



Issue 6 – October 2019

Dear Parents

I can't believe that September is already over and we are nearly at half – term. The children have had a fabulous start to this academic year and we have so much to share with you already. Children have been working hard on all aspects of the curriculum and continue to make very good progress across the many subjects that we teach.

We have had amazing support from you as parents at many events already this term, and have been overwhelmed by your generosity. We raised £371.40 for 'jeans for genes day'. This charity works with children whose lives are seriously affected by genetic disorders and were delighted by our donation.

Over the past two weeks, the children have also been learning about British Food Fortnight and to end this work we have held the Great British Cake off. The KS2 children and families were amazing and produced some fantastic masterpieces (Gill, our school cook found it such a hard task to judge a winner). The money raised at this event will all go towards Macmillan Cancer Trust. I have never seen our school hall so busy and it was lovely to see so many families. The younger children's entries are also amazing and we look forward to sharing them after school today. I will send a message on Marvellous Me to let everyone know how much money we raised at both of these events. Thank you for your continued support; when we work together we get the best possible outcomes for all children.

Mrs Hair



Attendance

I would like to remind all families about the importance of attendance. I am very concerned about the amount of families that are taking holidays in term time.

A child whose **attendance** drops to 90% each year will, over their time at **primary school**, have missed two whole terms of learning.

We are aiming for our school attendance figure to reach at least 97%. Once individual attendance falls below 95%, the school attendance officer, who also works at Farringdon, will inform myself and we will contact families in the first instance. If low attendance persists we will then follow formal procedures.



The winning Year Group for attendance for September is:

Reception – 95.2%

Year 1 - 97.3%

Year 2 – 96.3%

Year 3 – 96.8%

Year 4 – 96.2%

Year 5 – 98.2%

Year 6 – 96.9%

Well done Year 5 - keep up this fantastic attendance.

At the end of the Autumn term, I will announce a year group winner and this year group will receive a treat decided by the children and their teachers.

The importance of reading

It is very important that we work together to support all of our children to foster a love of reading. It can never be underestimated that reading for pleasure makes a big difference to children's educational achievement whilst also stimulating their imagination, understanding the world and developing empathy.

Please support us by reading with your child daily (this can be a school book or a book of your choice) this will make such a difference and continue to strengthen links between school and home.

The Book Trust website offers lots of advice on suitable books for children to enjoy.



Communication

Just a reminder that we will be sending all school information out on marvellous me. We apologise for any inconvenience at the beginning of term whilst we were transferring classes over and hope that this is now working smoothly.

I will still send a list of diary dates as paper to ensure all families receive this.

So far, we have managed to save paper, ink and money due to less letters going home on paper.

Thank you so much for your co-operation.



Harvest

Traditionally, in school at the end of the first half term, we have a food collection for Harvest. This year we would like to take the opportunity to continue to support the foodbank at Bethany Church. We would also like to give families the opportunity to support the Sunderland Soup kitchen. Please look out for an extra letter from Mrs Anderson outlining all the details.

I would like to stress that all fundraising is on a voluntary basis and families must just support what they feel they can. There is no pressure to support every event.

Dates for Your Diary

Just a few dates for your diary. We do endeavour to stick to all of our dates but unfortunately due to unforeseen circumstances dates may need to be changed. If this is the case, we will try to give you as much notice as possible.

Tuesday 8th October – Year 6 Parents workshop 3:30pm and 5:00pm

Friday 11th October - Closed for INSET day

Wednesday 16th October – Harvest festival

Thursday 17th October – Nursery Harvest

Friday 18th October 9:00am – Mrs Cable’s Class assembly

Monday 21st October – Parents’ evening/ Nursery Stay and Play

Tuesday 22nd October – Parents’ evening / nursery Stay and Play

Friday 25th October 9:00am – Mrs Davison’s class assembly

Friday 25th October – School closes for half term

Monday 4th November – School re opens for second half term.

Monday 4th November – WW2 soldier in Year 2

Tuesday 5th November – Y2 walk wise starts

Tuesday 5th November – Year 6 Beamish trip

Friday 8th November 9:00am – Mrs Oxley’s class assembly

Friday 15th November 9:00am – Miss Conlan’s class assembly

Wednesday 4th December – Choir singing at the minster for Age Concern

Friday 6th December – Flu Vaccination

Saturday 7th December – School Christmas Fayre

Tuesday 10th December – Nursery Christmas Performance

Wednesday 11th December – Y1 Christmas Performance pm

Thursday 12th December – Reception Christmas Performance am

Thursday 12th December – Y6 – Christmas party/ climbing wall

Friday 13th December – Y2 Christmas Performance am

Friday 13th December – Christmas jumper day/ School Christmas dinner

Friday 13th December – Y6 invite grandparents into school for Tea/ cake and Christmas performance

Monday 16th December – Y4 performance time tbc.

Monday 16th December – R/Y1/ Y2 – trip to pantomime at Gala theatre – Durham

Tuesday 17th December – Y3 performance time tbc

Wednesday 18th December – Year 5/6 Church Service – 10:00am

Wednesday 18th December – Y3/4 party

Thursday 19th December – Y5 party

Thursday 19th December – Rock band visiting school

Friday 20th December – School has final Christmas assembly at St Chads just for school

Friday 20th December – School closes for the Christmas break.