



Principal Informer

Issue 9: Friday, 9 January 2015

head@stimpsonave.northants-ecl.gov.uk

Dear Parents/Carers

Happy New Year and welcome back to the new term. It is great to see that all of the children have returned safe and well after the Christmas break.

We have much to look forward to and get excited about this term. On Monday Years 5 and 6 will be taking part in Young Voices at the LG Arena in Birmingham. They will be singing in a choir of 7000 children. The children have been practising hard and having attended twice in the past, I know they will have an amazing time and parents will too!

We have also increased the number of after school clubs to 10. We will ensure that there is a balance of sporting and artistic clubs for all year groups over time. We have had requests for the return of the trampolining club. I am in contact with them and looking into when we can reintroduce this club.

We will also be reintroducing French as our chosen modern foreign language at Key Stage 2.

The next Parent Forum will take place on 5 February at 2 pm and 6 pm. The focus will be our approach to the curriculum in addition to an open forum for parents to ask questions and provide feedback about school life. We look forward to seeing you at the meeting.

On the reverse are the findings of the parental questionnaire completed during last term's TLCs. We had an amazing 197 replies which represents most families in the school and provides an excellent sample of parental opinion. Whilst we recognise that there are challenges ahead, it is heartening to know that we have the confidence of parents in the work that we are doing to make our school great. Last term we focussed on reading and writing and we are seeing consistency in the approach to teaching and assessment in these areas and standards of reading at Key Stage 1 have gone through the roof with our new approach. The journey continues at pace this term as we consider our approach to teaching maths as a school.

Please ensure that children are in school for 8.55 am as gates shut promptly at this time.

As ever, the children's enjoyment of school remains paramount and we look forward to working with everyone in this endeavour.

Winter PE Kits – It is our intention to do PE throughout the winter. Only heavy rain will prevent us from doing this. We do ensure that the children are warm and they do wear their coats if necessary. However, if you wish to send in a jogging suit for them to wear in addition to this, this would be fine.

Parent Pay – We will be introducing Parent Pay imminently. This will enable payments to be made electronically and for text messages to be made more efficiently. Shortly you will be receiving a form requiring up to date mobile numbers and emails. Please support the school with this endeavour since when it is up and running it will make life much easier for everyone.

Please would you ensure that your child brings their healthy snack (piece of fruit) in their book bag and NOT their lunch bag. This is to ensure that lunchboxes are not opened until lunchtime. Thank you.

Attendance

School attendance target for 2014/15: 96%

School attendance to date: 96.2%

Number of days lost to unauthorised leave to date: 319.5

Number of children recorded late to date: 903
