



Stimpson Avenue Academy
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Executive Head: Sarah Bennett
Head of School: Kim Kemp

12 November 2015

Dear Parent/ Carers,

I am really enjoying my time at Stimpson. The behaviour of your children is commendable and everyone, staff, children and parents/ carers, have made me feel so welcome. However, I would really like the opportunity to meet more of you and I will be available to meet with you during parents' evenings next Wednesday and Thursday 18th and 19th November.

On a different note, sadly, Nicola Boulton, a much valued Class Teacher, will be leaving us at the end of the Autumn Term to work in a small, local village school. We know she will be sorely missed but we wish her all the best and huge success in her new school. We have started the recruitment process and look forward to interviewing possible new members of staff to join our committed and passionate team. We will naturally keep you fully informed of the outcomes and information about the new staff.

It has also come to my attention that unfortunately informing parents of Ashley Earl's retirement was not included in the last Principal's newsletter. I can only sincerely apologise for this. Ashley worked as a caretaker for the school for an incredible 19 years and I know he is in the hearts of many parents, staff and children. We celebrated and thanked him for all his hard work in an assembly and he was presented with gifts and cards made by the children. He even had a tinsel covered broom and throne! We are all very sad to see him leave and wish him a very restful and happy retirement. We would like to welcome the new caretaker Glen McClelland and wish him every success with us.

On a serious note, as no one would question, the safety of our children is paramount. I would really appreciate it if you could remind your children about stranger danger, especially remind older children who walk to school about the importance of walking with others and not talking to strangers. If you, or your child have any concerns, please always share them with us. Thank you.

Please may I also remind you about the importance of ensuring all children arrive on time in school. The gates open at 8.45 and remain open until 8.55am. Any child arriving after this time needs to go via main office entrance and if this is after 9am, your child will be marked as late. If a child arrives late, they can miss out on essential instructions given out at the start of a day and have less time to settle before lessons start promptly at 9am. English or Mathematics occurs from 9am every day and therefore, I am sure you can appreciate, the importance of the children being ready for learning at this time. To support all children arriving on time, I am introducing an 'Early Bird Award' whereby the winning class with the most children arriving on time over the week, will receive this award. We fully understand many of you have other commitments and therefore Gr8t Kids offer a breakfast club from 8am to help you. Thank you for your anticipated support to ensure your child arrives before 8.55am.

Throughout the week, we have been reminding and educating the children about Remembrance Day. This has involved them making a KS1 and KS2 display and having a whole school assembly with a two minutes silence to pay our respects to all the lives lost during wars. The respect shown by all the children was impressive and I was very proud of them. They were a total credit to the school and you. The children have also been learning about Diwali, the Festival of Lights, one of the most significant Hindu festivals, which celebrates the victory of light over darkness and good over evil.

As I am sure you are aware, tomorrow is Children In Need. To raise money for this event, we are going to hold a brown money (1p and 2ps) challenge whereby the winning class will be the one who makes the longest line. Naturally, all money will go to charity and therefore I would appreciate your children bringing in any 1p or 2ps on Friday. All the classes will participate in a range of activities linked to Children In Need in the afternoon.

Finally, we are making a minor adjustment to the annual schedule whereby the Deck the Halls Day will now take place on Friday 4th December. Further information will be sent out accordingly.

If you should have any questions arising from this letter, please do not hesitate to contact me. I look forward to meeting you all during the parents' evenings.

Thank you.

Kind regards,

Kimberley Kemp
Head of School



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- AVENUE -
ACADEMY

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