That day cavemen came to live in the playground.

That science lesson when a mento and cola 'rocket' sprayed everywhere.

Breaking a school record on sports day.

When they helped catch the escaped rabbit.

Helping to build props for the school play.

When they baked cupcakes that were actually edible (just).

Performing that encore at the school concert.

From the first day of term to the last, each moment, big or small, makes a big difference to a child's wellbeing.

Positive, real, life-changing moments.

And in a school year there are hundreds of them.

What a difference a school day makes.

**MOMENTS
MATTER,
ATTENDANCE
COUNTS.**

(DfE attendance campaign guidelines 2024)

'Moments Matter, Attendance Counts'

LATENESS

Being in school on time everyday ensures children have the best start for their learning that day. The school doors open at 8:40am and close at 8:50am. Your child will be marked as 'Present' during that time. If they arrive between 8:50am and 9:00am they will be marked as 'Late' and after 9:00am they will be marked as 'Unauthorised'. Your support with is appreciated.

MESSAGE FROM NICKY DUNFORD - Attendance and Last day of term finish time.

As you are probably aware the government have been highly concerned about the continued falling attendance rates this year and in schools year on year since the Covid pandemic. The DfE are mounting a campaign through schools to ensure parents are aware of the implications of missing learning time in school. Although the emphasis is more on secondary education than primary, we at the Link are supporting that initiative by reviewing our approach.

An initial action will be to ensure that pupils are in school to the very end of the school day at the end of each term, pupils will not be leaving earlier than the published end of the school day. We felt it was only fair that we made this clear to parents early in the term to avoid any problems nearer the time.

Attendance concerns will continue to be dealt with robustly and in support of the campaign we will be sending DfE generated/ suggested reminders out to ensure you are all kept well informed.

Many thanks for your understanding regarding this national drive.

SHOWBOX APPEAL

Don't forget that we still have Rotary shoeboxes in the office. The Rotary Scheme ships these to Eastern Europe several times during the year, wherever and whenever there is a need. If you have unwanted Christmas presents or some spare stationery or toiletries, please do think about making up one of these boxes with your children. Boxes are £3 and can be paid for on ParentPay. Then pop into the office to collect. Some suggestions for contents are here:

<https://www.rotaryshoebox.org/suggested-box-contents/>

NUT FREE SCHOOL

We have some children with severe nut allergies so please do not send in anything containing nuts. We appreciate your support with this.



IS MY CHILD TOO ILL FOR SCHOOL?

If you are unsure if you should send your child to school when they are ill, check this NHS website.

[Is my child too ill for school? - NHS \(www.nhs.uk\)](http://www.nhs.uk)

Have a great weekend.

Peter Halford

Executive Headteacher