



# Principal Informer

Issue 5: Friday 7th November 2014

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Dear Parents/ Carers

The children have returned to school well following term break. Term 2 is always a busy time as we run up to Christmas with all of the exciting events that we have planned to take place. Details of these have been distributed on the red sheet at the start of the year.

The children have also commenced their new themes of learning and details of this will come out to parents with this letter today. Detailed on the newsletter are the 'non negotiable' in the core areas for each year group. It is expected that all children will achieve these objectives during the course of the year.

We are closed on Monday for the fourth of five statutory training days. We have published the dates of the training days on many communications since July, however still many people thought that the school was closed on Monday. Please note the dates issued on the red letter and on PI rather than the NCC website as many schools now vary their five days according to need. Our final training day of the year is Wednesday, 15 April 2015. On Monday the staff training will again be on focussed reading. We are revolutionising how we teach reading in the school and a parent information event about this will take place on **25 November at 15.30 pm and 18.00 pm**. We strongly encourage parents to attend.

On Tuesday your child will come home with a letter detailing the first Termly Learning Conversation (parent's evening). Again we are revolutionising how we approach this. Details are on the forthcoming letter, but we are looking forward to sharing your child's achievements and next steps with you. Your child will lead the conversation! An interim report will be issued to parents on Friday, 14 November.

We look forward to an exciting term and as always we thank you for your continued support.



## CHILDREN IN NEED

Friday 14 November is Children in Need day. We would like to invite children to attend school in their pyjamas on that day. A donation of £1 for the privilege will be given to Children in Need. Our House Captains will collect the money.

## INSPIRING YEARS 3 & 4 WITH NOCTURNAL ANIMALS

The children were inspired to ask many questions about the life of nocturnal animals by observing at first hand owls and other creatures. This event was planned as the stimulus for the theme 'What is it like to be nocturnal?'. The children will be investigating the life of nocturnal animals, their habitats and how they can be protected. The children will also be learning about light and shadow during science and a cave for them to explore will be set up in their classrooms.



## Attendance

School attendance target for 2014/15: **96%**

School attendance to date: **95.5%**

Number of days lost to unauthorised leave to date: **236.5**

Number of children recorded late to date: **428**

#### A NOTE FROM HELPING HANDS

The children have worked really hard in class recently to produce some beautiful and unique designs for their Christmas Cards. This week you will have received an order form for you to order packs of cards and gift tags with your child's design. Please ensure that you let the school office have your orders by Thursday, 13 November in order for them to arrive in time for you to send the cards on to friends and family for Christmas. Our Winter Wonderland themed Christmas Fair will be taking place on **Saturday, 6 December from 1.00 pm-3.00 pm** and we are still looking for raffle prizes and volunteers to man stalls during the fair and/or to set up or clear away afterwards. If you can feel you can help in any way - please get in touch via [stimpsonhelpinghands+committee@grouppaces.com](mailto:stimpsonhelpinghands+committee@grouppaces.com) or the school office. Many thanks again for your continued support.

Helping Hands



#### SCHOOL PHOTOS – 26 NOVEMBER

Please note that the school photographer will now be in school on Wednesday, 26 November and not Wednesday 12th November to take individual pupil photos. The photographer will also be in school from 8.15 am to take family portraits of siblings at the school. You may also bring other younger siblings in at this time. We have been assured that photographs will be ready for Christmas.

#### COMMUNICATION WITH SCHOOL

It is a priority to have excellent communication about all aspects of school life with parents and the community. We hope that our website will be live before the end of term. We are working on a new texting system to engage with parents as well as an online payment system to bring us into the modern age! Unfortunately we have been restricted with capacity in the office to do this during this term but we hope to have it operational for the new year. Thank you for using the Home/School Partnership book which is working well.

#### CLUBS IN SCHOOL

We are offering a number of sports clubs before and after school. These include dodgeball and multi skills as well as basketball that has been in school for many years. The cost of dodge ball and multiskills is £2 per session and is available to Key Stage 2. Please ask at the office if you wish your child to take part as there are still places available.

**PE: Please note that PE kits MUST be in school ALL WEEK for ALL children. We have no provision for supervising children when they do not have kit. Children can become disruptive during lessons when they cannot take part. To avoid this we will contact parents and we will expect PE kits to be brought to school immediately or for parents to supervise their child during the session. Also, any child who is unable to do PE due to having their ear pierced will be expected to be supervised by parents whilst they are unable to remove their earrings for PE. Thank you for your co-operation.**

Thank you to those parents who have offered to help in school. We will be responding to you shortly.