



Dear Parents/Carers,

It has been a really busy few weeks since our return after the half term break and it has been fantastic to see the brilliant attitudes to learning and behaviour across school. The children have learned so much; from our reception children starting their home reading journey this week to our older children writing amazing essays in Geography to highlight how we as humans are having a negative impact on the Polar regions.

In Addition to this, we followed our visit by Altru Drama with their performance and workshop for Y6 with Anti Bullying week 2021. The children have shown such thoughtful and caring natures and sensible thought processes to show an understanding of being kind and the impact it can have when we act in a way that isn't. I'm really proud of the 'humans' they are and how they make a positive contribution with their emotional and moral intelligence.

This week we also have had Odd socks day and Children in Need day is tomorrow- thank you for your donations and support.

We have also completed work recently linked to COP 26, Remembrance Day and Inter Faith week – so all in all you can see it has been very busy!

I hope you all found the conversation you had with your child's class teacher to be beneficial and you had the opportunity to discuss the progress they are all making. Jaguar, Panda and Pangolin Classes were unable to have meetings on the arranged day and we will be working to ensure you have an opportunity to speak to your child's teacher as soon as possible.

Attendance continues to be a challenge across school and we do all need to work together to ensure the children are always in school if they are well enough. **There are some COVID 19 cases within our school community and it is vital that you work with us to reduce the potential spread of the virus. Please do use lateral flow tests with the children especially if they display symptoms linked to the virus. This really will help us to reduce the chance of spread and help protect other children and their family members.**

We do appreciate that illness does happen and if that is the case, please support us by contacting school if your child is absent due to illness before 8:30am on the first day of absence.

Please see the table below for each class attendance since our return. Can your child help their class improve attendance next week? Our target every year is that all classes have attendance over 96%.

Attendance League Table 1st November -18th November

Position	Class	Percentage attendance
1st	Owl	95.45%
2 nd	Hedgehog	94.93%
3 rd	Pangolin	94.91%
4 th	Wolf	93.39%
5 th	Jaguar	92.98%
6 th	Lion	92.95%
7 th	Shark	92.40%
8 th	Zebra	92.18%
9 th	Squirrel	91.75%
10 th	Panda	90.88%
11 th	Cheetah	89.32%
12 th	Penguin	88.74%
13th	Rabbit	80.29%

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We will be sending out attendance information to all parents at the end of next week to give you an up to date percentage for your child based on their possible attendance so far this year. We will be looking to instigate some meetings with families of children who have lower than expected attendance or strange patterns in attendance (eg lots of Monday absences or broken weeks – one day off a week) to see how we can support further.

IN GOOD NEWS, 179 PUPILS HAVE ATTENDANCE THAT IS 96% OR ABOVE AND 94 CHILDREN HAVE 100% ATTENDANCE- WELL DONE!

Special mentions for positively standing out in the last few weeks.....

CLASS	PUPIL	
Squirrel	Elsie T and Lilah W	<p>To follow what is going on in your child's class, please join twitter and follow the class page. It is a great way to see all the learning and fun that goes on in classes.</p> <p>Also follow @whistonwillis1 for updates and information.</p>
Rabbit	Tia M and Dolly-May R	
Owl	Teddy D and Isla C	
Hedgehog	Charlie B and Joshua M	
Jaguar	Penny M and Sophia D	
Pangolin	Harry S and Isaac W	
Panda	Brooklyn FM and Joel S	
Zebra	Liam K and Freddie H	
Lion	Cora C and Harrison J	
Shark	Bethany and Evie-Rae	
Penguin	Glory A and Maddie W	
Wolf	Joe M and Jesse Mc	
Cheetah	Oliver J and Freddie F	

Sports News:

It has been fantastic to have children represent our school at a number of competitions in recent weeks. Our Y1, Y2 and Y3 football teams have taken part in competitions and we have also had Y5/6 Futsal competition. It is always great to receive positive feedback from the staff who take the children and it is always even better when other schools and competition organisers comment on the sporting behaviour and positive attitudes of our children. A massive well done to them all.

Reading:

We also now have two WORD MILLIONAIRES in school. These are children who are fluent readers who have progressed onto 'free readers' who then complete and pass a quiz on the books they have read. With a pass, the word count from the book is recorded and a total for the year kept.

Congratulations to Ade O (Cheetah Class) and Oscar D (Penguin Class)!

Foodbank Appeal:

Last year our school community donated a huge amount of tinned and dried food to our local foodbank just prior to Christmas and it would be fantastic if we could do this again. **We will have a donation period between 29th November and 10th December** for anybody who wishes to donate. Thanks in advance!

Enjoy your family weekend

Ian Cooper

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