

Thought of the Week: "Integrity is doing the right thing, even when no one is watching." C. S. Lewis

celebrating success

Attendance

Sycamore class had the highest attendance last week with 99% and whole school attendance was once again 96%. Please don't forget to ring 01670 822326 if your child is going to be late or unable to attend.

Star of the Week

Star of the Week Certificates were given to the following children: Zak Turner, Levi Graham, Robbie Holman, Kaisey Dodd, Kierene Chrisp, Katie Challoner and Saphyre Alexander. These children all had Star Tea with Mr Sutherland due to their exemplary attitude.

Mathletics

Rowan class once again had the highest score last week with 19,845 points. Andrew Dodds had the highest individual score with 3,260 points. Well done everyone!!

important information

NSPCC Share Aware

There have been reports recently of police investigations into the misuse of social networking platforms, specifically regarding children being persuaded to 'friend' and interact with individuals who then act inappropriately towards them. This is just a reminder to parents and carers of the need to closely monitor your children's internet activities, in particular their use of the latest apps, websites and games.

The NSPCC has produced some excellent advice for parents on their 'Share Aware' website: www.nspcc.org.uk/preventing-abuse/keeping-children-safe/share-aware/

We tell our children to share but online it's different. In fact, sometimes sharing online can be dangerous. Talking to your child is the best way to help keep them safe. But with things changing all the time, it can be hard to keep up to date. You can always call the NSPCC online safety helpline on 0808 8005002 to get advice on anything from the latest social networks to parental controls.

Or you can find out what other parents think about the most popular social apps and games, what's the right age and details on privacy and safety settings with their "Net Aware" tool. The internet is a great place for children to be. Being "Share Aware" makes it safer.

School Council

I am excited to let you know that over the next few weeks we will be setting up our very own School Council. Children from Years 4 and 5 will be proposed, seconded and then elected by their peers after working on their own, bespoke manifestos. Those elected will represent the views of all pupils to improve our school. As a school we will be taking part in a "Democracy Week" including a special Election Day on Thursday, June 23rd 2016. All children will come to our special Polling Station in order to cast their vote. All these activities link to our work in school on the principles which underpin British Values and learning about the democratic process and *vox populae*, the voice of the people, is very much part of this.

Early Years Garden Party

Early Years will be hosting a Garden Party for Nursery and Reception children with their parents on Wednesday 25th May, 2016 to begin fundraising for our outdoor area. We will be holding a raffle and bottle tombola and any donations for these stalls would be gratefully received. Thank you.

Reading Week / Lunch for Parents in school

Week commencing 13th June will be a Reading Week in school. We propose to invite parents and carers into school at 11.00am on one day during that week where they will be able to read with their child and share in some of their learning and then join them for a school lunch at 11.30am for approximately 30 minutes. Because we need to be sure about numbers in advance, we will send a note home next week so that you will be able to indicate if you would like to join us. We will hold the cost of the adult meal at £2.00 in order to encourage as many people to come as we can. If your child usually has a packed lunch but you would like to try a school meal on this occasion, that can be arranged. Alternatively, you can just bring your own packed lunch if you wish. I hope that some of you will be able to join us then.

Vandalism and Theft on School Property

I am sad to be writing that our school has been suffering lately with some acts of theft and vandalism occurring on our school site during the evenings and at weekends. Some items have been taken from our Early Years garden; our Nursery window was broken earlier this week; someone tried to set our school sign on fire and the roof of our bicycle shed had been damaged. The police have been informed on each occasion and have filed the relevant reports. Our school is the hub and heart of our community. It is a place where children, adults and staff should feel safe at all times and of course, many people have attended our school with their children and their children's children spending the first years of their education here, evoking happy memories that will stay with them their whole lives. Every theft or act of vandalism means that money from our budget has to be spent on the repair. It also means that valuable time is spent by school staff photographing the damage and writing up reports and other paperwork, instead of spending their time on more productive tasks. You will remember that we now no longer have rabbits on our site for the children to enjoy due to these same acts of cruel vandalism last year. I don't understand why anyone would want to do this or be associated with it. I would ask as a community that we are all as vigilant as possible and if you see anyone trying to access our site out of hours please let the relevant authorities or the school know. Thank you.

Headlice.

We have had one or two cases of headlice reported throughout school in the past few days. We would appreciate it if you could check your child's hair tonight, along with the rest of the family and treat immediately and thoroughly if any lice or eggs are found. We thank you for your help in trying to reduce this problem.

End of half term is Friday May 27th May 2016.

Please note that we finish school at our usual time of 3.00pm on that day. School will then be closed for one week plus Monday 6th June which is a staff Training Day. We re-open on Tuesday June 7th at 08:00 for Breakfast Club and 08:45 for the Main School.

Warmer Weather Reminder

Please don't forget that if the weather is to be warm that you apply sun cream to your child's arms, legs and faces before school. Can you also send them in with a named sunhat or cap to wear outside. Please remind your child to bring their water bottle too. New water bottles are available at the school office for £1.20 each. All children should wear suitable footwear for running and jumping in the playground.

Lost Property Reminder

If your child has lost a sweatshirt or cardigan etc. please look in the lost property box which is situated opposite Chestnut class. Thank you.

Sainsbury's Active Kids 2016 Final Reminder

As the closing date for the Active kids vouchers has now past, please can we ask that you send the vouchers into school as soon as possible as we will be purchasing the items very soon. Thank you once again for your support.

Football Stars Training Camp Tuesday 31st May – Friday 3rd June

Join a fun training camp this may half term hosted at St Benet Biscops School, Bedlington, NE22 6ED

It is open to all boys and girls ages 5 -11 and is £30 per child, extra sibling discount £50

10am until 2pm (bring a drink and a snack) All Coaches are FA level 1 Certified

Shin Guards most be worn at all times

For more details or to book a place please ring: 07960 438892 or email acfootballstars@yahoo.co.uk