



Friday 20th January 2017

Dear Parents and Carers,

Attendance

Since the Christmas holidays there has been a growing number of children late for school and this week we have had **78 late marks** in the registers. Whilst I appreciate that sometimes emergencies do happen, it is very important for children to be in school on time. The first few minutes of the day are very important as this is when they get a chance to say hello to their classmates and the day's timetable is reviewed with the children, so they know what is happening. Being on time means a calm start to the school day and children being ready to learn. If you arrive after 9am, when the gate will be closed, you need to bring your child through the office and sign them in.

A quick reminder that if your child is ill and will be absent from school, please phone the school as soon as possible and let us know. If it is before 9am then you can leave a message on the answerphone. If you don't phone then we will call you to find out where your child is as part of our safeguarding practises. We keep a record of children's absence as this can have a huge impact on progress made in their learning. If your child misses too much school we will send you a letter and make you aware as explained in our attendance and punctuality policy.

School News

There were lots of imaginative names suggested for the Outdoor Classroom and following a vote by the staff and children it has been named the "Happy Hideaway." The "Open the Book" Team visited on Tuesday and told the story of Abraham, with the help of some of the children. Thank you very much to the team of volunteers who come in twice a term to bring Bible stories to life for the children; they are really enjoyed by the children.



How food smart are you?



In school the children have been thinking carefully about their food choices and I have noticed much healthier snacks at playtime, thank you for your support in this. Coming home this evening is a food smart pack which has lots of information and activities that you can share with your family. It also explains about an app that is free to download which helps children to find out how much sugar, salt and fat is in different types of food.

Christingle

On Sunday 5th February there will be a Christingle Service at St. Peter and St. Paul's Church at 3pm. You are all invited to come along to the service and children will have the opportunity to make their own Christingle.

Spotlight

Every year some of our children perform in the Spotlight Dance Showcase. The children in Year 6 and the after school club group are all practising hard and under the expert direction of Mr Williams they are putting together a wonderful routine that they will perform at Stamford Corn Exchange. They will be performing on Tuesday 4th and Wednesday 5th April so if your child is involved in this then please keep these dates free!

Staffing

As you are all aware Mrs Dumford has been off work for some time. She is starting to feel better and has been popping in to school to catch up with school news. She has asked me to tell you that if you do see her out and about, please say hello and have a chat - she would love to find out what you have been up to! We hope to see her back in school in the near future.

Active Kids – Do you, your family or friends shop at Sainsbury's?

We are collecting the Active Kids Vouchers for school which we can then use to buy extra sports and cooking equipment for the



Active Kids

school. Please send in your vouchers with your child and then can put them in the collection box that is in reception. Hopefully together we can collect lots of vouchers to get more exciting equipment for the children to use in school.

Badgers Class (Year 2) Parents – SATs information evening

On Friday 27th January we will be holding an information evening for parents of children in Year 2. We will be sharing information about the end of Key Stage SATs (standardised attainment tests) including looking at some papers so you can see what the children will be doing in May and discussing fun ways that you can help at home. Please make time to come along to this important meeting to support your child's learning.

Closing Gates

Please can I remind you that the green gate leading onto the school playground and field should be kept closed at all times. This is for the safety of your children so please make sure you are closing it behind you.

Best wishes

J. Exton

Dates for your Diary – Term 3 and 4

Friday 27 th January	5.00-5.45 Badgers - Year 2 SATs information Evening Please come along to this meeting to find out more about Year 2 SATs and how you can support your child at home.
Friday 27 th January	School Disco 5.00-5.45 Squirrels, Hedgehogs, Badgers 6.00-7.00 Foxes, Rabbits, Woodpeckers, Owls
Monday 30 th January	Number Week – we will be having a week focusing on maths
Tuesday 31 st January	Young Voices – Woodpeckers (Year 5) will be representing the school at the Young Voices
Friday 3 rd February	Number Day – to celebrate the end of Number Week we are having a Number Day in school. Can you come to school in clothes that are linked to maths and numbers? 3.00 – 3.30 Open Afternoon. A chance to visit your child's class to find out more about Number Week.
Friday 3 rd February	School nurse in for Reception and Year 6 Height and Weight checks
Friday 10 th February	Last day of term 3
Monday 20 th February	Start of Term 4
Tuesday 28 th February	9.10 am Hedgehogs Class Assembly
Monday 20 th March	4.00 - 7.00 Parents Evening
Tuesday 21 st March	4.00 – 6.00 Parents Evening
Wednesday 5 th April	Spotlight Dance Showcase – Timings to be confirmed
Thursday 6 th April	Spotlight Dance Showcase – Timings to be confirmed

