

SCHOOL NEWS

Attendance | PTA | Fence Painting

Attendance

We continue to work tirelessly to improve the attendance of our pupils. Our Ofsted inspection in 2016 left us with two clear targets, one of them being:

“Work with pupils and families to improve attendance, particularly of those who are frequently absent.”

The overall attendance for the school each half term has consistently been sitting just below the National Average of 96%. I am delighted that at October half term the new percentage from September stood at 96.5%. This is the highest it has been for a long time. We only had 4 classes below the National Average, with the lowest percentage being 95%.

Our thanks to all the families who have responded to our requests to take holidays during the school holidays and have kept other absences to a minimum. We have however, a number of families who are still taking term time holidays - these do not get authorised and we have had a record number of EPNs (Education Penalty Notices - fines) going out to parents in the last few weeks. The Local Authority have stepped up the number of EPNs being issued since September and families with children who are persistently absent will be put under a Parent Contract. It is a legal obligation to send your child to school and failure to comply with this can lead to court proceedings and 4 figure fines.

I really hope we can keep the momentum going with our current attendance figures and ask for your support in meeting this very important Ofsted target. The table opposite indicates precisely why it is so important for children to attend school regularly.

So what it's just one day missing school??.....

If your attendance is 95%	you have missed 9 days and 50 lessons
If your attendance is 90%	you have missed 19 days and 100 lessons
If your attendance is 85%	you have missed 29 days and 150 lessons
If your attendance is 80%	you have missed 38 days and 200 lessons
If your attendance is 75%	you have missed 48 days and 250 lessons
If your attendance is 70%	you have missed 57 days and 290 lessons
If your attendance is 65%	you have missed 67 days and 340 lessons

If you want to succeed you must come to school!!



Homework Sheets

Homework sheets were sent home yesterday. Thank you for your continuing support with the homework. We can't stress enough how important learning the basic skills of counting, times tables, spelling and reading is. The creative and writing tasks encourage parents to become involved with their child's learning which research has proven to be more effective than weekly worksheets.



New Appointments

We are delighted to inform you that we have now appointed an Assistant Headteacher who will be replacing Mr Malone. Mr Cope will be joining us from Cheadle Catholic Juniors in January and is a very experienced Upper Key Stage 2 teacher.

We will also welcome Mrs Allaby to Reception to cover Miss Gilham's maternity leave. She joins us from Cheadle Laurus Primary and is a well established Early Years teacher.

Tickets for the Hits Radio Live Tour



A letter went home this week giving information about how to win tickets for this exciting event at the Manchester Arena. If you would like to enter, please ensure you have returned the slip with £1 to school by Friday 16th November.

A HUGE thank you!!

We would like to extend a massive thank you to the volunteers from Manchester Airport for preparing and painting our school fence today. What a difference it makes and we are all very proud to have our Etchells blue marking the front of the school. More volunteers are being organised to finish off before Christmas. Thanks to Tina from Community Relations and Mrs Mallinson for co-ordinating the project.



PTA Updates



✓ Well done to Harriet in RG and Miranda in 5L for winning the PTA colouring competition. They were presented with book vouchers in assembly this morning.

✓ A letter has been sent home today asking for volunteers for the Christmas Fair. If you can please offer half an hour of your time to help out on a stall it would be really appreciated. You are able to have children with you whilst you help out. Any family members are also able to volunteer. Please sign up using the online site:

www.volunteersignup.org/9KFA8

✓ We had our final planning meeting with the library fitting company this week and look forward to the new library being installed during the January INSET days. Many thanks for the £5000 PTA donation from all the events last year to enable this to happen.

✓ We are now busy raising funds to replace the trim trail out on the field.



Next week is anti-bullying week and we are set to have a focus on 'Choose Respect'. Please look for updates on Class Story and our website.



Children in Need is taking place next Friday and we are inviting children to wear something spotty with their school uniform and to bring in a voluntary donation for the charity.

Kind regards,
Cathy Beddows

and the Etchells staff

