



Stillington Primary School

Weekly Bulletin

8th September 2023



Infants



It has been a busy few days getting ready for the start of the year in the Infant class. It was lovely to see the children in for the start of the new school year on Wednesday and we have really enjoyed exploring our new space, staff included!



In nursery and reception this half term, we are going to be exploring our topic of "All About Me", looking at friendships, community and differences. This is a lovely topic to start the year with and will be filled with lots of lovely learning and play opportunities for the children.



In Year 1 and Year 2 we are looking at a variety of different subjects. In science we are looking at changing materials, in history we are looking at changes within living memory, in English we are looking at the squirrels who squabbled and in maths we are starting with a recap of number and place value.

I am really excited to get stuck in with school this half term and get to know the school, the children and the parents much better as we go along.



Juniors

Hello! We hope everyone had a fantastic summer break and are raring to go for the new school year!



We're super excited to have the children (and the warm weather) back! This half term, we'll be reading our new class text, 'Cosmic' and, in maths, we'll be focusing on place value. Our history topic this half term is The Cold War which we know our children will find super exciting! And in science we'll be researching and learning all about space!



Mr Carlisle and Mrs Hunter are looking forward to an exciting year with you and the children!





Mrs Sarah Moore

Message from the Headteacher

Welcome back everyone! I hope you had a good summer despite the variable weather.

We are so excited welcome our new teachers to Stillington and I now need to get used to seeing our staff in different places! School looks fabulous, due to the hard work and dedication of our team. A big 'thank-you' goes to them.

We have had a lovely start to the week and the children have settled into their classes well. We look forward to a brilliant autumn term with you all.

Don't forget that it's school photo day next Friday (Sept 15th)!

New School Websites!

Our New School Website – Please Help Us Make It Amazing!

We are really excited to announce that early in 2024 year we will be launching our brand new school website.

We are inviting 'Edu-pic' into the schools to take some professional photos for this website. **We would really appreciate your agreement to allow us to include photos of your children** in a range of activities and locations on the school's site. The website will, hopefully, be a powerful marketing tool for prospective parents and a fabulous tool for communication with you all. We may also use these professional photos in other school marketing too.

The photographer will be in our schools on Monday, 18th and Tuesday 19th of September.

Please fill in the below forms link **by Wednesday, 13th September** to give permission for your child to be involved

<https://forms.office.com/e/MVR4gVv88P>

Love for Reading

As a school, we work hard to develop a child's love for reading. This will support them to read a wide range of genres and text types, which is reflect our English and class texts. We also want to support the children with reading at home to develop their confidence and fluency. You, as parents/carers, can support the children with this. The expectations we set are:

Years 3-6 (KS2)

We encourage the children to read at least 5 times a week—every day if possible. We stipulate that children read at least 3 times a week. Children can then record in their planner when they have read. Children who do not read 3 times a week, and

show this recorded in their planner, will be given the opportunity to read at break or lunchtime. **Children who read 5 times a week will receive a raffle ticket.** At the end of each half term, a raffle ticket will be drawn for each class and the winning child will receive a prize.



Reception – Y2 (EYFS/KS1)

We encourage the children to read 5 times a week - every day if possible. We stipulate that children read at least 3 times a week. Parents/ carers must write in the child's planner or sign next to your child's writing to say that they have read. **Children who read 5 times a week will receive a raffle ticket.** At the end of each half term, a raffle ticket will be drawn for each class and the winning child will receive a prize.

Homework in KS2

The children in KS2 will take home a 'homework menu' inside their homework book with a range of different activities to complete, based upon our wider learning in school for the half term.

The stipulation is that children complete one piece of homework a week, recorded in any form, in their homework book. If children do not complete one piece of homework, they will be given time at break or lunchtime to complete this.





Mrs Vicki Allon
Pastoral Lead

SCHOOL ATTENDANCE

As a school, we aim for 95% attendance from all our pupils.

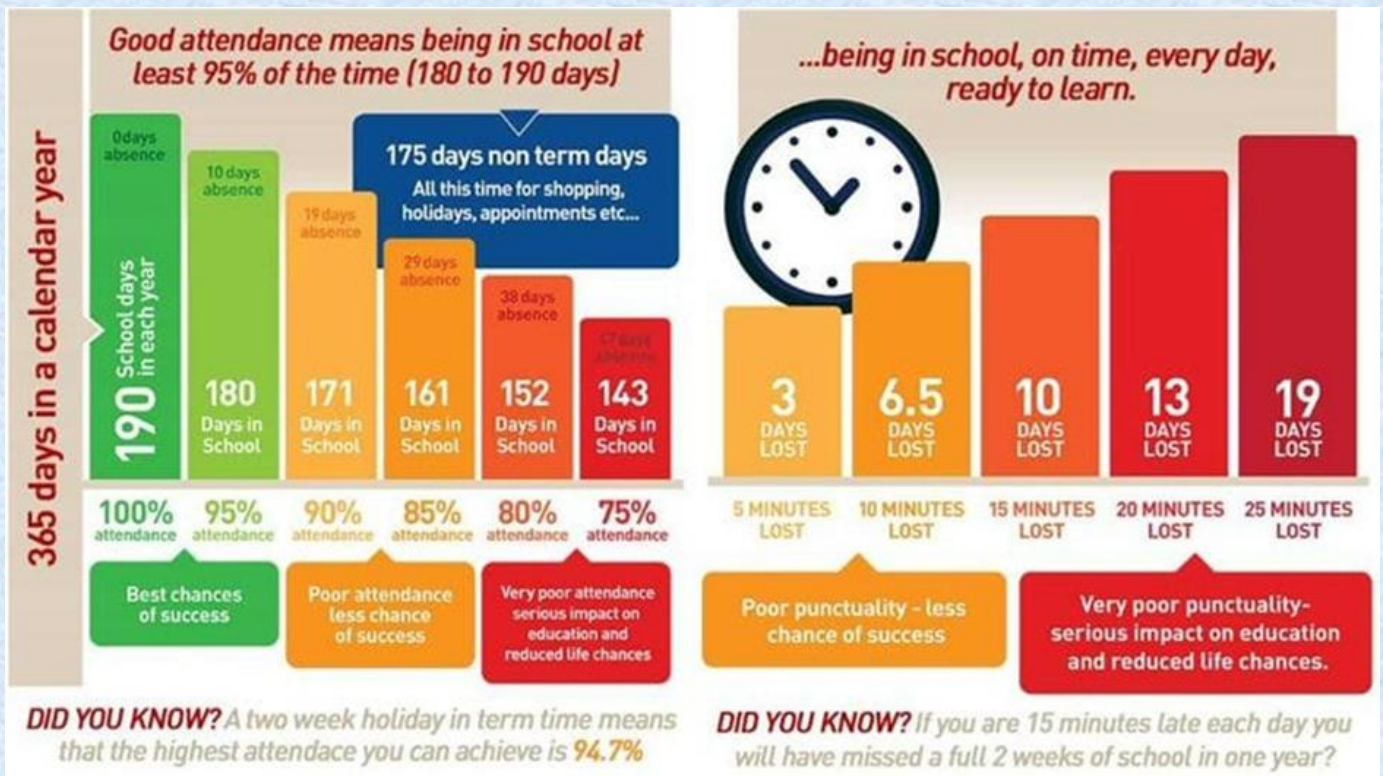
All children will have days when they're not able to go to school, whether that's due to illness, holiday or a family emergency, and the occasional day off is unlikely to affect their education.

However, missing too much school can be seriously detrimental.

A child who misses school just twice per month will lose out on 18 days' education across the school year – that's nearly four weeks!.

Poor attendance often starts at primary school, and children who fall into this pattern are likely to underachieve at secondary school. Friendships can be affected by persistent absence, too: it can be hard for a child who misses lots of school to form relationships with their classmates.

Poor attendance also reflects badly on your child's school. Ofsted expect all schools to have good attendance rates, and they are marked down in inspections if their absence figures are too high.



We kindly ask that, **wherever possible, all appointments are made out of school time** - though we know this cannot always be the case. We are sure you will agree that we all want our children to succeed, and good attendance is proven to give children the maximum learning time possible.

Taking all this into consideration, **any requests for holidays during term-time will not be authorised**, unless there are exceptional circumstances (these are set out by the government).

Stillington's Attendance figures this week:

| Attendance | Authorised absence E.g. illness, medical appointment | Unauthorised absence Inc. arriving late after 9:15 | Late |
|--------------|---|---|-------------|
| 93.4% | 4.1% | 0% | 2.5% |

KS1 History Resource Help Requested

Our topic in KS1 is “**How Have People’s Lives Changed In Living Memory?**”

We will be exploring how toys, music, transport and communication have changed over the past 60 years. We ask if anyone has any records, cassette tapes, CDs, toys, etc from the last 60 years to now and any old phones, newspapers, radios that you may want to donate to school to help promote our learning?

These can be returned to you - however, please do not send any items of significant personal value, as we will be handling them as we learn!



PE—important notice!

PE Kits

From next week, we will return to children bringing their PE kits into school. The children will get changed for PE within school time. PE kit should be kept in a drawstring bag and be hung on the child’s peg. The kit should be brought into school each Monday and returned home every Friday for washing.



Children will no longer arrive at school in their PE kits for the day.

All children will require in their PE Kit:

- White t-shirt
- Black shorts
- Trainers
- Black jumper (this may be a hoodie)
- Black jogging bottoms (in winter months)



Wrap Around Care and Clubs

Please find below our **extra-curricular clubs** for next half term. **To book a place, please email the school office.**

These are only available on a **block basis from 3.30-4.30pm**. We expect children to attend every week, if they are in school.

| | Monday | Tuesday |
|------------------------------|-------------------------------|---|
| Club | Debating Club | Outdoor Sports (basketball/netball club) |
| Leading Adult | Mrs Foster | Total Sports |
| No. of sessions | 7 | 7 |
| Age | Key Stage 2 (Years 3-6) | Reception to Year 6 |
| Cost for the block | £10.50 (£1.50 per session) | Free (funded through government PE funding) |
| Maximum no. of pupils | 10 | 20 |

The debating club aims to develop the children’s speaking and listening skills. The children will be debating some key topics like, ‘Are cats better than dogs?’ or ‘What is the greatest super power?’. A great opportunity to build confidence!

In addition to extra-curricular clubs, we also have **wrap around care**. Please note there is a limit of 10 places for wrap around care. Please make sure you book places in advance. The activities available in wrap around care with Miss Cole are:

| | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday |
|-------------|----------------------|-----------|-----------|---------------|-------------|
| Club | Gardening and Nature | Colouring | I.T. | Art and Craft | Experiments |

2023-24 KEY DIARY DATES



| Date | Event |
|-------------------|--|
| | AUTUMN TERM 2023 |
| Fri Sept 15th | School photos—individual and family groups |
| Oct 28th—Nov 5th | HALF TERM HOLIDAY |
| | |
| Fri Dec 22nd | LAST DAY OF TERM |
| | SPRING TERM 2024 |
| Tue Jan 9th | SCHOOL RE-OPENS |
| | |
| Feb 8th—16th | HALF TERM HOLIDAY |
| | |
| Fri March 22nd | LAST DAY OF TERM |
| | SUMMER TERM 2024 |
| Tue April 9th | SCHOOL RE-OPENS |
| | |
| May 25th- Jun 2nd | HALF TERM HOLIDAY |

FOSS—Friends of Stillington School

Upcoming Events for 2023

9th Sept **80's/90's Disco/Karaoke** at Stillington Sports Club: from 8pm - £5 per ticket

27th October **Bingo and Pie & Pea Night** at School 7pm

PLEASE DO COME AND SUPPORT THESE FUND-RAISING EVENTS FOR OUR SCHOOL!