Thought of the Week: "The best way to cheer yourself up is to try to cheer somebody else up." - Mark Twain

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#### **Attendance**

Sycamore and Rowan class had the highest attendance last week with 99%. Whole school was 97%. Please don't forget to ring 01670 822326 if your child is going to be late or unable to attend school. Thank you.

#### Star of the Week

Star of the Week Certificates were all given to the following children: Jayme May Middlemiss, Grant Holman, Jacob Cook-Syborn, Aiden Falloon, Bethany Carr, Carla Rowlands and Bailey Chivers. These children all had Star Tea with Mr Sutherland due to their exemplary attitude.

#### **Head Teacher Awards**

The following children were all given a Head Teacher Award Certificate for their outstanding work last week: Kaitlyn Turnbull, Logan Botterill, Hollie McMurdo, Josh Bell, Owen Charlton, Jacob Rudnicki and Shannon Agnew. Well done to all of you and keep up the good work!

## **Ice Cream Friday**

The following children all had ice cream sundaes at Ice-cream Friday last week: Jessica Foster, Mia Marshall, Sophie Hudspith, Ethan Jackson, James Gudgen, Emma Archer and Keira O'Brien. These children were rewarded because of their outstanding behavior last week.

#### Mathletics

Chestnut class had the highest score with 33,943 points. Aiden Falloon had the highest score last week with 12,023 points. Well done everyone.

# impertant**information**

#### Parents' Evenings and Ongoing Communication

Thank you to all parents and carers who were able to attend our Parents' Evenings on Monday and Tuesday of this week. We were delighted to see you all in school and hope that you found the chance to talk to your child's class teacher helpful. If you were unable to make your appointment for any reason or could not attend and would like to, please contact your child's teacher or the school office and we will be happy to make an appointment at a mutually convenient time. I think it's so important that we get the chance to meet with you to share and celebrate your child's achievements at least once per term if possible. Thank you to those of you who took the time to complete one of our Evaluation Forms. At the time of writing this newsletter we have had 30 returned to us. If you haven't returned yours yet please bring it to the school office and they will ensure that they are passed to me. I have read each one and they are overwhelmingly positive about the school and the teaching and learning that happens here which is so pleasing for me to read. Either myself or a member of SLT will get back to individual parents where a query has been raised and a response is required but I do know from reading the forms that most issues have been resolved with the class teacher on the night or the class teacher will get back to you with additional information as soon as possible.

Can I please stress that I or any member of our teaching staff are always happy to meet with you to discuss any issue you may have or just to talk about and share information on the progress of your child; in other words, anything that keeps our lines of communication open and helps to keep you informed. I try to be out on the yard or at the doors to greet children in the morning or after school, (and sometimes both), so please feel free to come and talk to me and if I can help there and then, I will. If not, I am happy to make an appointment with you to discuss the matter in more depth.

Teachers and support staff are usually stationed at or around their classroom doors or just inside the classroom to welcome the children at the beginning of the day. Sometimes it is possible to get a quick word with them then or at the end of the day but their primary responsibility, particularly lower down the school, is to ensure that the children enter the classroom to begin their learning quickly and safely and that they are handed over to parents and carers safely at the end of the day. Both these times can be quite frenetic, as I am sure you can appreciate, with lots of parents and children around at the same time and it is not always possible or easy to have a meaningful or productive conversation. There are often several parents trying to have a quick word all at the same time and it is important, unless it is a brief query, that we are able to focus on your own particular issue. I would therefore please strongly encourage you either to quickly ask the teacher if they can make an appointment to meet with you at a mutually convenient time or call in at the School Office where an appointment can be made for you.



#### Anti-Bullying Week - w/c 13th November 2017

This week is designated as "Anti-Bullying Week" in schools across the country and I thought that it would be timely to remind you about our new initiative in school "Say NO to Bullying". Recently, I attended an assembly for Key Stage 1 and Key Stage 2 children led by Mr Layton with the theme "Say NO to Bullying". The assembly and the accompanying leaflets and posters educated the children on how to tell the difference between someone being Rude, Mean or whether the behaviour could be termed Bullying. The message was very clear and the children gave lots of examples as to what this might look like and what to do if it happens to them. A leaflet has been sent home for you to see but please talk to your children about what it means and ask for their thoughts and opinions. I firmly believe that instances of bullying in our school are very rare and we deal with them quickly and decisively when informed. I can assure you I will not tolerate bullying in any form within our school setting and will do whatever I can to stop it. This initiative is another measure to help tackle this issue and ensure we prevent it happening in the future. Children have the opportunity to discuss this further in class with their teacher and Willow and Acorn classes have had these important messages given to them in class to ensure that they know what it looks like and what to do if it happens. If you are still unsure about our initiative or would like another copy of our leaflet, please contact the school Office. For your information our Anti-Bullying Policy can be viewed on our school website.

#### Road Safety Week - w/c 20th November 2017

Next week is Road Safety Week and a chance for us all to think about staying safe on our roads and pavements. I am still concerned about the number of children from our school who are seen by staff as they come into work in the morning crossing roads without looking and pulling out in front of cars with no thought as to what might be coming road the corner. I myself have had to break heavily on my approach to school in the morning when a child has stepped out in front of me without looking. Most of these children would appear to be in Years 5 and 6 as they may have permission to walk to school on their own and therefore I would respectfully implore you as parents to please remind your child about the dangers children face on our roads. I have had a number of concerned parents speak to me on this issue also, partly directly concerning road safety but also about safety on and near the railway lines. We will, of course, reinforce this message at school and, as a response to this, I have arranged for some of our trained local police officers to come into school next week and do some practical work with the children. This will initially be in Key Stage 2 but we will ensure that the message about road safety is delivered to all children in an age-appropriate way. Thank you, as always, for your support.

#### Halloween / Bonfire Disco

A big thank you to everyone that came along to the Halloween disco and to our wonderful PTA for organising this event. Just to let you know, as promised, that we raised a total of £130.00 on the night. Thank you to everyone who was able to come along.

#### Children in Need

We are once again fund raising for Children in Need which is taking place on Friday 17th November. This year's theme is 'Spotacular', we invite all children to wear something spotty on Friday 17th November. We kindly ask for a donation of £1. Thank you for taking part in raising money for this wonderful cause.

#### **School Photographs**

If you have not already done so, can you please ensure that your order form and payment for your child's school photograph is handed into school by Friday 17<sup>th</sup> November. Any order forms handed in after this date will not be accepted by the office and must be sent to Tempest directly.

#### **Elf Shelf**

We are once again holding an Elf Shelf so that the children of our school can enjoy the experience of doing their own Christmas shopping for their family. We are holding it over two nights, **Monday 27<sup>th</sup> November** and **Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> November**. There will be two sessions per night, 3-15pm-4.15pm and 4-15pm-5.15pm in the HUB. **Each child** who wishes to come along to our Elf Shelf **must** obtain a ticket for the session they wish to attend. Tickets are **free** and are available at the school office from Monday 20<sup>th</sup> November. There are only 35 tickets available per session so get yours quickly to avoid disappointment.

### **Christmas Fair- Diary date**

We will be holding our Christmas Fair on Wednesday 13<sup>th</sup> December, 3-15pm-5pm. More information about this fantastic event will follow soon.