



HB newsletter: Spring 1 Wk 5



Harper Bell
Seventh-day Adventist
Primary School

A New Chapter for Our School Community

From my first days here, it has been clear that Harper Bell is a special place where faith, character and learning sit hand in hand. My role is to build on these strengths and ensure every child receives the highest quality education in an environment where they feel safe, known and inspired to thrive. Our vision moving forward

Our focus is simple and ambitious:
excellent teaching, strong character and high outcomes for every child.

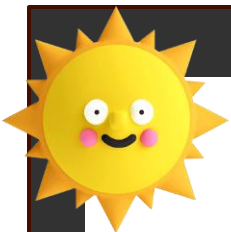
Thank you for your support, Mrs S. Sidhu

Everything we are introducing is designed to secure three things:

- consistently strong classroom practice
- calm, purposeful learning environments
- improved academic outcomes rooted in Christian values

We want Harper Bell to be a school where expectations are high, relationships are warm and every child is supported to fulfil their God given potential.

What we have introduced so far since the start of term, we have begun a number of important improvements to strengthen teaching, learning and culture across the school.



British Values at Harper Bell

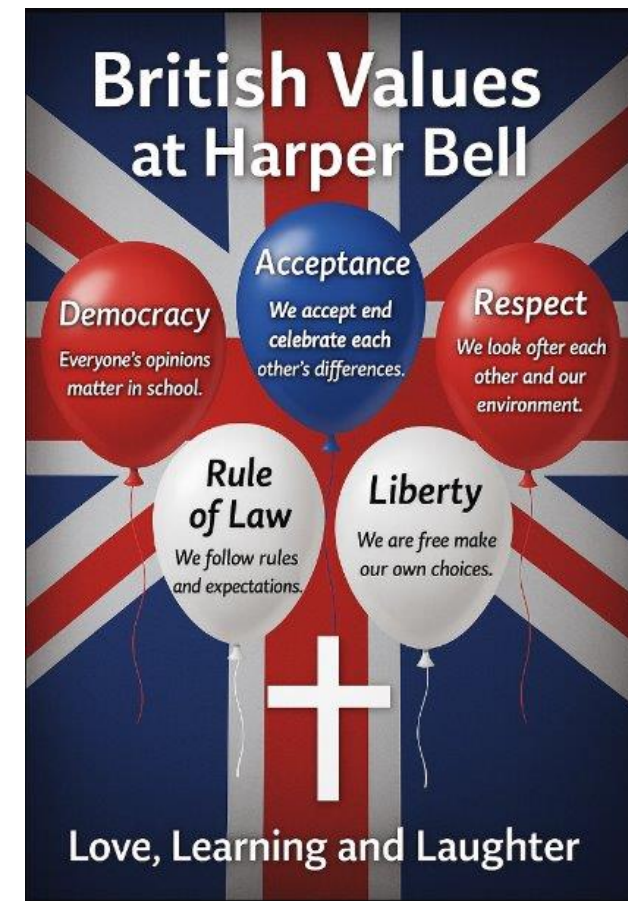


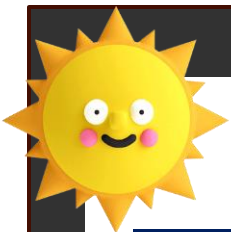
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At **Harper Bell Seventh-day Adventist School**, British values are part of everyday school life and closely linked to our Christian ethos and commitment to developing the whole child.

Through pupil voice and leadership opportunities, children learn about democracy and how their opinions matter. Clear routines and consistent expectations help them understand the rule of law and personal responsibility. We encourage individual liberty by supporting pupils to become confident, independent learners who make safe and positive choices. Mutual respect and tolerance are central to our culture, with pupils learning to value different backgrounds, faiths and beliefs.

Together, these values help us nurture thoughtful, respectful young people who are well prepared for life in modern United Kingdom and ready to make a positive contribution to their communities.





The Mountain of Excellence

Our Mountain of Excellence is more than an award system. It is a celebration of who our children are becoming. These values are taught, modelled and celebrated every day in our classrooms and around the school.

Each week, teachers nominate children who have shown these qualities in a special way. They receive either a Character Virtue or Learner Skill certificate to recognise their effort, growth mindset and positive attitude to learning.

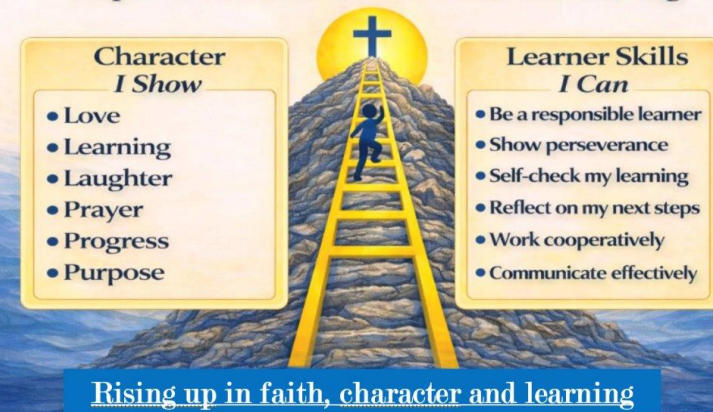
One of the most special parts of this celebration is our Friday Praise Assembly, where parents and carers of award winners are invited to join us. Sharing these moments together allows us to celebrate success as a school family and helps children feel proud of what they have achieved. We warmly encourage all families to be part of these occasions and of school life more widely. When school and home work together, our children flourish.

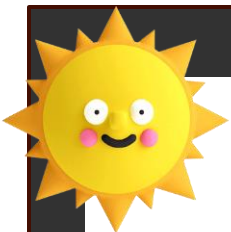


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I lift my eyes to the mountains; my help comes from the Lord. Psa 121:1
Harper Bell's Mountain of Character and Learning





The Harper Bell Way



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Our daily routines are built around two simple principles that help every child feel safe, supported and ready to learn:

HBWAY (Harper Bell Way) sets out our shared expectations for behaviour, attitudes and respect. It teaches children how we treat one another with kindness, responsibility and integrity, creating calm classrooms and positive relationships where everyone can thrive.

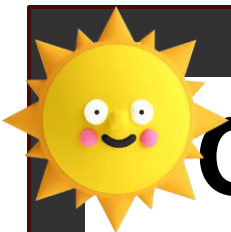
Our STARS recognises and celebrates pupils who consistently demonstrate our values and make excellent choices. Whether it is showing focus in lessons, supporting a friend or modelling great behaviour, children are acknowledged and rewarded for doing the right thing.

STARS

- ★ Sit Up Straight 
- ★ Track the Speaker 
- ★ Active Listening 
- ★ Respect & Respond 
- ★ Speak LOUDLY & PROUDLY 

HBWAY

- H**elp others feel valued- use kind words, kind hands and kind feet. 
- B**e patient – wait for your turn and don't shout out. 
- W**ear the correct uniform, everyday. Your PE kit counts too! 
- A**ttention to our environment – our school is tidy and looked after. 
- Y**ou should only be asked to do something **ONCE**. 



Curriculum in action: Reception



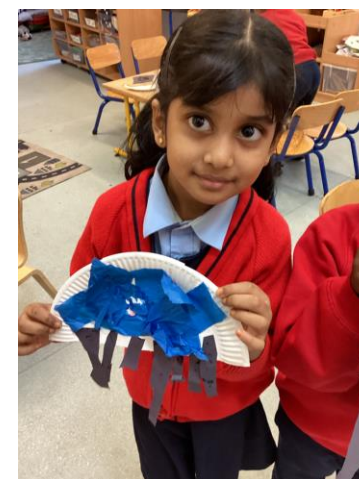
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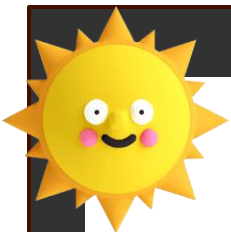
Reception have been learning about sea creatures, as part of 'Our World' topic this term. They have enjoyed learning about various sea creatures and about the dangers of plastic pollution. We have sorted pictures into actions that help sustain our world and actions that do not.

In Literacy, we are continuing to write about animals in the Arctic region of our planet and have enjoyed rehearsing our focus story 'Polar Bear Polar Bear'. We have used visual vocabulary and story maps to learn our story and have made great progress with our language development.

In Number, we are continuing to practice our doubling skills and number formation.

Mrs. Nehar

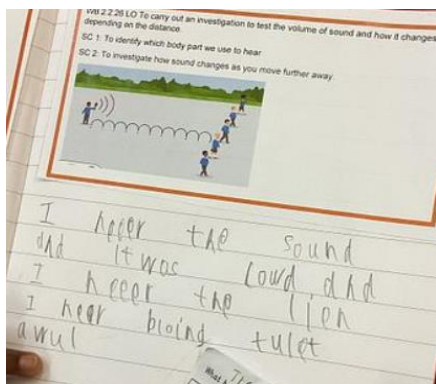




Curriculum in action: Year 1



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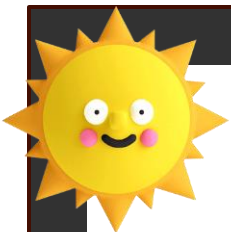
In year 1, children have been describing a real-life farm setting linked to our focus story 'It's my Birthday'. We have been working on using adjectives, conjunctions and have explored using question marks and exclamation marks too.

We have been very busy with learning bonds to 20 and worked on doubling. We also practiced using doubles to support addition and subtraction sums and have also learnt about near doubles, which can support us to solve mathematical problems.

We have created a mechanism in DT, by using wheels and an axle. We used a wooden dowel, straw, tape and blue tack. We have improved our work and will complete this project next week.

In Science, we have continued to use our senses to investigate, taste, smell and this week, sound. We completed our experiment, where we made links between distance and how it affects how clear we can hear.

Mrs. Nehar



Curriculum in action: Year 2



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Mathematics:

This week in Year 2 we have focused on using arrays to help with solving multiplication questions.

Writing:

This week we have been reading and writing all about some of the fantastic achievements of Rosa Parks and how she stood up for equal human rights.

Science:

In science this week we have tested how changing the shape of a material can impact how strong it is. The children made predictions and tested their ideas.

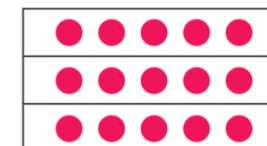
Drama:

This week in drama the children turned themselves into different materials and thought about how features of materials may impact their movements and personalities.

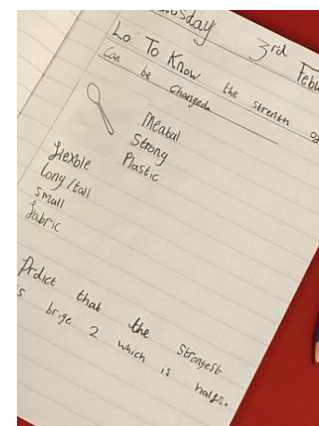
Geography:

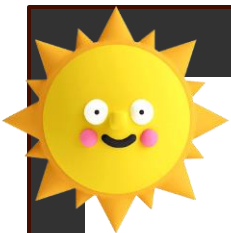
In geography this week we have explored some of the wonderful places of our planet earth, including: Mount Etna, The Pyramids, The Statue of Liberty and much more!

Miss Haigh



$$5 \times 3 = 15$$





Curriculum in action: Year 3



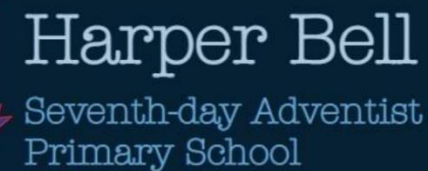
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Year 3

Over the last few weeks, Year 3 have been exploring storytelling through dance as they brought Matilda's love of books to life. Using books as props, the children created gestures, balances, and still images to form expressive movement phrases, having lots of fun and showing wonderful creativity and enthusiasm along the way. This week, they continued developing their routines based on Miss Trunchbull's entrance phrase – ask your child to show you what they have been practising, they would love to share it with you!

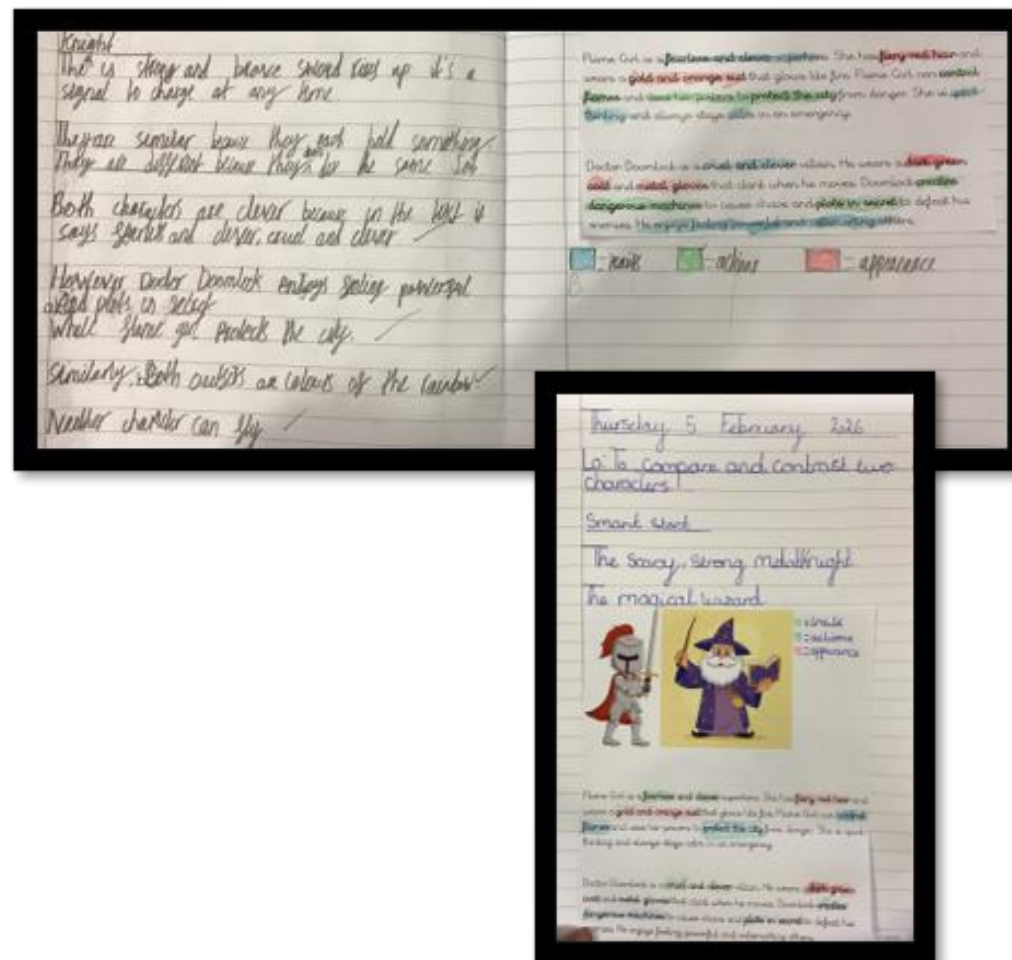
Miss Nisar

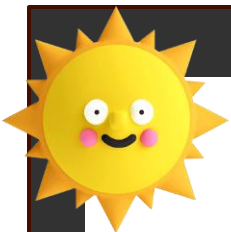




This term, Year 4 have been diligently developing their reading skills. This week, they focused on comparing and contrasting characters, identifying key traits, actions and descriptive details. They used this evidence to support their ideas about the similarities and differences between characters. This is a challenging skill to master but the pupils have worked exceptionally hard to annotate their texts effectively and produce thoughtful insights.

Mrs Cox





Curriculum in action: Year 5



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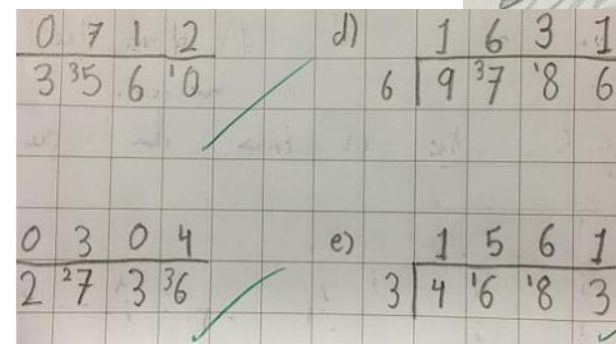
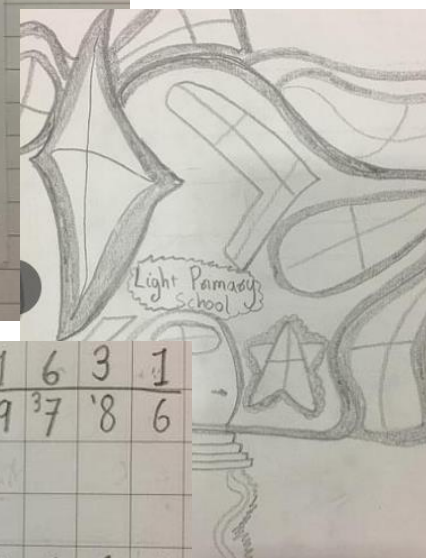
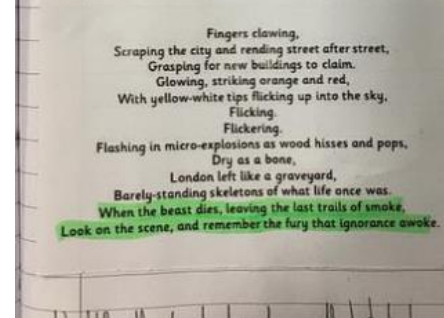
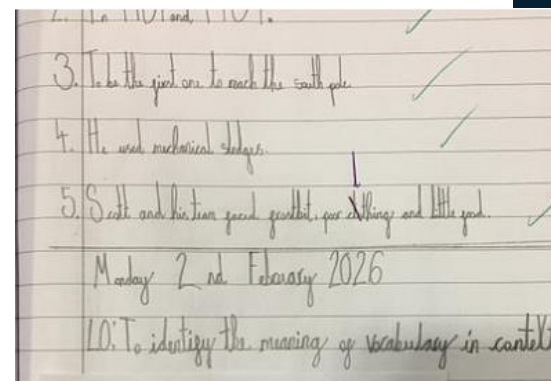
Year 5 have built their understanding of dividing up to 4-digits by 1-digit this week and of dividing with remainders.

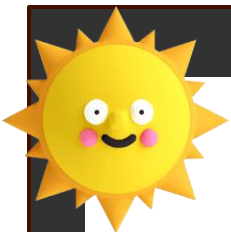
In reading, we have practised retrieving key information from a text and have identified the meaning of unfamiliar words.

In art, we have applied the techniques of artists and architects to designing our own buildings.

We look forward to more exciting learning to come!

Mr Dearing





Curriculum in action: Year 6



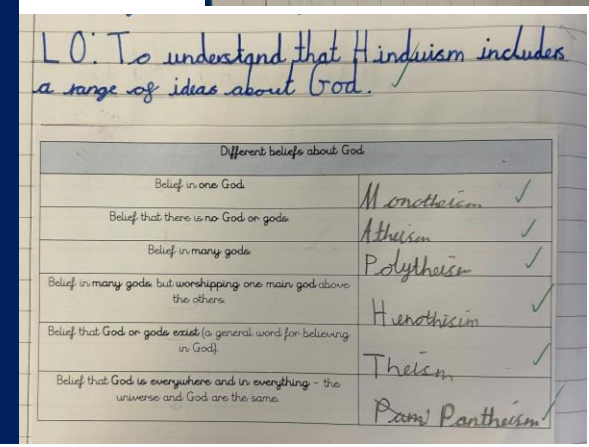
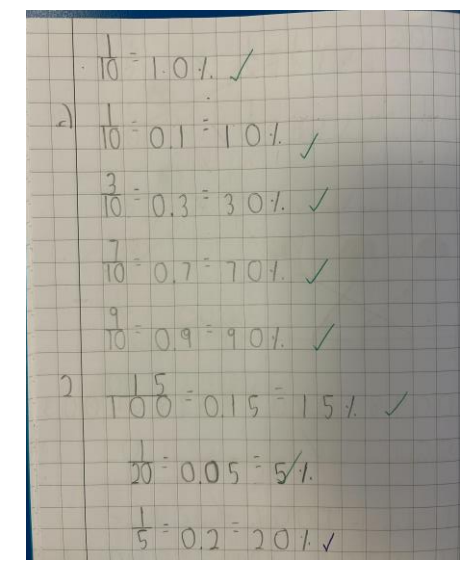
This week, Year 6 started planning their non-chronological reports. They were excited about researching different topics to write about. We're looking forward to seeing the wonderful writing they produce.

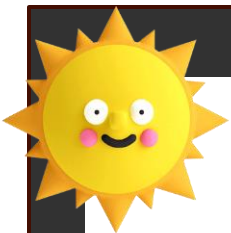
In reading, we have been exploring a range of texts and working on our inference skills.

In maths, the children have been learning about fractions decimals and percentages.

The children have thoroughly enjoyed learning about Hinduism and have excelled in class discussions at making connections with their own faith and the beliefs of others.

Mrs Yates





Weekly devotional thought



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"Let your light shine before others, that they may see your good deeds and glorify your Father in heaven." Matthew 5:16

Reflection

Every day in school we have small but powerful opportunities to be a light. A kind word to a friend, trying our best in learning, helping someone who is struggling, showing patience when things feel hard – these simple actions matter more than we realise.

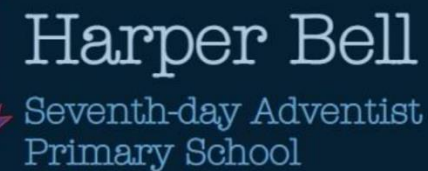
Jesus reminds us that shining our light is not about being the loudest or the most successful. It is about character. It is about choosing kindness, integrity and perseverance even when no one is watching.

In our classrooms, playgrounds and homes, we each carry something special that can make life brighter for others. When we act with love and purpose, we reflect God's heart to those around us.

This week, let us ask ourselves:

How can I be a light for someone today?





Practicing spelling our tricky words, doubling amounts and describe a sea creature.

Year 1: To compete a weather report and complete doubling tasks.

Year 2

1. change
change
2. age
age
3. village
vil - lage
4. cage
cage
5. rage
rage
6. huge
huge
7. range
range
8. change
change
9. bulge
bulge

Year 3

Paper copy of home learning.
TTRS online practice
Read assigned books
on Collins Hub

Year 4

Paper copy of home learning.

TTRS online garage practice.

Read assigned book
on Collins Hub

Year 5

Look and say	Look, say and write	Cover and write	Check and write again
determined			
develop			
dictionary			
disastrous			
embarrass			
environment			

Year 6

Year 6 received paper copies of the 2024 SATs papers.
TTRS
Mathsbot: arithmetic





Dates for your diary



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Mon 9/2/2026

Mental Health week
Phonic assessments

Tues 10/02/2026

Y5 Parent reading workshop 9am
Y4 Parent Reading Workshop: 3:00- 3:20pm

Wed 11/02/2026

Rec & Yr6 Heights/Weights
Whole School Parents Evening 3:45 – 5:45pm

Thu 12/02/2026

Y3 Parent Reading Workshop: 3:00-3:20pm
Y6 Parent Reading workshop 9am

Thu 5/3/2026

World Book Day – dress up as your favourite book character

Wed 18/3/2026

Meet the author - Chante Timothy Y3 and4

Mon 23/3/2026

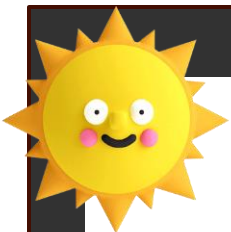
Phonic assessments

Whole school reading Café workshops coming soon for parents and children – more details to be provided soon



How to nurture a child's mental health





Attendance Page



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LOVE, LEARNING AND LAUGHTER ATTEND!

Good attendance
means...

...being in school for at least
97% of the time – between
185 to 190 days!

REMEMBER
**You've got to be
in, to win!**

365 days in a calendar year						
	0 days absent	5 days absent	10 days absent	15 days absent	20 days absent	25 days absent
	In school for 180 days each year,	In school for 185 days each year.	In school for 175 days each year.	In school for 170 days each year,	In school for 170 days each year	In school for 165 days each year,
	100% Attendance!	97% Attendance!	94% Attendance!	89% Attendance!	88% Attendance!	86% Attendance!

Good attendance
= best chance of success!
"Well done!"

Poor attendance
= less chance of success!
"I'm worried!"

Persistently poor
attendance =
damages education
"I'm seriously concerned!"



School attendance this week:
School attendance last week: