

# BROOKSIDE PRIMARY SCHOOL

ATTENDANCE NEWSLETTER: JANUARY 2018

## Make everyday count!

We would like to wish you all a belated Happy New Year and welcome you back to another new term at Brookside. We would like to start this year by once again focusing on the positives of good school attendance.

### Why is it important that your child attends school every day?

#### Pupils whose attendance is good

Understand lessons better  
Achieve better results  
Sustain friendships  
Have good self-esteem, are positive and confident  
Get better jobs in the future

#### Pupils whose attendance is unsatisfactory

Don't understand lessons so well  
Get behind with their work  
Find it difficult to maintain friendship groups  
Have lower self-esteem and confidence  
Achieve less in the future

### WHAT YOU CAN DO TO HELP

- Families should not take holidays that require your children to miss school. Try to line up holidays with the school's timetable. The same goes for doctor's appointments.
- Set a regular bed time and morning routine.
- **Make sure that when the lights go out, so do the cell phones, video games and computers.**
- Lay out clothes and pack backpacks the night before.
- Don't let your child stay at home unless they are truly sick. Keep in mind complaints of a stomach ache or headache can be a sign of anxiety and not a reason to stay home.
- If your child seems anxious about going to school, talk to teachers, learning mentors or other parents for advice on how to make them feel comfortable and excited about learning.
- Develop back-up plans for getting to school if something comes up. Call on a family member, a neighbour, another parent or phone the school.
- Above all, set an example for your child. Show him or her that attendance matters to you and that you won't allow an absence unless someone is truly sick.

**You can turn to school for help. Our school offers services for the whole family.**

## Year Group Attendance Figures

(Since Sept 17)

Reception— 94.9%  
Year 1— 95.2%  
Year 2— 96.7%  
Year 3— 96.2%  
Year 4— 97.4%  
Year 5— 97.4%  
Year 6— 95.5%

## Congratulations

Yr 4&5  
what a  
fantastic effort



You are never too old  
to set another goal or  
to dream a new  
dream.

— C.S. Lewis

We would again like to take this opportunity to remind all of our parents that time off during the school term is only allowed in **exceptional circumstances** and all parents/guardians must complete a request form before taking any time off school. Failure to do this may result in a Fixed Penalty Notice being issued.