



Primary School Newsletter

27 January 2017

Pupil Progress Meetings and Parents' Evening

Over the last two weeks, I have met with all teachers to discuss in detail the progress of each member of the class. We always take the time to discuss their attendance, behaviour, attitudes in lessons, friendships and progress in the curriculum. There is a strong sense that children are working purposefully in classes and making lots of progress which is very pleasing. Next week is parent's evening where you will be able to discuss in more detail your child as we approach the half-way point of the year. Please book an appointment – staff are very keen to share with you the successes of your child and to think together about the next steps they will need to make. If you are unable to see the teacher during these times, then please contact the teacher or office for an alternative appointment. I have asked staff to contact anyone who does not make an appointment to arrange another time.

Ms Luzmore

Reading at home

During Pupil Progress Meetings over the past couple of weeks, it became clear that a small number of children are not regularly reading at home. I have asked teachers to speak to parents/carers about this as it is such a vital part of children making good progress in their reading. Many strands of research support the view that involvement with reading at home has significant influence not only on achievement in reading, but in developing interest in reading and positive attitudes towards reading and attention in the classroom. After all, parents and carers have the greatest impact on a child's learning from their earliest days. Becoming a fluent reader is the aim for every child at the school and we would urge families to dedicate time to this daily. Please do talk with staff if you want advice about reading at home. The National Literacy Trust has a really informative website for families <http://www.wordsforlife.org.uk/> which you may want to access for ideas and tips.

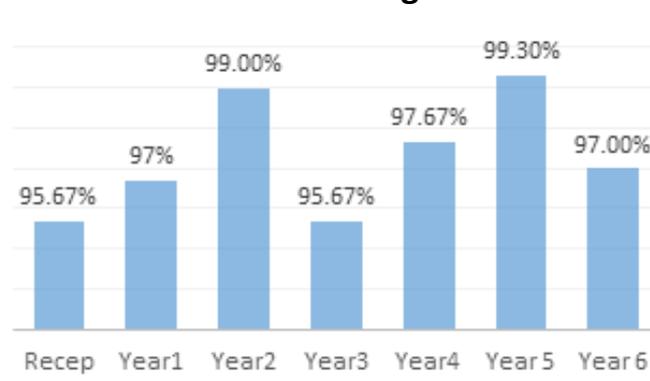
Ms Luzmore



CAMHS parenting workshops.

Another reminder from last week's newsletter about CAMHS workshops. A rare and free opportunity to engage in some practical advice about supporting your child with attention at home! We would love to see as many people as possible who are interested as it will help us judge whether general interest in offering sessions like this again. Workshops will run on Wednesdays on the following dates at 2.30pm and finish in time to collect children at the end of the school day. 8 Feb / 1 March/ 13 March / 29 March. Please contact Mrs Baker Spencer or Donna for further details - Look out for flyer next week.

Last week's attendance figures



Remember – everyday counts!

Data check at Parents Evening

During parents' evening, you will be asked to check an information sheet about your child. This exercise, which the secondary school have also been doing last week, is to ensure we have accurate data. If you are not comfortable with providing some data, please do cross it out or leave it blank. If you can't make an appointment, the information will go home in an envelope at the end of next week.

Dates for Diary

No clubs on Tuesday and Wednesday next week due to parent's evening.

Y5 London Zoo - Tuesday 31 January

Y5 assembly - Friday 3 Feb 2.45pm

Y4 Natural History Museum - Friday 3 February

Assembly themes In this week's assemblies, the **Mandarin department** from secondary delivered a fascinating assembly all about Chinese New Year, which included lots of information about different customs, a quiz and some impressive dancing from students in the secondary school. The children demonstrated their impressive Mandarin skills. Each class then had a workshop where they made different roosters to celebrate the year of the rooster. Our thanks goes to the Mandarin team for a wonderful experience. **Rev April** spoke to the children about the essential need, meaning and value of water in life and Christian baptism.



Secondary pupils in traditional dress performing a dance for the school.



A small sample of the different roosters which were made across the school!



Behaviour systems As mentioned last week, staff at the school have been working on a new behaviour system in classes. Our emphasis is on modelling and reinforcing high expectations of behaviour in a warm and supportive environment. The school uses the six values of the academy and links these to six 'golden rules' which the children will begin learning about next week in assembly. Each classroom has a 'traffic light' system in the room which has children's names on. Staff in the classroom use this to indicate to the children about their behaviour. Everyone begins each morning and afternoon on green. If children are not following behaviour expectations, then they would receive a warning and their name will be moved to yellow as an indication that they need to change/stop the behaviour. Once they respond to this appropriately they move back to green. In rare instances when they don't respond as requested, they may have their name moved to red – leading to a consequence for the child. Consequences can include missing part of break, having a timeout from class and filling in a reflection sheet or loss of golden time. Once the consequence has happened, they move back to green as we want to move on from mistakes. For more serious behaviour, children will go straight to red and may need to see a senior member of staff. We encourage all children when talking about an incident to speak honestly and calmly, thinking about what happened and what could have been done differently and developing empathy for others involved. We are very proud of how mature children are in their reflections. Staff remind pupils that we care and value them and that we forgive and move on after an incident. We also want to recognise those children who go above and beyond in terms of behaviour so there is also a gold section to aim for. Children who receive a certain number of gold stars in a half term will get a certificate to recognise their efforts! We are keen to work closely with parents/ and staff are proactive in contacting home quickly when issues arise. Although these conversations can feel uncomfortable for some, it is essential that we support each other for the best outcomes for the child. If you have further questions, please talk with the class teacher or Ms Luzmore.