

# ... Newsletter

### Friday 20th December 2019 - Newsletter 24 Christmas Bumper edition!

## A message from Miss Towler...

Dear Parents and Carers,

Well here we are! We have come to the final newsletter for 2019 and what a busy year it has been! Over the last few months it has been wonderful to see the children continuing to love their learning and challenge themselves to try their very best in so much of what they do.

I have really enjoyed the Christmas celebrations over the last couple of weeks - it is always a pleasure to see the children shine in so many different ways. Thank you to all those parents who came along to celebrate Christmas TPA style both in school and at St Mary's Church.

Thank you as always for your ongoing support. Have a wonderful, relaxing Christmas break and see you on Monday 6th January 2020!

Best wishes,

Caroline Towler, Headteacher

#### Last week's attendance:

Our school attendance target is 97%. Please see last week's attendance figure:

190
DAYS
100%
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179
DAYS
DAYS
DAYS
DAYS
94%
92%

Less
chance of success
start

Less
chance of success
start

179
DAYS
DAYS
92%

Reception: 98% \*Top team attendance\*

Jupiter (Y1/2): 96%

Saturn (Y3/4): 96%

Neptune (Y5/6): 97%

This half term's attendance:

Reception: 97% \*Top team attendance\* Jupiter (Y1/2): 94% Saturn (Y3/4): 96% Neptune (Y5/6): 95%

Well done to Reception team who have the top team attendance of this half term!

Our whole school attendance figure for this academic year is: 95%

Our school and academy trust target is 97%.

## i2i lunchtime club

On a Monday lunchtime we will have our lunchtime sports club but this half term it will run for Y5/Y6 (Team Neptune) boys and girls. The first session will start on the second week back at 12.30pm and will be Tag Rugby.

## **Pupil Voice**

Last week we chatted with our School Council to gain some feedback about how they feel things in school are going. We got some really useful feedback which you can have a look at below. We have 6 representatives in our School Council with different roles including Treasurer, Chair and Secretary. These children meet with the whole school fortnightly and get feedback about what the children are enjoying and what they would like to improve. The School Council's next focus is breaktimes. They have set up a box where children can share their ideas and drop them in the box in the hall so that these can be discussed in our whole school council meetings.

#### **Breaktimes**

## What's going well:

• Clubs at break times - Hub Club, Story Club, Chess club, Football club that give us opportunity to do fun things

#### Even better if:

- More play equipment on the playground e.g skipping ropes, cup and ball, balls. (This equipment is
  usually out in the drier weather/spring and summer terms).
- We had play leaders/ peer mentors on the playground for those children who sometimes haven't got someone to play with so they could support them. (We are looking at this idea for next term)

## Behaviour Expectations

## What's going well:

- The children felt that the school as a whole was learning about making the right choices for behaviour. They felt that the behaviour expectations were helping the children to do this.
- The children liked the good and wow aspect of the behaviour expectations because it meant that they were hearing positives about their behaviour choices.
- The children liked having the wow phone calls to ring their mums or dads. They said their mums and dads liked this too.
- The children liked the Tadcaster wow stickers that they got to wear.

## Even better if:

• One child asked about the children who go beyond 'wow' and would we be able to put something in for those children. Most of the children felt 'wow' was enough though.

## Learning

## What's going well:

- Enjoying the creative curriculum and enjoying the topics more this year.
- Some of the children shared that the maths was harder this year which they thought was a good thing.
- The children shared they liked learning new things.
- The children felt that the adults in their class were trying hard to get round everyone to mark their work so that they get helpful feedback.
- The children also shared that they were trying harder to be more independent and to help themselves. 'We think a bit longer now rather than just asking for help'.
- When asked what they do to help themselves when they get stuck the pupils shared that they
  have 'Three before me': brain, buddy, book and that this was quite a good reminder to have a go
  and become more independent.

#### Even better if:

- Children were not sure if 'Three before me' was in every class but thought it should be as it was a helpful reminder
- The children said that they didn't know whether 'maths trios' were in every class but thought that it would be a good idea to help them when they worked in groups
- The children shared they like to work in groups not just on their own and would like to do this a bit more

## Online Safety

Over the last half term we have had a school focus of keeping ourselves and each other safe. We have talked lots about how to stay safe around school and will be welcoming PC Liz Hartley and PCSO Hannah Gaskell into school in January to talk about how we can keep safe in our local community. The Reception children have learnt about what we have in school that helps us keep safe and in assemblies children in Y1-Y6 have been looking at what we do to keep ourselves safe, from the security system and ID badges we wear to the things we should do to help each other on the playground and in our classes.

As a school we are also passionate about ensuring the children keep safe online and at a time when children will be receiving lovely presents, many of which will give them access to the internet, we felt it would be useful to share some top internet safety tips for our children with the poster below. This was also something we discussed in our parent forum as parent asked how we as a school could help families with this aspect.



## Parent Voice survey

Thank you so much to all those parents who took the time to complete our Parent Voice questionnaire. It has been really useful to look at the feedback and see so many positives shared. We will give a full breakdown of the findings after the Christmas break but we wanted to share some of the highlights! For those parents that have queried things and have have left their name we will contact and discuss their points with them directly.

100% of the people who responded shared that their child or children are happy at school with 62% strongly agreeing to this statement and 38% agreeing.

100% of parents and carers believed that their children feel safe at school with 73% and 27% agreeing.

96% of the parents and carers who responded shared that school makes sure pupils are well behaved with 50% strongly agreeing and 46% agreeing.

'...My children enjoy their time at school and come home and tell us about it. Thank you for everything you do for my children'.

'All the staff have welcomed my child and made his school transition easy and happy so thank you.'

'Miss Towler has brought in some changes but these are all for the better. There are clearer boundaries and more respect. The teaching assistants all work hard to make the children happy.'

'I love the school for my girls, they love it too. It's such an amazing school. All the children look out for each other, from FS to Y6. Both my girls are enjoying the new subjects too.'

'I think Tadcaster Primary is a lovely little school and always recommend it. My child has thrived and really enjoys school.'

'I have always thought this is a good school but since becoming an academy I think it's fantastic!'

Out of the 105 questionnaires we sent out we received 26 responses. Each response was worth 4%

## Welcome to Tadcaster!

Next term we will be celebrating our local community by learning all about it. From Years 1 - 6 the children will be learning all about what makes our local community special. For a change we will have a school wide topic called 'Welcome to Tadcaster'. As part of this the children will be venturing out of school and onto the high street and beyond. We have some exciting art projects and will be welcoming you in to school nearer the end of the topic to celebrate our learning. We can't wait! More details will be shared at the start of next term.

