

Thought of the Week: "I never thought of losing, but now that it's happened, the only thing is to do it right. That's my obligation to all the people who believe in me. We all have to take defeats in life." - Muhammad Ali (after losing to Ken Norton in 1973).

celebrating success

Head Teacher Awards

The following children were all given a Head Teacher Award Certificate for their outstanding work the week before half term: Sophia Halliday, Mya Armstrong, Chloe Brown, Lauren Cook, Jamie Hardy, Lauren Hanlon and Brandon Flannagan. Well done to all of you and keep up the good work!

Attendance

Oak class had the highest attendance the week before half term with 100% and whole school attendance was 97%. Well done to everyone! Please don't forget to ring 01670 822326 if your child is going to be late or unable to attend.

Ice-Cream Friday

The following children all had ice cream sundaes at ice-cream Friday before half term: Alix Harnett, Harry Mason, Adam Lang, Chelsie Packer, Luke Dawson, Jack Stafford and Katie Lang. These children were rewarded for their exemplary behaviour.

important information

Welcome Back

A warm welcome back to all children, parents and carers after the half-term holiday. I hope that you all had a wonderful week and were able to spend some quality time with family and friends. It is lovely to see everyone back again, refreshed and ready for the last half term of the academic year. Time has passed so quickly and we have a lot of activities to pack in to the last 6 weeks or so of the term.

Year 1 children will shortly be taking their Phonic Screening in school and all are feeling very prepared and confident. If parents in Year 1 have any questions about the Phonics Screening, which is a statutory test of children's phonic knowledge, please feel free to speak to Miss Curry or myself when I am on the yard.

All teaching staff are looking carefully at the progress each child has made in school over the past year and are using this information to compile their End of Year School Reports. Our aim is that these will be sent home for parents and carers on Wednesday, July 6th.

Finally, I do try to be out on the yard at the beginning or end of every day and sometimes manage to do both. If, however, you would like to talk to me about anything at all, be it a suggestion for improvement, an idea you may have or even a problem or worry, please don't hesitate to come and speak to me or make an appointment at the school office. I am only too happy to listen and if I can do something to help, I will. Have a wonderful rest of the term!

Attendance

Our overall school attendance for the academic year remains good and slightly above our school target at around 96-97%. However, it can be better and I would ask that you try to ensure that your child is in school on time and ready to start every day. It really does make a difference to have a smooth start to the day which impacts positively on all the children in the school.

Some exciting news is that we have reached the cut-off point in the year for the special attendance rewards I announced at the start of the academic year in September. These incentives have really helped to further promote our fantastic attendance.

Attendance (cont)

We have an individual prize for those children who have 100% attendance with no latenesses up to and including Friday 27th May 2016. Each child who has managed to achieve this will receive a personalised letter inviting them for a special lunch at a restaurant in Cramlington. We will leave school to arrive at the restaurant for 11.30am and will return to school for 1.00pm. We will let the children choose from their menu in advance and of course they will be able to have drinks and a delicious pudding at the end. Mrs Rozgowska who leads on Attendance and myself, together with Mrs Molloy, the Attendance Lead for our school within County, will be joining the children to ensure that they have the best possible experience. The date is set for June 21st and the restaurant has been booked so look out for those special letters coming home and well done to every one of you. You thoroughly deserve your treat.

We also have a class prize for the class that has achieved the highest number of weekly attendance percentages. They will be able to choose a special half day activity event that they will attend with their classmates such as bowling, a trip to the cinema or perhaps a pool party. We will announce the class winners in next week's "Station Voice" and hopefully be able to let you know which treat they have chosen.

Reading Week / Lunch for Parents in school

Thank you to those parents and carers who have returned their acceptance slips to school by yesterday's deadline for next week's "Reading Week". We have had a really good response and we are looking forward to seeing you in school at 11.00am on your designated day. You will be able to read with your child and share in some of their learning and then join them for a school lunch at 11.30am for approximately 30 minutes. As we have larger number to cater for it is important that you come on the day that has been allocated for your class and that we know you are coming because you have returned your slip. A reminder of the allocated days reads as follows:

Monday 13th June – Reception and Year 6
Tuesday 14th June – Year 5 and Year 4
Wednesday 15th June – Year 2

Thursday 16th June – Year 1
Friday 17th June – Year 3

A reminder that our summer menus are available to view on our website and also on the school noticeboard in the yard. If you would prefer a hard-copy of the menus please call the school office and we will send one home for you. If your child hasn't sampled our new school menus yet why not see if they would like to try them next week. I hope that you enjoy your time in school with us.

School Council

Don't forget that we are in the process of setting up our very own School Council. Those children 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.

Sports Week

As happened last year we are planning for the children to take part in lots of different sporting activities in our Sports' Week which is week commencing June 27th. This will culminate in our Sports' Day which, weather permitting, will be held on the afternoon of Thursday, June 30th on the school field. All parents will be welcome and we will be sending home more information a little nearer the time. PS: I promise that this year we will have a megaphone of some description so you don't have to listen to me shouting across the field.

Monkton Stadium – Years 5 and 6

Yesterday, some of our Year 5 and 6 pupils spent the day at Monkton Stadium in South Tyneside which is a major athletics venue that hosts both regional and national events. The stadium offers track and field events and coaching in many sports, as well as being the home of Jarrow and Hebburn Athletics Club. The children spent the day challenging themselves and pitting themselves against others in a range of athletic events. They all had a wonderful day in the sunshine and, naturally, displayed the highest standards of behaviour at all times. I am very proud of them all.