



St Nicholas' CE (VA) Primary School

Learn, Achieve, Grow: Together

Term 2 Christian Value is: Peace Big Idea is: Spiritual

Friday 17th November 2023

Issue 6

Attendance

You may not be aware that school attendance is carefully monitored termly by the local authority and will continue to be monitored by DSAT. Attendance at school has a significant impact on your child's education and can affect their emotional wellbeing and resilience as well as their academic attainment and progress. As a school we want our attendance to be at 96% or above. So far this year we have had a number of families take unauthorised holidays during term time and there has been significant virus' going around which have had a big impact on attendance. Once a child's attendance drops below 90% this is classed as persistent absence– whatever the reasons of absence might be. I am then obligated to send a letter to those families informing them of their child's attendance percentage and the impact of this on their child's education. On Monday many families will be receiving such a letter from me. I understand that for some of our families where sickness has been an issue there is nothing you could have done to change that absence, but it is still important that you are made aware of your child's absence at this time so that you can endeavour to ensure that that figure improves as the year progresses. I will also send out letters to any family of a child who is at 90% and is in danger of becoming classed as persistent absence.

I hope that these letters can also prompt positive conversations if there are families who feel they would like more support with improving their child/ren's attendance. We are here to help you and there are lots of strategies we have used in the past which have had a positive impact on ensuring attendance improves.

Impact of attendance on attainment in Year 6 (KS2)

Attendance	% of pupils who achieved expected standards in reading, writing and maths at the end of KS2
95% and above	62.9 %
90% - 94.9%	56.8 %
85% - 89.9%	46.1 %
80% and 84.9%	38.0 %
Below 80%	22.5 %



Parking Safely and Respectful when getting Ready for school

Our parents are usually very careful and considerate when parking and queuing at the beginning and the end of the day. However, recently parents have been parking in the meadow entrance, parking along the double yellow lines and not leaving space for the bus. When parking rules are not adhered to it creates a dangerous and stressful environment for the whole community. Please can you follow the school rules of being Ready, Respectful and Safe when it comes to attending the school site. Thank you.

Uniform and Equipment: Water bottles, NO earrings, NO nail varnish

- Please ensure that your child has a named water bottle with them each day for their own hydration and hygiene
- We have had an increase in girls wearing earrings and nail varnish. Neither or which are part of the school uniform. Earrings are only to be worn during the 6 weeks while they are settling in and then they should be removed– as per school policy. We will be enforcing this rule from Monday. While we can not remove earrings or nail varnish we may call you to do so if the school policy is persistently broken.
- Lost Property: There is quite a pile of lost property in the foyer outside the office. Please can you come and take a look and check there is nothing belonging to your family.



Little Troopers Group

Our KS2 Little Troopers have been meeting weekly on Wednesday lunchtimes with Daniel, our Chaplain in order to have some time together as a group at school. The children have loved this time together forging new relationships. After gathering the children's views on their new club, the following comments were made which shows just how important this time is to them:



"I like playing with all the games and talking about my feelings with others" Year 6 pupil

"I like Little Troopers because it's just us and it feels special" Year 6 pupil

They have come up with the name Camo Leaves as their preferred group name and would like to have a badge so that they can easily identify other children who may be going through similar things to themselves.

Important Reminders:

Upcoming Diary Dates:

Every Wednesday: Chaplain days

November:

20th: Travelling book fair

December:

6th– Fox Class Trip: Living Rainforest
11th-13th at 2pm– Nativity Performances (note new dates)
18th Spiritual Day
19th– Christmas Service & Whole School Christmas Dinner
20th– Last day of term

Mrs Lucy Hill, Headteacher

Anti– Bullying Week

We have had a highly successful anti- bullying week with children learning about this years message of "make a noise." On Monday we had Odd socks day to remind us that we are all different and equal. On Tuesday Year 6 lead worship on the theme of Make a noise and what that means in our school. Children were confident in talking to Governors about who to go to if they are worried in school.

Later in the week some of our children attended a kindness workshop where they learned about how to be kind and the impact it has on others.

If you would like to find out more about Anti Bullying week and pursue some of these themes at home please see the Anti Bullying Parent Pack which we have attached for you to consider.

