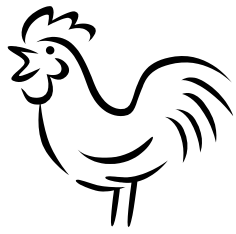


Wisbech St Mary School

News

October 2014



Our Priorities for 2014-15

We are always working hard to develop our school. We are doing this by:

- Making sure all our lessons in school are good or better.
- Putting in place a new marking and feedback policy which involves you!
- Giving children personalised targets to work towards in reading, writing and maths.
- Tracking the progress of all our children in school and giving them extra support if they need it.
- Looking at how we make playtimes and lunchtimes enjoyable for all.
- Putting into practice our new school values and house point system.
- Providing opportunities for children to lead in school.
- Continue to work on our new curriculum to make sure that it interests and inspires everybody in school.

Attendance

As a school we are always trying to improve. Our attendance for last year was 93.9% and we have set ourselves a target this year to make it 94.5%. This means that we need your help! At the start of the year, we sent out a new Attendance Policy stating that if a child's attendance dropped to 90% or below in a 4 week period we would be sending out letters to parents/carers to offer support. Please note that this letter is a standard Letter from Education Welfare. We are also working with a new Educational Welfare Officer called Lesley High to help improve attendance across the school. If you have any concerns about attendance, please do come in and talk to us- we are here to help.

In a 4 week period 1 day absence = 5%

Reading

As many of you will already know, we are now using Accelerated Reader to support children in their enjoyment of and achievement in reading. As with anything new, there are always a few teething problems and it takes a while to become fully embedded. Therefore, we would like to invite you into school on Monday 10th November at 9.00am and 2.30pm to find out more about the programme and any questions you may have.



Before School

Please note that children should not be on site before 8.45 am in the morning as staff are not on the playground to supervise them until this time. Also please remember that bikes and scooters should not be ridden across the playground at the beginning or end of the day for safety reasons .

Bonfire Night

It is almost that time of year again when Wisbech St Mary comes alive with the sounds of fireworks!

WE NEED YOUR HELP!

If you are able to help set up or run a stall during the evening, please come and see the school office. This is our biggest fundraiser of the year and it can only go ahead with you support. If you can volunteer some time, you will be given a free ticket to the event.

Non- Uniform Day

Please note we have two on-uniform days before October half term.
Friday 17th October- please bring a donation for the bottle stall for bonfire night.
Friday 24th October- wear your Sports Kit to school for our Olympic Athlete Day.

Parking.

Parking outside school continues to be a major problem with complaints from local residents and the emergency services.

PLEASE park safely and considerately - you may incur a parking fine from the police if parked illegally as the police are now regularly patrolling this area at the beginning and end of the school day.

THIS IS FOR YOUR CHILD'S SAFETY!

PTFA Money

The PTFA kindly donated £8,000 to school at the end of the last school year. We have plans to spend this over the coming months but we wanted to give you a brief update of what we have spent so far! As you can see we have been brightening up the playground and we hope to have new playground markings in the summer. We have also bought new playground equipment for lunchtimes- ask your children which is their favourite piece. We are also in the process of having the Environmental Area fenced in and cleared, ready to be used at lunchtimes. In December the whole school will be going to the Pantomime in Peterborough. Finally, the quad area in the middle of school is being changed into a 'Reflection Area'.

Parent Forum

The first Parent Forum meeting of this term is Monday 20th October at 2pm. Mrs Hunt will be leading this and the focus will be on the changes for children with Special Educational Needs. We are looking for parents to put forward ideas for the new policy and also our school offer. We hope to see as many of you at the meeting as possible.

Earrings

Our school policy regarding earrings is as follows:
Earrings can be covered for PE for the 1st 6 weeks after piercing. After this period earrings must be removed for PE.
Earrings allowed are small stud type earrings - no hoops or creoles.



School Nurse and Bug Busting

The school nurse will be in school on Thursday 16th October from 9am to offer support and advice on Head Lice. We are then asking that all parents check their child/rens hair on this evening and treat if required.

Class Assemblies

9.00am in School Hall

Peckover- Fri 24th Oct

Clarkson-Fri 7th Nov

Octavia- Fri 14th Nov

Mowbray- Fri 21th Nov

Godfrey- Fri 28th Nov

Awdry - 17th Oct

Parentmail

As a school we are trying to reduce the amount of paper we send home to parents and carers. To achieve this we need to make more use of the Parentmail system to send newsletters and other information.

In future newsletters will no longer be sent out as a paper copy, but will be emailed as a PDF file, which can be downloaded free of charge from the internet.

Please speak to Mrs Boyce or Mrs Embling if you cannot access the internet for Parentmail.

Dates

Fri 17th Oct - Non uniform day for Firework Spectacular

Mon 20th Oct - Parent Forum 2.00pm

Fri 24th Oct - Olympic gymnast in school

Fri 24th Oct- School closes for Half term

Mon 3rd Nov- School opens

Tues 11th Nov- Individual school photos

Fri 14th Nov - Children in Need

Sat 8th Nov- Bonfire Spectacular at school

Mon 8th Dec- Christmas Disco Times to be confirmed

Thur 4th Dec- Parents' evening 1-7pm

Tue 9th Dec - Whole school to pantomime

Fri 12th Dec - Xmas Jumper Day for Save the Children

Fri 12th Dec- Hudson Class Nativity in church 1.30pm

Mon 15th and Tues 16th Dec- Whole school Christmas production

Thu 18th Dec - Celebration Assembly 9.00am

Thur 18th Dec - School closes for Xmas

