



Edgewood Primary School

Building skills and values for life

Friday, 14 September 2018

Dear Parents/Carers,



Every School Day Counts

Attend today, achieve for a lifetime!

Congratulations to Yellow class for gaining 99.35% attendance this week.

Vocabulary Ninja

This year, children will be given individual words by their class teacher, please see your child's individual sheets and speak to them about their words each week.



Holidays During Term Time 2018/2019



This year our target is to finish the year above 97% attendance as we narrowly missed this target last year at 96.8%.

The area that saw a rise in absence was holidays during term time. This is now almost a third of children's absence from school. It was particularly concerning in three areas:

1. Children having multiple holidays in term time within a year.
2. Children having holidays during or in the lead up to statutory assessment windows.
3. Children having holidays but the school being given other reasons for absence.

As such the school and governing body have changed our attendance policy to improve these issues. From now on we will:

- 1. Issue penalty notices (fines) if a child has more than one period of holiday within a school year.**
- 2. Issue penalty notices if children are absent in key times of the school year with regards to statutory assessments. (Typically 6 weeks before an assessment or within the assessment window.)**
- 3. Act if we believe we have been given an inaccurate reason for absence we will ask for evidence to support that absence and, if that can't be provided, we reserve the right to code the absence as what we think is the accurate code and then take action as appropriate, including issuing penalty notices. We will also then ask for evidence for all further absence or we will code it as unauthorised absence.**

I apologise that these changes will cause inconvenience to some of you but, as a school, we have to work within a rather clunky legal framework and ensure that we apply our policy evenly to all. If you have any queries at all please come and see me or speak to your child's class teacher.

We are also improving our attendance awards and children will have a chance each half term for a reward if they get 100% attendance, instead of the rewards being based on an entire year. The new House Captains approached me at the end of last year with this idea and we hope this will ensure more children can get a reward for excellent attendance and also that children will be less upset if they miss out for reasons beyond their control. We will continue to add medical absences back in for this reward.

Parent Group

There will be a Parent Group IT course starting on Wednesday 19th September. It will be held at Edgewood Primary School and will start at 1.30pm and finish at 3.30pm each week. There will be a free creche available should you need it. If you require any more details, please contact Mrs Homes.



Office Champions



We have a group of year 6 pupils that have applied, and been selected to help out in the office during the peak of lunch time. The idea is to give the children a little more responsibility within school to hopefully give them a little experience for the wider world.

They will be in the office from 1.00pm and finish at 1.20pm. So if you visit or call the office at this time you may well be greeted by one of these pupils. The pupils have been made aware and understand the confidentiality and responsibility that comes with being in the office.

School Photographer

Please remember that individual and sibling photos will be taken on Monday 17th September. The photographer will be in school from 8.30am should you wish to bring younger siblings that do not attend school.



The Boys Brigade



The 18th Nottingham Boys Brigade and Girls Association have vacancies for boys and girls aged 6 to 12 years old.

They meet on Thursday evenings at the Central Methodist Church on Hucknall Market Place in Hucknall from 6.15pm – 7.15pm for children aged 6 to 8 years and 6.45pm – 8.15pm for children aged 8 to 12 years.

Should you require any further information we have flyers available in the school office.

Dogs on School Premises



Can I please remind all parents that dogs are not permitted on to school premises. Should you bring your dog to school when dropping your child off or picking them up, dogs must be secured on the public side of the school, not within school grounds.

Mr Seeley
Head Teacher