King Street Primary & Pre - School

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22nd December 2017

Dear Parent/Carer,

The final day of term has arrived and we are all looking forward to a well-earned break! Children and staff have worked incredibly hard over this term and we have witnessed some wonderful learning taking place. The children are enjoying the curriculum that staff have put together and those who have accessed outdoor learning have had a wonderful time. This unique opportunity will now pass to Year 2 and 4 for the Spring Term and I know it will be packed with adventure.

Our children have also had the opportunity to visit new places and learn about the world around them and develop links with the local community. Recently our children who access our Daycare facility visited Appleton Lodge care home with gifts, games and activities to share with residents.  When they arrived, they did some singing and had a party tea together before exchanging gifts and then spent some time getting to know each other.  Both the residents and the children had a wonderful time and shared special memories that will be shared for a long time.

**Eschools**

You should have also received this week, a login for a new communication platform we will begin using in the New Year. It is called Eschools and will eventually allow all communication such as newsletters, trip letters and event reminders to be sent straight to your phone. It also gives you access to your child’s attendance record so you can monitor their attendance levels, as we always aim for children to be at school for 96% of the time. One benefit of this new system is an online booking service for parents evening. This section will become active when we get closer to the date. As it is a brand new system, we do anticipate that there may be teething troubles. The system relies heavily on parents and carers downloading the app to their phone or using the website login that you are given (both give access to exactly the same site). We will of course continue to use paper copies of all correspondence, the new system is simply an additional tool for those who use mobile technology and find it an efficient and effective way of managing communication. Please, if you have smartphone technology, follow the instructions on the sheet that was sent home and download the app over Christmas. If you have mis-placed the login details, please contact the class teacher who can organise a replacement to be sent.

 **Attendance letters**

Year 3 had the highest attendance this week with 94.1%. No classes were perfectly punctual and 266 minutes were lost due to lateness.

We will also be sending home a new termly attendance report for your child, this will show your child’s overall attendance, this will be helpful to you to recognise and track absences and ensures that you are always aware of your child’s attendance in relation to the National expectation of 96%. There is a huge correlation between a child’s attendance and the progress they make in school and therefore we will be ensuring that children who have persistently low absence are offered help and support to get them back into school regularly. Please understand that if you receive written advice about your child’s attendance, this is always based on advice and guidance that are set by the Local authority and our aim is to always ensure that your child makes the best progress possible.

Thank you for you continued support this term and I hope you all have a wonderful, restful Christmas break and enjoy the opportunity to spend family time together. We start school again on Monday 8th January and Breakfast Club will be open as usual. Both breakfast Club and Daycare will continue to be in the main building whilst essential maintenance work takes place on the detached building.

Yours Sincerely

J Bromley

Head teacher