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"Created by God to love and learn"

NEWSLETTER 10 2018-2019

25.01.19

School's
Attendance
Target: 96%
Actual: 95.6%

Hello parent/ carers, we have been sent this message from the Eduspot Team who are the administrators of our school's money system.

Dear Parents -

With online payments on the rise, Eduspot (as providers of SchoolMoney) would like to remind you to be extra vigilant when making payments.

Recently, there have been a small number of reports of attempts to defraud parents whilst using SchoolMoney. We thoroughly investigate all reports of attempts to defraud parents using our system (including separate, independent checks) and can confirm that we found that no fraud, data breach or malicious attack has occurred.

We believe however, that it important to remind parents to be extra vigilant when making payments online. NEVER give out your ATM pin to anyone – no system or person should ever require this to complete an online transaction. If something looks suspicious, do not complete the payment, close down your browser and start again making sure you are using a genuine website.

You should also ensure all system and app updates are applied to your PC or mobile devices and that they have reliable, up-to-date anti-virus software installed. Increasingly, mobile devices are the targets of malicious software so it's important that these also have adequate protection.

Eduspot remains committed to protecting your online security and providing you with an easy to use solution to securely make payments to your schools. If you spot something that doesn't look right relating to SchoolMoney, please contact us at support@schoolmoney.co.uk.

I would just like to re-iterate that a small number of reports have been raised but this still remains a safe system and if you notice anything unusual please inform our office or Eduspot directly. Many thanks for your continued support.

Mr Isaacs

Lego Robots

Congratulations to the Astroneers (and Mr Newman and Mrs Hurford) who, last Wednesday, took part in the regional Lego League competition held at Hewlett Packard. Out of 20 schools we finished 13th.



When visiting the event myself, I noticed how the robotic missions were more complex than in previous years and how strong other schools were this year. Speaking to Mr Newman, he was incredibly proud of everyone representing the school by the respect they showed each other and that they never gave up and always worked as a team throughout the event. May I also thanks Mrs Hurford who has dedicated so much of her valuable time to support our school and ensure our children continue to have this exciting opportunity.

Here are the results from question 10 from the pupils' survey.

10. Tell us how much you try at school.			
Always do my best	Most of the time I do my best	Sometimes do my best	Never do my best
49%	41%	8%	2%

This is overwhelmingly positive with 90% of pupils stating they do their best at least most of the time if not all of the time. This is really important as if pupils develop good habits early on, then these habits become second nature to them and sets them up well in their adult life. As a school, we highlight the importance of never giving up and persevering with everything they do. Our school mission statement of, *"Created by God to love and learn"* means that we want every child that passes through our school to demonstrate a love for their learning. Indeed, this is often commented on in assembly on Fridays, where staff nominate pupils who have shown a real passion for their work. This could have been through their homework or a concerted effort to learn their tables or finish a challenging reading book. One thing I am absolutely certain about is that if pupils are lackadaisical about their work and effort levels, this will continue through to adulthood.

Unfortunately, 2% of pupils surveyed, stated they never do their best. This is upsetting and concerning but something we will endeavour to change. Through the use of pupil voice (school council, Chaplains and House Captains) we provide opportunities for pupils to decide on some of the aspects of school. Therefore, pupils can take some ownership of what goes on in an effort to enthuse and motivate all pupils.

Requests for Leave of Absence



Absence for anything other than through illness or medical reasons during term time is actively discouraged. Parent/Carers requesting time out of school for their child during term time should obtain a 'Leave of absence' request form from the school office before booking a family holiday and return it two weeks prior to the intended absence.

The DfE has published amendments to the Pupil Registration Regulations which came into force from September 2013 and relate to Holidays in Term Time, Penalty Notices and Deletions from the school register. The amendments make clear that head teachers may not grant any leave of absence during term time unless there are exceptional circumstances.

The Head teacher will define 'exceptional circumstances' and also determine the number of school days a child can be away from school if the leave is granted. Exceptional circumstances can include: religious observances, cultural reasons or bereavement etc.

Leave of absence will not be granted during September to ensure that pupils have a settled start to the new academic year nor in May or June when all classes have their annual assessments.



Messages for Teachers

Thank you to all those parents who pass on messages for class teachers with the members of staff by the door. We have allocated two members of staff on the door in the morning so if parents have something that they need to let the class teacher know about the child they can do so. The reason for this is that if parents wish to speak to a member of staff that requires them to leave the classroom, then the children could possibly be left unsurprised and as soon as pupils arrive, they have work to do. This means the teachers are available to help and support the children.

If you do have a message that you need to speak to a member of staff about, if you pop into the office then the office staff will help to arrange a meeting at a convenient time so pupils' learning is not affected.

Just a reminder...



The PTFA Quiz Night (on Sunday 27th January) has been **postponed** so it doesn't clash with another locally held one.

There will also be a PTFA Valentine's Disco on Tuesday 12th February ... thus providing an early opportunity for some parents to spend some time together.

Remember... if you wish to join the PTFA, and support all children at the school, then please contact the office. Alternatively, you can speak to Mrs Lougee or Mrs Dow who would be happy to answer any questions or give you an insight into the role of the PTFA.

Dates for your diary

Monday	25 th	February	INSET Day 4 – School Closed
Monday	3 rd	June	INSET Day 5 – School Closed
Tuesday	21 st	May	Sports day
Thursday	23 rd	May	Sports day reserve
Saturday	27th	January	PTFA – Quiz Night – letter to follow soon postponed
Tuesday	29 th	January	Year 5 visit to synagogue – letter already handed out
Friday	1 st	February	Year 5/6 class assembly (3:00pm)
Thursday	7 th	February	Year 2 Liturgy (3:00pm)
Friday	8 th	February	Year 3 Cake Sale (3:30pm) PTFA non-uniform day - donations
Tuesday	12 th	February	PTFA – Valentine's Disco – letter to follow
Wednesday	13 th	February	Parents' Evening 1 (4:00pm to 7:00pm)
Thursday	14 th	February	Parents' Evening 2 (3:50pm to 6:30pm)
Thursday	14 th	February	Play In a Day
Friday	15 th	February	Year 4/5 class assembly (3:00pm)
Monday	18th	February	Half Term
Monday	25 th	February	INSET Day 4 – School Closed
Tuesday	26 th	February	Term 4 starts School book fair in school for the week
Wednesday	6 th	March	School Liturgy – Holy day of obligation – Ash Wednesday
Thursday	7 th	March	Year 1 Liturgy (3:00pm) PTFA – Mothers' Day Flowers – letter to follow soon
Friday	8 th	March	Year 3 class assembly (3:00pm)
Friday	15 th	March	PTFA Film Club – letter to follow soon
Thursday	28 th	March	Key Stage 2 Easter Performance (2:00pm in the church)
Friday	29 th	March	Year 2 class assembly (3:00pm)
Monday	1 st	April	PTFA - Easter Bonnet parade (in assembly) PTFA - Easter Bake Off competition and cake sale
Wednesday	3 rd	April	Year 4 leave for Kilve Court residential
Friday	5 th	April	Year 4 return from Kilve Court residential
Monday	8th	April	Easter Holidays
Tuesday	23 rd	April	Term 5 starts
Thursday	25 th	April	School Mass - St Augustine's Church (9:30am)
Friday	26 th	April	Year 4 Cake Sale (3:30pm)
Thursday	9 th	May	Reception Liturgy (3:00pm)
Friday	10 th	May	Year 1 class assembly (3:00pm)
Monday	13 th	May	Year 6 SATs week