



Hatfield Peverel St Andrew's Junior School

NEWSLETTER

15th November 2019



News about: Our Shine Celebration

The children who have 'Shone their light' this week are:

- Base 1 - Billy
- Base 2 - Ruby
- Base 3 - Ralphie
- Base 4 - Rhianna
- Base 5 - Natalie
- Base 6 - Aston
- Base 7 - Olivia
- Base 8 - Harry



They will be bringing home the class 'Herdy' and we will be inviting their parents in to share our Shine Celebration on Friday 22nd November at 2:40.
We are all trying to shine at St Andrew's!

News about: What has happened today!



← Lots of kind cake donations

↓ The cake eating.



↑ The cake sale, organised by the school council.



We raised more than £300!!

↑ The Big move



Well Done!



Evan and Thomas' Bear Sale raised an amazing £62 last Friday!

Well done to the boys who worked hard and who had such a great idea. £31 will go to Cancer Research and £31 to Diabetes UK.

News from: The Head's Office

A very busy week in the lives of St Andrew's children.

With enjoyable school trips to Greenwich and Duxford for years 5 and 6 it has been lovely to receive feedback from members of the public and the coach drivers. They were really complimentary about our children—that makes me very proud.

The School Council have worked hard at the cake sale today. Thank you so much for the kind donations of cakes- we had so many left we were able to sell them after school too! Please come and collect your cake boxes from the office on Monday morning!

A date for your diary is our Christingle service (Thursday 28th November) which is being organised by Mrs Maginn (our RE lead)- if you are able to volunteer to help please complete the letter—which will be arriving home soon!

Welcome to our new Parent Governors, Mr Wallace and Mrs Chasmer. Both of our new Governors are parents of children in Year 3. Their first meeting is on Monday 25th November.

Have a lovely weekend

Becky Black

REMINDER—ATTENDANCE

School Attendance is vital—we have an expectation that children's attendance percentage stays above 95%.

We are obliged to remind all parents and carers about the policy and procedures we have in place that help you ensure your child can be here to receive all the education we offer.

We realise children do get ill; if they are poorly you need to tell us what is wrong, but if they are fit and well, then they must be at school.

Please review the information on page 3 of this Newsletter, giving you all the information you need to know.

News about: The Year 5 visit to the Greenwich Observatory.

The visit to the Greenwich Observatory to see the planetarium, was a very successful day.



The children also visited The National Maritime Museum and saw The Moon exhibition.

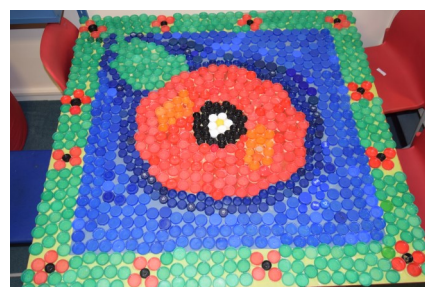


News about: ST ANDREW'S REMEMBERS

Mrs Bourne organised a 'Remembrance/ Art' day on Monday 11th November.

Each year group produced a different piece of art-work related to poppies. The link to our school vision of 'Let your light shine' was also reflected in this work as many of the art ideas were linked to light. Next week there will be a large display in the foyer for you to come and see.

The bottle-tops which have been collected were used to produce this beautiful, recycled, remembrance memorial.



News about: Year 6 to Duxford
The Year 6 team were very proud of the excellent behaviours shown by all of the children. They enjoyed an information packed day developing their understanding of World War I with first hand experiences of the aircraft and weaponry.



Email: eurokids@btinternet.com
Mobile Phone No: 07714 328252

SPANISH CLUB

FELIZ NAVIDAD!

The Spanish Club takes place on Tuesdays afterschool at Hatfield Peverel School. In the club children learn Spanish using a mixture of traditional learning, games, puzzles and songs. All children, both beginners and those with some knowledge of Spanish are very welcome.

Lessons cost £7.00 for each 1-hour session. There is usually a one-off joining fee of £12.50 which includes a glossy workbook(s) and bag that pupils can work through at their own pace, but as Christmas is looming, and as there will be lots of Spanish activities in the next few weeks, why not let your child come along for the remaining 3 lessons to see if they like the club before deciding whether or not to enroll fully in the New Year? (You would also benefit from an extra hour's shopping....).

If you would like your child to attend, please contact Sharon, either by e-mail or phone, and provide me with your child's full name, year group and your email address and telephone number.



Please check regularly with a fine comb and conditioner.

For more information:

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/head-lice-and-nits/>



SCHOOL ATTENDANCE

Good attendance and punctuality are vital factors in determining how well pupils progress academically and whether they achieve their full potential in all areas of school life, both in lessons and in extra-curricular activities. It also impacts on their welfare and happiness at school.

Our expectation is that our children's attendance percentage will remain above 95% throughout the year. The Department of Education classifies children with an attendance below 90% as persistent absentees, which falls in line with the Government's commitment to reduce absences. **In real terms this means that, for example from September to October half term, if your child had an absence of 4 days or more, they fall into this category of being a persistent absentee** (as shown in the table below).

Term	Cumulative days absence = 10% absence
First Half Autumn Term	3.5 days
Full Autumn Term	7 days
Full Autumn Term to February Half Term	10 days
Full Autumn and Spring Terms	12.5 days
September to end of May	15.5 days
Full Academic Year	19 days

As a school we monitor the children's attendance weekly. We are advised by and consider attendance matters with our Consultants, ECS Attendance, and we must report any child in the category of persistent absentee to the Local Authority. It may be that you are invited to attend a meeting with the Headteacher and ECS where we can discuss what strategies we might put in place to best help the situation. If attendance does not subsequently improve, we may have to issue a Penalty Warning Letter and finally a Penalty Warning will be issued which could result in significant fines being placed upon both parents.

We would not want you to bring your child to us when they are genuinely ill. If they are too ill for school you need to telephone a message to our absence line—01245 380131 (Option 1). It is not sufficient to tell us that they are 'unwell' or that they 'will not be in school today' - we need to know what the illness is so that we can make an accurate note in your child's attendance record. **We would request that, wherever possible, doctors and dentist appointments are booked outside of school hours**, because although these absences are authorised, they do count within the 95% attendance threshold.

We would also remind you that **requests for holidays/leave of absence will not be authorised** unless there are 'exceptional circumstances'. The definition of 'exceptional circumstance' is *rare, significant, unavoidable and very short*. **A child who has two weeks out of school for a holiday will miss 50 hours of education**. The Local Authority fine for an absence taken that has not been authorised is up to £120 per parent per child (up to £480 for a family with 2 adults and 2 children).

If your child's attendance drops below 95% and/or where absence for sickness is prolonged, irregular, forms a pattern on certain days or forms a pattern with a sibling, then we will contact you to discuss the reasons for absence and what support we can offer. We may ask for medical evidence to be provided regarding absence. This is not a reflection upon your judgement as a parent or carer. We understand that being unwell and absent from school is sometimes unavoidable, but there is a point whereby we are expected to obtain evidence as part of the procedures surrounding the school's statutory duties of care for the welfare and progress of pupils.

Punctuality is also vital if your child is to make progress. The playground gate is open from 8.40am and school starts at 8.50am. A late arrival is disruptive to your child's progress because they are unable to settle calmly to begin their learning. Late arrivals also disrupt the learning of other pupils. The staff will have given the other children in class their instructions for the first lesson before a late child has even hung up their coat and bag in the cloakroom so lateness prevents a calm start to their work.

Decisions regarding attendance are not made arbitrarily, but in line with County and Government guidelines and statutory procedures.

We want to support you to support your child in their attendance at school as often and as punctually as possible. If you have any concerns about any aspect of attendance and punctuality, or if you wish to discuss any health issues that may impact on your child and his or her attendance at school, please come into the school office to make an appointment with Mrs Black.