



*"Created by God to love and learn"*

## NEWSLETTER 8 2018-2019

21.12.18

School's  
 Attendance  
 Target: 96%  
 Actual: 95.5%

We have reached the end of our second term and it has been another busy one. We have finished all of our Christmas performances, which went down well. Many parents have commented to me how impressed they have been with what they saw. This is very pleasing to hear as unless you are part of a school, sometimes you don't realise how much effort and time goes into each performance. May I offer my thanks to everyone who followed our safeguarding plea by only taking photos of pupils when they were allowed to.

On Tuesday, all staff helped to serve over 140 Christmas lunches. We then followed this with our St Augustine's Got Talent! competition. It was an immensely enjoyable afternoon which saw many pupils demonstrate their skills that they don't always get a chance to showcase every day in school. The Key Stage 1 winner was Zac with his martial arts skills and in Key Stage 2, it was James with his fantastic piano playing. Congratulations to both of them and to everyone who entered; the standard is getting better every year.

Over the term, some parents have come forward to raise their concerns about some negative social media posts about our school. As a school, we are committed to dealing with incidents if they arise in a way that supports those involved. Any negative posts about the school or staff only damage the school's reputation. We would hope that if a parent felt upset or had a concern, they would discuss it with the school so that it could be fully investigated and resolved.

On a happier note, may I wish everyone a safe and pleasant Christmas and a happy New Year. As we have an INSET day on Monday 7<sup>th</sup> January, children do not need to come back until Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> January 2019.

Mr Isaacs

Here are the results from question 7 from the pupils' survey.

7. How do you find the work your teacher gives you?			
Never too hard	Sometimes too hard	Often too hard	Always too hard
21%	58%	14%	7%

These responses are positive. We always want pupils to find challenge in their work which 58% of the school stated was the case. However, when it is too hard it could have a detrimental impact on learning and self-esteem or, if the work is too easy, pupils will not be challenged resulting in limited progress. In class, teachers work hard to differentiate the work according to pupils' needs. This ensures that pupils' work is pitched at the correct level for each child. Staff provide work based on what has just been taught and as pupils progress through it, the questions gradually get harder or it asks them to give an explanation about something – which is the reasoning or mastery element of the curriculum. All children grasp new skills at different speeds but it is the application of new skills that the pupils find more challenging. This is known as the mastery element of the curriculum. One way of learning is to step out of your comfort zone and take risks. A challenge in life is a good thing. Of course, this all depends of a child's attitude and if it is a fixed mindset or a growth mindset.



As part of our Walk to School campaign, pupils can earn badges for walking/ cycling or scooting to school. Stryder (the character above) will be visiting the school on Monday 14<sup>th</sup> January to help promote walking to and from school.

As well as promoting a healthier lifestyle for children, it also makes the front of the school safer as there have been less cars. I would also like to thank the parents for parking in designated bays and not parking in front of our gates, which is dangerous for all those associated with the school.

With increasingly tight budgets, schools welcome any charitable donations made to them.

On Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> December, Mrs Fricker, Mrs Doano and Mrs Evans held a Christmas wreath making night at the school. Judging by the photos and speaking to some people who attended, it was an enjoyable occasion which raised the school an impressive £360.55. This money will again be handed to the pupils, via the school council, to decide how best to spend it.



## Arriving on Time



When might a Penalty Notice be issued?

A Penalty Notice may be issued to a parent in one or more of the following circumstances where more than 10 sessions of absence are recorded in 7 school weeks (ie 70 sessions). There are 2 sessions per day, one in the morning and one in the afternoon:

1. where unauthorised absences are recorded (O code)
2. where more than 10 sessions of unauthorised holiday are recorded and;
  - a) the parent has not informed the school; or
  - b) the leave was not authorised; or
  - c) the child did not return on the agreed date
3. where the child is persistently late arriving at school after registers have closed (U code)
4. where a combination of more than 10 sessions of a) to c) above have been recorded.



Congratulations to Jasmine and Lilia for winning December's writing competition. For this achievement, they won a pack of metallic gel pens and a notepad each. The competition will start again in January after the Christmas break.



May I also take this opportunity to welcome Mrs Chin to our staff at school who will be taking over from Mrs Hazelwood and working in class 5/6 from January. May I wish her all the best and I know everyone will be very supportive of her. She is an experienced teacher who I'm sure will be an asset to our team.

## *Dates for your diary*

Monday	7 <sup>th</sup>	January	INSET Day 3 – School Closed
Monday	25 <sup>th</sup>	February	INSET Day 4 – School Closed
Monday	3 <sup>rd</sup>	June	INSET Day 5 – School Closed
Tuesday	21 <sup>st</sup>	May	Sports day
Thursday	23 <sup>rd</sup>	May	Sports day reserve
Monday	24 <sup>th</sup>	December	Christmas Holidays
Monday	7 <sup>th</sup>	January	INSET Day 3 – School Closed
Tuesday	8 <sup>th</sup>	January	Term 3 starts
Thursday	10 <sup>th</sup>	January	School Mass - St Augustine's Church (9:30am)
Friday	11 <sup>th</sup>	January	Year 6/R Buddy Cake Sale (3:30pm)
Monday	14 <sup>th</sup>	January	Stryder (Walk to School mascot) visiting the school
Friday	18 <sup>th</sup>	January	Year 6 class assembly (3:00pm)
Friday	25 <sup>th</sup>	January	PTFA Film Club – letter to follow soon
Saturday	27 <sup>th</sup>	January	PTFA – Quiz Night – letter to follow soon
Friday	1 <sup>st</sup>	February	Year 5/6 class assembly (3:00pm)
Thursday	7 <sup>th</sup>	February	Year 2 Liturgy (3:00pm)
Friday	8 <sup>th</sup>	February	Year 3 Cake Sale (3:30pm)
Thursday	14 <sup>th</sup>	February	Play In a Day
Friday	15 <sup>th</sup>	February	Year 4/5 class assembly (3:00pm)
Monday	18 <sup>th</sup>	February	Half Term
Monday	25 <sup>th</sup>	February	INSET Day 4 – School Closed
Tuesday	26 <sup>th</sup>	February	Term 4 starts School book fair in school for the week
Wednesday	6 <sup>th</sup>	March	School Liturgy – Holy day of obligation – Ash Wednesday
Thursday	7 <sup>th</sup>	March	Year 1 Liturgy (3:00pm) PTFA – Mothers' Day Flowers – letter to follow soon
Friday	8 <sup>th</sup>	March	Year 3 class assembly (3:00pm)
Friday	15 <sup>th</sup>	March	PTFA Film Club – letter to follow soon
Friday	29 <sup>th</sup>	March	Year 2 class assembly (3:00pm)
Wednesday	3 <sup>rd</sup>	April	Year 4 leave for Kilve Court residential
Friday	5 <sup>th</sup>	April	Year 4 return from Kilve Court residential
Monday	8 <sup>th</sup>	April	Easter Holidays
Tuesday	23 <sup>rd</sup>	April	Term 5 starts
Thursday	25 <sup>th</sup>	April	School Mass - St Augustine's Church (9:30am)
Friday	26 <sup>th</sup>	April	Year 4 Cake Sale (3:30pm)
Thursday	9 <sup>th</sup>	May	Reception Liturgy (3:00pm)
Friday	10 <sup>th</sup>	May	Year 1 class assembly (3:00pm)
Monday	13 <sup>th</sup>	May	Year 6 SATs week