



“It is never too late to be what you might have been.” – George Eliot

celebrating success

Attendance

Oak 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: Tobias McKendrick, Sophie Hudspith, Ethan Jackson, Halle Robson, Georgia Fullen, Leon Mudd and Eleanor Jordan. 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: Mia Marshall, Amelia Robinson, Jack Simpson, Bethany Carr, Rhiannah Hallows, Lucas Rushton and Keigan Jackson. 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: Maddison Grear, Alyssa Moore, Charlie Ullock, Joe Jamieson, Imogen Ullock, Josie Blackwood and Summer Hann. These children were rewarded because of their tremendous behaviour.

Mathletics

Chestnut class had the highest score with 12,132 points. Alex Roy had the highest score last week with 2,242 points. Well done everyone.

important information

Learning Ladders – Last Reminder

On Friday 10th March at 9am or 3.15pm if more convenient, Miss Tuart is holding a meeting for parents from Years 1 to 6 about our wonderful new assessment system: **Learning Ladders** and how you can access this at home. If you are available to attend, please return the slip from the letter that was sent out just before the end of last half-term. If you have misplaced the letter, please contact our school office.

Year 6 Brainbusters: Because Miss Tuart is unavailable on Friday 10th March due to the Learning Ladders at home meeting, Brainbusters for all Year 6 Brainbusters took place on Thursday 9th March.

Parents' Evenings March 2017 – Advance Notice

So that you can put the dates in your diary, this is to let you know that spring term Parents' Evenings will be on Monday 20th March (3.10pm – 6.50pm) and Tuesday 21st March (3.10pm – 5.20pm). As is traditional, a selection of your child's books will be out for you to view. The sign-up sheets will be put up outside classrooms in plenty of time, after the half term break. We really hope that as many parents as possible will be able to attend.

Attendance

A reminder that we do expect children to attend school on time every day unless they are unwell. If they have a cough or cold, or the odd sneeze please send them in to school and rest assured that if they become more unwell through the day we will contact you to let you know or ask you to come and collect your child. Bedlington Station Primary takes attendance very seriously and if your child misses significant amounts of school over the year they will not be able to progress as well as they might. Of course, if your child is unwell or sick, we would not expect your child to be in school until they are recovered. Just to confirm that I am continuing with the 2 initiatives to support our aim to have as many children in school every day as possible. Firstly, any child who has 100% attendance for the whole school year with no lateness, will be rewarded with a very special treat at the end of the year. This might be a trip to the cinema to watch the latest film or a lunch out at a restaurant, for example. Secondly, the class with the best attendance over the year will receive a whole class reward just before the summer break. This will be chosen in consultation with the winning class and will be age-appropriate but could, for example, be an afternoon at a pool party or ten pin bowling. My aim, as always, is to ensure that every child is treated fairly and has a chance to succeed and I will consider all relevant circumstances carefully at the end of the school year.

I know you will join me in recognising the importance of good attendance in school and I thank you for your continuing support. For your information the school gates are open from 07:55 to allow Breakfast Club access. The school doors open at 08:45 to allow children in and close at 08:55. At that time the school gates are also locked. If you arrive after 08:55 you will need to access the school via the Office. At the end of the day the gates are opened at around 14:55 for the children coming out at 15:00 and locked at around 15:15 unless there is an afterschool activity. This is to ensure the safety of your children whilst on our school site.

Important – Please Note

As previously stated and noted again above, apart from Breakfast Club, our school doors open at 08:45am. We are not currently in a position where we are able to have staff out on the yard earlier than this to supervise children playing or socialising before the start of the school day. It is therefore important that children up to the end of Year 4, who are brought to school by parents or carers, are supervised by them until they enter the school building. Those children from Years 5 and 6 who have permission to walk to school by themselves, are expected to behave in a responsible manner whilst on the yard, prior to entering the school building. If I feel that any members of Years 5 and 6 are unable to do this to the standards we expect then I will have to consider removing the privilege of them entering school grounds without a parent or carer with them. There have been one or two instances lately where children have not been adhering to these standards which I am now aware of. These children have been spoken to in school but I would be grateful if the relevant parents and carers of Year 5 and 6 children can please reinforce this message at home. Thank you.

Green is Great – Behaviour and Rewards

Every so often it is necessary to refresh systems and ways of working so that they still engage the children and make them want to be successful in all areas of school. We have our Head Teacher Certificates given out for outstanding work every Friday, Star Tea Certificates for those children demonstrating wonderful attitude and effort and of course Ice-cream Friday for children in each class who have been the greenest of the green! We want all children to remain “green” throughout the week and we give them every encouragement and support to do so. We also give them opportunities to change their behaviour if they are struggling, by giving two reminders or “strikes” before they are taken “off green”. This system generally works really well and supports the outstanding behaviour judgement we currently have for our children in this school. We held a whole-school assembly for the children last Friday and reinforced how Green is Great works so that everyone understands it. We also introduced a couple of changes:

There will now be 30 minutes Green Time every Friday afternoon from 2.30pm (instead of 5 minutes at the end of each day). This will be held in classes. Any child who has not remained green that week will spend the 30 minutes with me (Mr Sutherland) in the Hub, talking about what might have happened and ways in which we might avoid this in the future.

On the last Friday of every half term we will have “Greener Time” from 2.00-2.45pm. This is for children who have remained green for the whole of the half term. Children will sign up to an activity from a set of activities in advance. NB There will be no Ice-Cream Friday on this day. Children who have not remained green during the half term will spend the time in the Hub on work activities.

Station Stars

Station Stars will continue to be collected for good behaviour and fabulous work. At the end of each 6-week cycle in our Friday assembly, the winning team will be announced and the Station Stars reset to zero. The winning team will take part in their reward the following Thursday afternoon. This may include activities such as a movie with popcorn, circus skills, a magician, a disco or a theatre group and will be booked in advance. Please note that you can be “off green” and still participate in this reward as we want to encourage a team ethos. This means you can still have a reward even if you’ve had a little “wobble” during the 6 weeks if your team has worked hard. The first Station Star reward date is set for April 6th, 2017! We know that these initiatives work but sometimes just need to be refreshed from time to time. Just to make things fair for all the children we re-set everything from Monday so all the children had an equal chance; the rest is up to them. Please ask your children about these rewards and if you have any questions, please speak to your class teacher. We all want as many children as possible to be successful, be praised and rewarded for their good behaviour and take part.

Thank you for your support.