



Newsletter

Issue 14 16th December 2016

Attendance

Reg	Average
Rec	92.9
Year 1	93.2
Year 2	94.2
Year 3	94.7
Year 4	95.5
Year 5	95.0
Year 6	96.7
Nursery AM	91.3
Nursery PM	88.6
School Average	93.6

Week beginning 5th December 2016
Well done to Year 6 who has the highest attendance of 96.7 percent. I have highlighted as Nursery AM as well as Nursery PM, Reception, years 1, 2 and 3 as their attendance is far too low. Please remember to send your child to school every day.

Dear Parents/ Carers

This is the last newsletter for 2016. I would like to wish you all a very happy New Year and hope that 2017 is a happy and prosperous year for all of you. Many of you have been very generous and I **thank you all for the lovely gifts and cards that I have received – I am very grateful.**

Our building work is due to start on 3rd January so when the children return to school on 5th January, **years 6 and 3 will all need to enter the school via the Green Entrance. I apologise for any inconvenience caused by this.**

Fiona Cullen
Head Teacher

Term Time Leave:

Changes in the law mean that the Head Teacher no longer has discretion to allow pupils to take term time leave. If you take your child out of school for any reason you will receive a fine for £60 per child per parent. This means that the mum will be fined £60 for each child and the dad will be fined £60 for each child.

The government monitors school attendance. They look at persistent absence. If your child has attendance of 90% or less they are deemed persistent absences and we are asked to follow this up and refer to the Local Authority who could take you to court. At court the penalty is either a very large fine £1000 or imprisonment. Please avoid keeping your child off school unless they are very sick and certainly DO NOT TAKE THEM OUT OF SCHOOL WHEN THE SCHOOL IS OPEN. Please wait until the holidays

Dates for your diary

Tuesday 21st December at 1.30pm
School closes for the Christmas holidays

21st Dec – 4th January - School closed - Christmas Holiday

Thursday 5th January First day of the new term –doors open at 8.40am

Monday 13 February 2017 to Friday 17 February 2017 School closed for half term.

Friday 31st March 2016 – Last day of Spring Term

Roll of Honour

This is a special board next to Ms Cull's office. If a child does something special outside school or becomes a times table titan their photograph will be displayed for everyone to see.

Remember – all children from Year 4 upwards are required to know all their times tables. Please help them to learn these over the holidays.

Staff leaving

We will be saying goodbye to four members of staff at the end of this term. Mrs Gillmore is leaving to go to a new job in Redbridge. She has been at the school since 2005 and has served the school well. Ms Brigden, will be another great loss to the school. She has worked here for 14 years and is now moving outside London to a new school in Bedfordshire. Ms May will be leaving the school to go travelling for a year. We hope to see her back in school on her return.

We are very sad that Mrs Pennington has decided it is time that she retired from her role as Higher Level Teaching Assistant. She has taught most of the children in the school and is incredibly popular. We will be putting on a small show in her honour on Monday. I'm sure you will all join me in wishing her a long and happy retirement and good luck to Mrs Gillmore, Ms May and Ms Brigden as they embark on their new ventures.

Singing for the Community

Congratulations to the Senior Choir who have brought cheer to the residents of Hedgerow Court Residential Home in Nelson Street and also performed for many more elderly residents at the Christmas Lunch event in the town hall. Although they are there to help the celebrations go well and entertain; they also have been lucky enough to have an opportunity to talk to the residents. I am always very proud of our children when they go out into the community; I have had such lovely comments about how well they interact and how impeccable their behaviour is.



Christmas Parties

These will take place on Monday afternoon. Please bring a contribution of food or drink to share with your child's class. There is often a large amount of crisps and biscuits so you may want to be more adventurous with your contribution and think of something different! **Your child can wear party clothes and will not have to wear uniform on this day.**

Visiting places of worship

Religious Education is part of the National Curriculum and we are required to teach children about the various world religions. As with other areas of the curriculum, we aim to teach this subject in a fun practical way and as with history, geography or art we think that this should be through first hand experiences as well as the traditional methods. Throughout their time at Nelson, all children will be taken to places of worship so that they can see what happens in each place of worship. We DO NOT expect children to pray or worship at these places.

