



EMSCOTE INFANT SCHOOL

www.emscoteinfants.co.uk

Spring Term 2016

Newsletter No. 6 – 5th February 2016

Dear Parents,

Young Voices

The federation choir had a wonderful experience taking part in the massive Young Voices concert at the Genting Arena in Birmingham last month. They participated in one of the largest school choir concerts in the world, enjoying the arena experience singing with a full live band, backing singers and an internationally-acclaimed director. A big thank you to Mr Underhill who donated a banner for the choir.

January Mathletics Madness

I am delighted to say 159 Mathletics certificates awarded in January to those earning 1000 points will be entered into the prize draw to take place next week. The lucky winners will be announced in assembly next Friday. Well done to everyone who took part and to the Friends for donating the prizes.

Sharing Assemblies

The sharing assemblies this term will be on the following Friday mornings at 9.15am:

12th February	Oak
26th February	Willow
4th March	Cherry
11th March	Chestnut
17th March	Easter Church Service

Warwick Nursery Open Day

Please note Warwick Nursery is holding an Open Morning on **Saturday 6th February** between 10.00 - 11.30am.

Impact in Learning

Impact in Learning sessions this term will take place as follows:

Monday 8th February for Sycamore class, 9.00 – 10.00am

Monday 8th February for Holly class, 2.00 – 3.00pm

Wednesday 10th February for Maple class, 9.00 – 10.00am

Wednesday 10th February for Oak class, 2.00 – 3.00pm

Thursday 11th February for Apple class, 9.00 – 10.00am

These sessions, which help parents support their children's learning at home, have been very successful and we have seen improvements in school as a direct result. **It is vital that all children have an adult with them on the relevant day.**

Safer Internet Day

Tuesday 9th February is Safer Internet Day 2016, a global celebration co-ordinated in the this country by the UK Safer Internet Centre. The day offers opportunity to highlight positive uses of technology and the role we all play in helping to create a better and safer online community. We will be holding a special assembly to talk about making the internet a nicer place to be, and the theme will be continued with various activities in the classroom throughout the day.

Family Concert

There will be a family concert on **Sunday 14th February** at 11.30am at the Royal Spa Centre Leamington Spa. The show, *Sir Scallywag and the Battle of Stinky Bottom*, is based on the best-selling book by Giles Andrea, illustrated by Korcky Paul, and put to music by Paul Rissman. It is for 3 to 7 year olds (but not exclusively). Tickets are priced £4.50 for children and £9.00 for adults. You can book tickets at Leamington Town Hall Box Office via www.royalspacentreandtownhall.co.uk or call (01926) 334418.

Friends Meeting

The next meeting of the Friends of Emscote Infant School is **Tuesday 29th February** at 7.30pm

World Book Day

The annual celebration of books and reading takes place this year on **Thursday 3rd March**. We will be inviting the children to bring their favourite book to school to share with their schoolmates. And the teachers will share some of their favourite stories with the children. They will be given a £1 World Book Day book token which they can take to their local bookshop to swap for one of the special World Book Day books. Or the book token can be used to get £1 off any full price book instead.

Eyes Down

The annual Easter Bingo for the whole family takes place on **Friday 11th March at 5.00pm**. The children can come to school **in their own clothes on that day** in return for bringing an Easter egg donation.

Egg-citing Opportunity

There will be another opportunity to win Easter Eggs on **Wednesday 16th March**. The Friends will be holding an Easter Egg Tombola in the playground at the end of the day.

Easter Church Service

You are all welcome to join us for our Easter Church Service at 9.15am on Thursday 17th March.

Reminder for Parents – Leave Of Absence during Term Time

As you will all be aware current attendance regulations stipulate a headteacher may not grant a leave of absence during term-time unless there are exceptional circumstances. *Each application for a leave of absence will be considered on a case by case basis and on its own merits.* It is for the headteacher to decide what he/she views as 'exceptional' and it is at their discretion if the circumstances warrant the leave to be granted. If the leave is granted the headteacher is able to determine the number of school days a child can be absent for. The school can only consider Leave of Absence requests which are made by the 'resident' parent. Where applications for leave of absence are made in advance and refused the child will be required to be in school on the dates set out in the application. If the child is absent during that period, it will be recorded as an unauthorised absence, which may result in legal action being taken against the parent(s), by way of a Fixed Penalty Notice. Failure to make an application for leave in advance can also result in a Fixed Penalty Notice being issued to the parent(s). Where a Fixed Penalty Notice is issued and not paid within the required timeframe as set out on the notice, the matter will be referred to Warwickshire County Council's Legal Services to consider instigating criminal proceedings under S444 Education Act 1996. Parents are asked to respect the new regulations under which the school must work and if there is a need to take a child out of school during term-time, an application or request must be made in advance and make clear how the circumstances are exceptional.

Some facts:

There are 190 school days each year and 175 other days for shopping trips, birthday treats, non urgent appointments and holidays.

One day a week absence is the equivalent over a school career of 2.5 whole years of education missed.

Ten days holiday leave a year is the equivalent of two whole terms of education missed.

15 minutes of lateness a day equals one whole year of education missed.

In Case of Bad Weather

You can sign up to receive text alerts if the school has to close due to bad weather, or other emergency situations, at www.warwickshire.gov.uk/schoolclosures. Announcements will also be made on local radio stations. Please make sure we have your current mobile telephone numbers as we will additionally use the school text system to communicate with you if we have to close suddenly.

Reading At Home

I assessed again in January the number of children having their reading listened to at home on a regular basis. I can see that 71% of the children are reading regularly, that is three times a week. Do remember that reading is a skill that needs to be practiced regularly. Even though schools teach children how to read, parents still have an important role to play. Research shows that parents who get involved in their child's education make a big difference to how well their children do. You can help your child with reading by showing how important it is and by finding ways to help them enjoy reading. Studies also show that children who enjoy reading do much better at school. Spend 10 minutes a day reading together. Make it fun – choose books you both enjoy. Talk about the pictures and characters and make up your own stories. And you don't have to limit yourself to books, try reading comics, look at newspapers together and point out more unusual words. Thank you for your continued support.

100 Club Winners

The winners of the Friends of Emscote Infant School 100 Club January draw were Mr Leese and Mrs Harvey.

Attendance January 2016

Class	Attendance	Lates
Willow	94.3%	12
Cherry	92.1%	19
Chestnut	89.7%	20
Apple	96.8%	25
Holly	94.7%	9
Maple	96.6%	14
Oak	97.9%	13
Sycamore	97.8%	24

Sycamore and Oak are to be congratulated on achieving the highest percentage attendance last month. While Holly is to be commended for achieving the lost number of lates in January, I am dismayed to see so many lates. **As you have seen above 15 minutes of lateness a day equals one whole year of education missed. The bell rings at 08.55am and we start learning as soon as the children walk in the door so I implore you to make sure your child arrives on time.**

Yours sincerely,



Jon Queralt
Associate Headteacher

Diary

February

8 th	Impact, Sycamore, 9.00am
8 th	Impact, Holly, 2.00pm
9 th	Safer Internet Day
10 th	Impact, Maple, 9.00am
10 th	Impact, Oak, 2.00pm
11 th	Impact, Apple, 9.00am
12 th	Oak sharing assembly 9.15am
16 th – 20 th	HALF TERM
26 th	Willow sharing assembly 9.15am

March

3 rd	World Book Day
3 rd	Holly and Apple cake sale
4 th	Cherry sharing assembly 9.15am
7 th	Last week of clubs
9 th	Mother's Day Afternoon Tea 2.15pm
10 th	Mother's Day Afternoon Tea 2.15pm
11 th	Non-uniform day
11 th	Chestnut sharing assembly 9.15am
11 th	Friends of Emscote Infant School Easter Bingo 5.00pm
16 th	Easter Egg Tombola
17 th	Easter church service 9.15am
18 th	Last day of term

April

4 th	BACK TO SCHOOL
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