



# Newsletter No 15

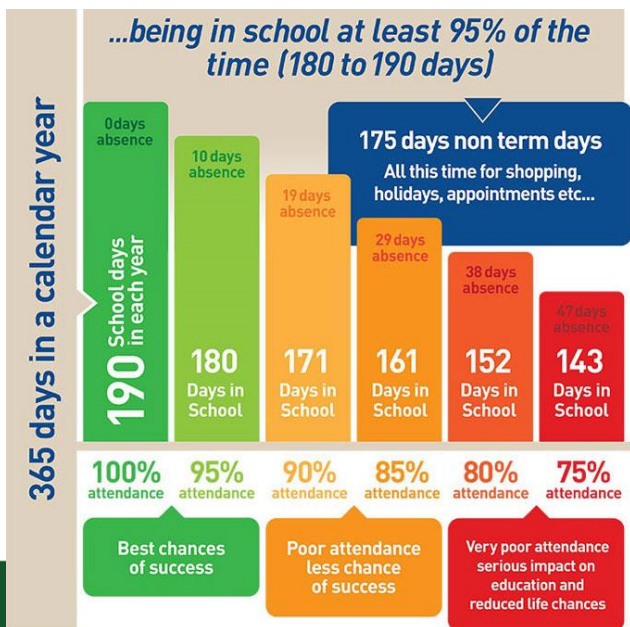
12<sup>th</sup> January 2024

## Welcome back and Happy New Year

I'd like to begin this week's newsletter by wishing you all a very Happy New Year and I hope that you had a wonderful Christmas break. As it is the season for new resolutions to make positive improvements, as a school, we are going to continue to refine the curriculum we offer our children so it is the very best it can be. We will also continue to embed the assessment processes we have in place to ensure all pupils make good or outstanding progress. So that parents can see what their children will be learning this term, teachers will have sent home curriculum webs this week. You can use these to engage your children at home and ask questions about their school learning.

## Attendance

As we begin our new year, it is an ideal time to reiterate the importance of good attendance in school. The DfE (Department of Education) have begun a campaign to improve attendance and tackle the problems with persistent and/or poor absences. You may have already heard this in the news recently where the infographic, of the impact poor attendance has, was discussed. (please see the graph below)



Poor attendance has a negative impact on children. It can affect their mental health and results in lost learning. In addition, interventions can't be taught and children usually fall behind their peers and sometimes having a detrimental impact on their self-esteem. Persistent absence can severely disadvantage children, both in primary school and in the next phases of their education. Persistent absences and lateness can lead to fines being issued to parents and the involvement from the Education Welfare Officer or Social Care if improvements are not made.

We understand that some absences can't be helped and we will always work alongside parents to support them if the attendance becomes a concern. We will follow our robust Attendance Policy and the staged approach procedures.

The image below highlights when a child can come into school – you will notice that there are only three instances where children should be kept at home.



A more detailed poster is also attached to this newsletter.

### Safeguarding Update – Pastoral Care

In our school, we talk to the children about ‘Trusted Adults’. These are people that the children know they can talk to about any worries at all. Every child identifies adults who they prefer to talk to, on their ‘Safeguarding Hand’. They may be the class teacher, TA, Leader, or another adult in the school. We are also lucky to have a highly effective pastoral team who many children work with throughout the year.

Mrs Johnson leads the pastoral team and works very closely with Mr Morris and the rest of the team.

The pastoral team is made up of Inclusion Manager (Mrs Udale) our Family Support Worker (Mrs Pelling), who both work primarily to support the parents. We also have an ELSA (Emotional Literacy Support Assistant) (Mrs Clark) who supports children on a 1:1 basis or in small groups too. Finally, we have two children’s counsellors who work at Zouch each week – Charlie and Jane who meet with some children for 1:1 sessions.

**If ever you feel your child has a worry, whether it is related to school or other circumstances, we can support the children and facilitate the correct intervention.**

Please remember, for any **Safeguarding** concerns, our Designated Lead is **Mrs Johnson** and our Deputy Leads are **Mr Morris** and **Mrs Udale**.

### Kind Minds Curriculum

This week, the children have been using the ‘Focus Flower’ during mindfulness time. This is where you breathe in through your nose and gently smell the flower and breathe out through your mouth as if you are blowing the petals away.



Focus Flower

Here are the days for Term 3’s PE and Forest School. Please ensure your child/ren have the correct kit in school. This is the parent’s responsibility please.

### Arbor

Reminder, please can all parents activate your Arbor accounts, specifically the Parent Portal. This will ensure you received In-App Messages, as we no longer send texts. Please see attached instructions on how to do this for your information.

### PE and Forest School Days Next Term

Class	PE	Forest School
Puffin class	Thursday	Wednesday
Nursery		Wednesday
YR (Robins and Wrens)	Monday	Monday
Y1 (Skylarks and Nightingales)	Thursday	Thursday
Y2 (Woodpeckers and Kingfishers)	Thursday	
Y3 (Eagles and Merlins)	Wednesday	Friday
Y4 (Ospreys and Kestrels)	Thursday, Friday	Wednesday
Y5 (Peregrines and Sparrowhawks)	Monday, Wednesday	Tuesday
Y6 (Tawny and Snowy Owls)	Tuesday, Friday	

### Future dates for your diary:

**Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> January – Year 6 ONLY Parents Evening. Info to follow.**

**Monday 29<sup>th</sup> January – Trip to Young Voices O2 London**

**Thursday 1<sup>st</sup> February – Year 6 ONLY Parents Evening. Info to Follow.**

**Friday 9<sup>th</sup> February – Last Day of Term, finish at 13.10pm**