



Newsletter 1 Spring Term

13 January 2017

Dear Parents and Carers

Happy New Year!

I hope you all had a wonderful Christmas and are looking forward to the year ahead.

Staff vacancy

We still have a vacancy for a Lunchtime Supervisor in our EYFS Unit for 2 days a week (Wednesday and Friday). The hours to be worked will be 11:45 until 1:15 and will involve supervising the Nursery children in the lunch hall and working with another adult to supervise the Reception children during the lunch break. Please ring or call in at the School Office if you are interested in the post.

Attitudes to Learning

The progress children make in their learning is partly dependent on their attitude to learning. We do a lot of work in school in promoting a good attitude to learning, and teaching children how to focus and challenge themselves. In the Autumn Term I monitored the children's behaviour and their attitudes to learning. Whilst the behaviour in class (and around the school) was exemplary, there were a number of children who were unfocussed and were expecting adults to do the work for them. I have spoken to the children about this and we have introduced Learning Values into the classroom, which link into our school values. I would really appreciate your support to help your child develop a desire to become an independent learner. Please talk to them about the Learning Values and ask them what they are doing to challenge themselves. The links are listed below:

- Respect and Compassion-Co-operative working/sharing
- Personal Success and Humility-Setting goals/getting better
- Inspired Minds and Wisdom-Taking risks and being inventive/trying new things
- Confidence, self-belief and endurance-Resilience/trying hard, not giving up

Sportshall Athletics Competition

18 boys and girls from year 5 and 6 took part in an afternoon of athletics at Bicester Leisure Centre. Competing against other schools in the Bicester partnership, they took part in a variety of track and field events. The team came a very creditable 3rd overall, with all of the children representing the school brilliantly - showing great sportsmanship and behaving excellently. The school games value was 'passion' and as usual it was very difficult to select one child to receive the certificate, as all the children were very enthusiastic and encouraged each other loudly. In the end, Emily Palmer was awarded the certificate for her passion and enthusiasm - well done.

Thank you to all the parents who helped with transport. we are very grateful for your support.

Attendance

Please may I remind you that it is part of my role to monitor the attendance of the children in school and to report persistently late arrivals and low attendance to the Local Authority, who have the power to issue penalty notices. We are more than happy to have children in school who have coughs and colds, and have a Medicines Policy, whereby we will happily give **prescribed medicine** (see website).

The school gates open at 8:30am and children should not be arriving before then, as there is no-one to supervise them. The whistle is blown at 8:40am and children should be in their seats by 8:50am, when the register is taken. Many children, who are arriving after this are missing out on vital learning that takes place during this time.

Similarly, children should be picked up at 3:15pm. Staff often have meetings or other commitments after school and the office staff are not always able to stay in the reception area to supervise children. Of course, there will be the odd time when being late is unavoidable and we will always do our best to help out, however if you know you are going to be consistently late, please make use of the After School Club.

Second Hand Uniform Coordinator

We are looking for a volunteer to coordinate our secondhand uniform. It is a fairly light commitment but one that is valued by parents at the school. The role involves taking in new donations of good quality uniform and distributing it to parents on request. There is also scope for secondhand uniform sales during the year but it is not a requirement. If you are interested please leave your details with the school office.

Regards

Debbie McLeod
Headteacher

SCHOOL DIARY

Mon 13 February-Half Term week
Mon 20 February- Back to School
Sat 1 April- Easter Egg Hunt
Mon 10 April- Start of Easter Holiday/ Mon 24 April – Back to School
Mon 29 May- Half Term Week
Mon 5 June- INSET Day
Tue 6 June- Back to school
23 June- Sports Day
Thu 6 July- Year 6 Evening Performance
Fri 7 July- FoFS Summer Event
Tue 11 July- Class Swap Day
Thu 13 July- Leavers' Disco
Tue 18 July- Presentation Evening
Fri 21 July- Leavers' Service
Fri 21 July- End of term