



MOOR PARK PRIMARY SCHOOL

JANUARY 2015 NEWSLETTER

HAPPY NEW YEAR

Dear Parents

I hope you all had a lovely Christmas and have had a good start to the new year.

TEACHING & LEARNING

The new term has begun well and it is good to see the children focused on their learning.

We began this week by talking about 'growth'. We discussed how we have all grown in some way over the past year. Many children contributed by saying how they had improved with their writing or with their maths work, others said how they had grown into a kinder person.

I have set us all (children and adults) the challenge of being the best we can be and have asked everyone to set themselves an area they want to develop.

I wonder what the children will say next year when asked how they have grown....will they be a better reader? Will they be a more confident learner? Will they be able to play an instrument?

You will be receiving a spring newsletter for your child's year group which will outline the aims for this term and provide you with additional information regarding curriculum themes and events.

Our spring parents evening will be held the first week back after the February half term holiday

February half term—school closes Friday 12th February and re-opens Tuesday 23rd February.

Parents evening: Weds 24th Feb 3.30—6.00 p.m.

Thurs 25th Feb 3.30—5.30 p.m.

Please remember to check our website and year group blogs to find out what your child has been learning. Please also remember to contact your child's teacher if you have any queries or concerns before the February parents evening.

ATTENDANCE

As you are aware good attendance is crucial in ensuring the best education and outcomes for your children.

Our attendance is regularly monitored by Mrs Sandwell, Mr Kirkpatrick and our Pupil Welfare Officer; Claire Duerden.

I am pleased to inform you that our overall absence and persistent absence are reduced compared to the same period last year.

The National expectation for attendance is above 95%

Our target for this year is 95.7%

Unfortunately unauthorised holidays taken in term time are at a similar level to last years figures.

In an attempt to reduce the percentage of children being taken out of school during term time, the Governors have made the decision, following Government and Local Authority advice, to introduce the use of penalty notices.

You will be informed if a penalty notice will be issued due to an unauthorised holiday being taken.

As you are already aware I am unable to authorise holidays unless there are exceptional circumstances. Any application must be made in advance, if the application warrants the leave which will be based on individual facts and circumstances, then the Headteacher will determine the number of days a pupil can be away from school.

Please be aware that any applications or unauthorised holidays booked after 8th January 2016 may result in a fixed penalty notice being issued.

The notice will be issued by the Local Authority and will explain the procedures. A fine of £60 per child will be issued.

You will be given a print out of your child's attendance record at the February parents evening.

BUILDING UPDATE

This term we are concentrating on the design and furnishing of our two new areas in school. This will include library and IT equipment.

SCHOOL EVENTS THIS HALF TERM:-

Week 8th February—12th February—Year 6 residential visit to Boreatton Park

Thurs 11th February—School Alive (Grand Theatre) you will know if your child is involved in this.

For year group/class events and after school clubs please refer to the year group newsletters, website and fliers that come home.

Many thanks for your continued support.

Yours sincerely

J LGoldsborough (Miss)