King Street Primary & Pre - School

High Grange Road

Spennymoor

County Durham

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10/11/2017

Dear Parent/Carer,

The weather is turning cold and the mornings of defrosting the car have arrived! The children do love this time of year and we encourage them to play out and enjoy their environment. Please ensure they come to school with warm coats as a number of our children have had nothing to wear at playtimes this week and they end up indoors without all of their friends. Hats and gloves are recommended too as little fingers and ears get cold very easily!

**Contact details**

We would also ask that all parents and carers update their contact details with us as we do sometimes need to contact you about bumps and scrapes or because of poorly children and children become upset when we advise that we haven’t been able to speak to parents. These are also really important in the event of an emergency. If you are unsure if you have passed us your up to date details please check with the office. (I appreciate how easily it can be to forget amongst the business of everyday lives!)

**Access to school yard**

The opening of the school gates from the side street has been a great help to parents with pushchairs and I know this has been gratefully received. I do also appreciate that it is a public highway and that we cannot prevent access to cars (especially those who live on the street) however, since opening this bottom gate we have had an increase of people deciding to drive down the street to drop children off right at the gate. We do ask that you consider parking away from this side street and walking into school as this would help to ensure the safety of our children.

**Attendance**

Whilst we are aware that at this time of year absence due to illness can be an issue it is important that as a school we still monitor attendance, in particular, those children whose attendance drops to 96% or under. It is really important that you are aware of your child’s attendance as only a few days off school can make a big difference to the overall percentage. The table below shows how important regular attendance is for your child’s education.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Table of attendance figures** | | | |
| **Percentage** | **Days Absence** | **Comment** | **Achievement** |
| **Above 97%** | Less than 6 days absence per year | Excellent Attendance | These children will almost certainly achieve their full potential in school |
| **95-96%** | 10 days absence per year | Missing 2 weeks of school every year | These children are likely to achieve but could still improve their attendance! |
| **90% - 94%** | 19 days absence per year | Missing one month of school every year | These children will find it hard to achieve their best in school |
| **85% - 89%** | 29 days absence per year | Missing six weeks of school every year | These children will find it very difficult to keep up with work in school and are unlikely to achieve their potential |
| **80% - 84%** | 38 days absence per year | Missing a year of school over the time spent in primary education | These children will find it almost impossible to keep up with their work. |

**Punctuality**

I have also noticed that we have children who are regularly arriving to school late. There are occasions when last minute emergencies occur making you late which is unavoidable but when children arrive late nearly every day, it can be very demoralising and embarrassing for them. We only wish parents could see how the children try to “sneak” quietly into the classroom so they can’t be noticed. Please ensure your child arrives to school on time.

**5 minutes** late every morning = nearly **half an hour** of lessons missed **every week**.

**10 minutes** late every morning = nearly **one hour** of lessons missed **every week**.

**5 minutes** late every morning = nearly **6 hours** of lessons missed **every term**.

**5 minutes** late every morning = nearly **12 hours** of lessons missed **every term**.

**5 minutes** late every morning = nearly **1 week** of lessons missed **every year**.

**5 minutes** late every morning = nearly **2 weeks** of lessons missed **every year**.

**Fundraising**

It is children in Need day on Friday 17th November, please help us raise funds for this very good cause by donating a small amount on our ‘Justgiving’ page at [www.justgiving.com/fundraising/kingstreetuk](http://www.justgiving.com/fundraising/kingstreetuk). We have £12 already collected and all donations will be passed directly to the charity. We will be holding some lovely activities in school so the children can be fully involved in the day. Thank you in advance.

**Sports news**

Yet again we have had sporting success when our netball team won their friendly matches. Team A won both matches and although Team B lost their first they came back fighting to win their second. Well done everyone!

As always, if there any ideas, comments or queries please speak to a member of staff on the yard or make an appointment through the office to speak to myself. We are here to help you and your child.

**Donations**

We are currently trying to accumulate some resources for our children to use within their curriculum and at playtimes. If you have any animal figures, board games, building blocks, or useable good quality toys, we would hugely appreciate any of these items when you begin your pre- Christmas clear out!

Yours Sincerely

J Bromley

Head teacher

****Dates for Academic Year 2017-18

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Date | Time | | Event |
| Tuesday 12th – Tuesday 19th September 2017 | 3.00 – 3.30 | | School Book Fair & Art Auction |
| Wednesday 13th September | 3.45 – 5.00 | | Year 5 & 6 Cross Country tournament |
| Monday 18th September | 9.30 – 2.30 | | Year 6 Transition Day at Whitworth Park School |
| Tuesday 19th September | 4.30 – 5.00 | | Year 6 Parents’ Meeting – Ski Trip |
| Friday 22nd – Wednesday 27th September | 8.30 – 9.00  3.00 – 3.30 | | Scholastic Book Fair |
| Tuesday 26th September | 9.00 – 12.00 | | Year 2 Trip to Botanic Gardens TBC |
| Friday 29th September | 1.30 | | Harvest Festival at St. Andrew’s |
| Monday 2nd October | 9.00 – 3.00 | | Year 6 Trip to Nissan |
| Tuesday 3rd October | 3.45 – 5.00 | | Year 5 & 6 Football League begins |
| Friday 13th October | 9.00 – 12.00 | | Year 3 & 4 Multiskills Tournament |
| Monday 16th – Wednesday 18th October | 3.00 – 6.00 | | Parents’ Evening |
| Tuesday 17th October | 9.30 – 2.30 | | Year 5 & 6 Tag Rugby Tournament |
| Thursday 19th October | 3.30 – 4.45  5.00 – 6.15 | | NO LONGER THE HALOWEEN DISCO!! |
| Thursday 19th October | 5.45 | | School Closes for Half Term Holiday |
| Friday 20th October | ALL DAY | | CPD Day – School Closed  Holiday Club Available |
| HALF TERM HOLIDAY | | | |
| Monday 31st October | | 7.45 | Schools Re-Opens  **EYFS & KS1 Halloween Disco**  **KS2 Halloween Disco** |
| Wednesday 1st November | | 5.00 | Open Evening for Prospective Reception Parents |
| Tuesday 7th November | | 12.00 - 3.00 | Year 5 & 6 Sportshall Athletics Competition |
| Wednesday 8th November | | 3.45 – 5.00 | Year 5 & 6 Netball League begins |
| Friday 17th November | | ALL DAY | Children In Need |
| Week Commencing 20th November | | All week | UNICEF outright campaign- in school |
| Monday 24th November | | 9.30 - 12.00 | Year 2 Multiskills Tournament |
| Monday 27th November | | 4.00 | Full Governing Body Meeting |
| Friday 1st December | | 3.00 – 5.30 | Christmas Fayre |
| Monday 4th December | |  | Nativity Tickets On Sale |
| Friday 8th December | | 9.00 - 12.00 | Year 5 & 6 Boccia Tournament |
| Wednesday 13th December | | 9.30  2.00 | EYFS & KS1 Christmas Nativity  KS2 Christmas Nativity |
| Thursday 14th December | | 9.30  2.00 | KS2 Christmas Nativity  EYFS & KS1 Christmas Nativity |
| Tuesday 19th December | | 1.00 – 3.00 | EYFS & KS1 Christmas Parties |
| Wednesday 20th December | | 11.00  1.00 – 3.00 | Advent Service at St. Andrew’s  Year 3 & 4 Christmas Party |
| Thursday 21st December | | 1.00 – 3.00 | Year 5 & Year 6 Christmas Party |
| Friday 22nd December | | 5.45 | School Closes for Christmas Holidays |
| CHRISTMAS HOLIDAYS | | | |
| Monday 8th January 2018 | | 7.45 | Schools Re-Opens |
| Wednesday 10th January | | 12.30 - 2.30 | Year 1 Multiskills Tournament |
| Tuesday 23rd January | | 12.30 - 3.00 | Year 5 & 6 Basketball Tournament |
| Friday 2nd February | | 1.00 – 2.30 | KS2 Swimming Gala |
| Friday 9th February | | 5.45 | School Closes for Half Term Holiday |
| HALF TERM HOLIDAY | | | |
| Monday 19th February | | 7.45 | School Re-Opens |
| Tuesday 20th February | | 12.30 - 2.30 | Year 3 Sports Skills Tournament |
| Wednesday 21st February | | 12.30 - 2.30 | Year 4 Sports Skills Tournament |
| Thursday 1st March | | ALL DAY | World Book Day |
| Friday 9th March | | 11.30 | Mothers’ Day Afternoon Tea |
| Monday 12th – Wednesday 14th March | | 3.00 – 6.00 | Parents’ Evening |
| Friday 23rd March | | ALL DAY | Red Nose Day |
| Thursday 29th March | | 11.00  5.45 | Easter Service at St. Andrew’s  School Closes for Easter Holidays |
| EASTER HOLIDAYS | | | |
| Monday 16th April | | 7.45 | School Re-Opens |
| Monday 7th May | | ALL DAY | May Day Bank Holiday – School Closed |
| Monday 14th – Thursday 17th May | |  | Key Stage 2 SATs Week |
| Friday 25th May | | 5.45 | School Closes for Half Term Holiday |
| HALF TERM HOLIDAY | | | |
| Monday 4th June | | ALL DAY | CPD Day – School Closed |
| Tuesday 5th June | | 7.45 | Schools Re-Opens |
| Friday 15th June | | 1.00 | Fathers’ Day Event |
| Wednesday 27th June | | 1.00 – 3.00 | EYFS & KS1 Sports Day |
| Thursday 28th June 2017 | | 1.00 – 3.00 | KS2 Sports Day |
| Monday 2nd – Wednesday 4th July | | 3.00 – 6.00 | Parents Evening (Pre-School to Year 5) |
| Tuesday 10th – Thursday 12th July | | 3.00 – 6.00 | Parents Evening (Year 6) |
| Wednesday 18th July | | 1.45 | Year 6 Leavers’ Assembly |
| Thursday 19th July | | 6.00 | Year 6 Sleepover |
| Friday 20th July | | 5.45 | School Closes for Summer Holiday |
| SUMMER HOLIDAYS | | | |
| Tuesday 4th September | | 7.45 | School Re-Opens |