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MISSION STATEMENT Believe and Achieve

We are committed to the protection and safety of our pupils and safeguarding is a priority

NEWSLETTER - Spring Term 2016 - Issue 10 - Friday 22nd January 2016

Dear Parents,

ATTENDANCE WINNERS

WB 4th January - Year 2

WB 11th January - Morning Nursery

Well done to all the children in each class, what a great start to the New Year. They have received the trophy and attendance teddy, with a lollipop for each child.

Since coming back after Christmas, our weekly whole school attendance **has not** reached 95%. The national average has now risen to 96.3%, which means we are still some way off where we as a school need to be. Please try and ensure that your child is in school as much as possible. If you are unsure whether to send them please check the symptoms with the office and they can advise further. If you do go to the doctors, can I advise you to get evidence of attendance, this then helps us prove absence when the Education Welfare Officer visits the school.

Please make sure they are here on time, as lessons start promptly after registration at 8.55am, with the younger children doing RWI (phonics) or spelling, grammar and punctuation and the older children doing Maths or Literacy. I am sure you can appreciate if they are missing the first part of the same lesson every day, it makes it difficult to follow along with the rest of the lesson and they are missing out on important learning.

MRS SANDERS - CHARITY APPEAL

Mrs Sanders has started fundraising for 'The Princess Trust'. This charity raises money for boys and girls who have lost their hair through cancer treatment, by making real hair wigs for them to wear, therefore boosting their morale and self-esteem at what is a difficult time in their lives.

Mrs Sanders will be having her hair cut on Saturday 27th February 2016 and donating the cut hair to charity. She is now seeking donations from family and

friends but I thought it may be nice to inform parents to see if you wanted to support Mrs Sanders. You can donate through her 'Justgiving' page, please speak to Mrs Sanders for more information. We wish her all the best in this fundraising venture.

OFSTED AND PARENT VIEWS

Our previous Ofsted inspection was in March 2013. For good schools, like ourselves, the average time in between inspections is 3 years, which means we are due very soon. Due to this I would like to bring your attention to the Parent View website which seeks the opinions and views of parents from the school. Over the next few months I would ask that you complete an online questionnaire by going to <https://parentview.ofsted.gov.uk/> and clicking on 'Give your views now'. You will then need to log in or register. The site requires your email address and a password to complete the questionnaire. The site stores an email address in order to ensure people cannot make multiple entries.

Schools do not have access to any email addresses, and all results will remain anonymous.

If you fill in the questionnaire more than once for any school using the same email address, the previous entry will be over-written. Parent View is designed so that there will only ever be one questionnaire from each email address for a specific school in that school year.

A-STARs

Each morning the children register on A-stars as to whether they have walked, scooted, cycled or found alternative ways to get to school. This gets totaled and the winning class wins a badge each term. In Autumn Term, the children who came to school in an environmentally friendly way the most were Y3. Well done to them.

We have some exciting things being planned over the next two terms for various year groups and children. After the success of the Autumn Term walk to school day, Reception to Y6 will be able to go on a Walk to School morning again, on Friday 12th February 2016.



We will meet at the top of Abbey Square where parents/carers and children will be able to walk together. We look forward to your support. We also have various year group sessions, competitions and events - please look out for separate letters for year groups.

WALSALL YEAR OF READING

2016 is Walsall's Year of Reading, and next week 3 children will represent the school at Bloxwich Library during the launch event. We are hoping that this will build on the efforts that we make in school to support reading, through reading awards, reading buddies and the purchase of new reading materials in school. More details of events and competitions` will follow soon.

SNOW PROCEDURE

If the school is closed because of treacherous weather such as snowfall or icy conditions then parents will receive a text message by 8am, local radio stations (Free Radio, Heart and Radio WM) will be informed and the school website will be updated. Notices will also be posted on the school gate.

FUN4LIFE - Y4 CHILDREN AND PARENTS

From next Tuesday, Year 4 will be taking part in a 12 week series of lessons and after school club to promote healthy choices and a healthy lifestyle. It will be on the last lesson and then after school and parents will be invited to attend the end of each after school session. The sessions will be run by Walsall Council and are free of charge. Please return letters/slips as soon as possible.

MILK MONEY

Can all milk money please be paid on a Monday, for the week, this is so that the order that is placed is correct. It is 20p per day, so £1 per week. Some parents also pay for a half-term at a time and you are welcome to do this if that is easier for you. If your child is not in school on the Monday, due to illness, then they can pay for the remaining days of the week on their return.

MARVELLOUS ME

If you haven't registered yet, you may be missing out. Teachers send messages and badges for positive work, behaviour and attitudes in school. They also notify you if your child is WOW. If you have a smartphone or tablet, please download the free app. Any parents who haven't yet registered will receive an updated letter with the information on how to do so.

If you can't access Marvellous Me, please let the office and the class teacher know so that they can notify you in an alternative way.

OUTDOOR GARDEN

The gardening club and Mr Denton-Irwin have been working hard to finish the front of school, with the addition now of colourful fencing. Please can you make sure that your child doesn't walk over the fence on the gravel and keeps to the path before and after school.

DATES FOR THE DIARY

Monday 25th January - 3-4 year old Nursery in all morning for eye tests. **NO AFTERNOON NURSERY**

Thursday 28th January - Reception to Y6 Dance sessions to celebrate Chinese New Year throughout the day. No cost and children can come in uniform as normal. We'll put photos on the website to show you what happened on the day.

Friday 12th February - 8.30pm Walk to School Day, meet at the top of Abbey Square with parent/carer to walk to school & Break up for half term

Monday 22nd February - **TEACHER TRAINING DAY
NO PUPILS IN SCHOOL**

Friday 18th March - Sports Relief (details of fundraising activities to follow)

Tuesday 22nd March - 2.30pm Easter Service at school, led by Year 3

Thursday 24th March -9am WOW assembly & Break up for Easter Holidays (at normal time)

