



## Love Live & Learn

Email: office@allsaints-bednall.staffs.sch.uk Call: 01785 334977



# **Newsletter - 12th January 2024**

## This half-term's value is Perseverance

Welcome back everyone and a very happy new year to you all!

We hope that you had a lovely time over the holidays with your families; it has been wonderful to hear all about your Christmas activities and to see the children's excitement!

It has also been wonderful to the children return eager to learn and launch themselves straight into new topics with such enthusiasm - even despite the dark, winter's mornings!

This week has been relatively quiet in terms of visitors in school however we did welcome Mrs Brooks from the Trust who we are working closely with to help us prepare for our upcoming Health and Safety audit.

Here's to another term of learning and living life in all its fullness at All Saints.

The All Saints Team



#### **Prayer for the Week**

Lord.

We thank you for your love each day, We feel it in our work and play, Lead us with your guiding light, To help each other do what's right.

Amen



Today we explored 2D shapes in nature. We recapped their properties before going on a 2D nature shape hunt - we found some interesting pentagons, octagons and even a rhombus! The children then recreated as many 2D shapes as they could using sticks -



we were able to create 12 in Eagles! The children carefully chose sticks of the same lengths to accurately represent the shapes that they were making.

A big thank you to Will who bought in some special treats for the birds, who are particularly hungry at this time of the year with the lack of insects and seeds - Sparrows had fun finding homes for the new feeders in the trees.









#### **School Uniform**

Please make sure ALL items of school uniform are named - a name on the washing label with a permanent marker will suffice. School water bottles can be purchased from the office, and there is a small stock of ties, polo shirts, shorts, jumpers and cardigans. Uniform can also be purchased from Crested School Wear in Stafford and Cannock or can be ordered online at <a href="https://www.brigade.uk.com">www.brigade.uk.com</a>



All pupils are expected to wear a cotton shirt/blouse (not polo shirt), tie and school jumper/ cardigan other than the day they are doing PE/swimming/Wildlife Wednesday. Hoodies are not accepted as everyday school uniform and are only to be worn on PE/swimming days/Wildlife Wednesday and school events/trips (when specified).

For PE the children are required to wear red shorts, red polo shirt, black/grey/red joggers for outdoor PE and a school jumper or hoodie for cold days. They will also need black pumps for indoor PE and plain trainers for outdoor PE.

Hair accessories should be plain red, white or red and white gingham and should be an appropriate size. In addition – hair that is shoulder length or longer should always be tied up.

Jewellery – plain stud earrings are allowed but will need to either be removed or taped up during PE lessons. Children are also allowed to wear a watch however they are not allowed to wear an Apple watch/Smart Watch.

Nail varnish is not allowed in school and we would be grateful of you could ensure it is removed before attending please.

Boots can be worn to travel to school but we ask that children change into their school shoes when in school.

#### Medication

SUAT has clear guidance on the administration of medication at school.

- Medicines (both prescription and non-prescription) must only be administered to a child where permission for that particular medicine has been obtained in writing from the child's parent and/or carer.
- Medicines mustn't be administered unless they have been prescribed for a child by a doctor, dentist, nurse or pharmacist (medicines containing aspirin should only be given if prescribed by a doctor).
- For school to administer this medication, it needs to be required four times a day.



Should your child require medicine to be administered at school, please call in to the office to complete a School Medicine Form.

#### **School Meals**

A new school meals menu has been introduced by our caterers – Edwards & Ward – with a few exciting new offerings. Should you wish to order a meal for your child/children you can do so on ParentPay and you will need to order by 10pm on a Wednesday evening for the following week – and you can now order now right up until Easter. There is nothing better than a lovely hot meal at lunchtime when the weather is cold and wet!





#### Reporting an Absence

If your child is going to be absent or late it is important that you let the school office know by 8.45am please via telephone, Dojo message or email. Thank you.





# School Attendance Information for Parents and Carers

#### WHY IS GOOD ATTENDANCE IMPORTANT?

Good attendance and punctuality are vital for success at school and to establish positive life habits. Through regular attendance, pupils can build friendships, social groups, life skills and engage in essential learning to achieve their full potential. We ask parents / carers to promote this good attendance with their child and work in partnership with the school to overcome any barriers affecting this.

#### WHAT IS GOOD ATTENDANCE?

We would like all of our pupils to achieve the 'green' categories of attendance, where possible, in order to have the maximum learning opportunities for your child.

- 98 percent attendance means four school days missed
- 95 percent attendance means 10 school days missed
- 90 percent attendance means 19 school days missed (PERSISTENT ABSENCE)
- 80 percent attendance means 38 school days missed
- 50 percent attendance means 95 school days missed
- 1 school day is around 5 hours of learning missed
- · Five minutes late each day means three school days missed

The above number of days & hours of learning missed relate to your child's percentage attendance over a whole academic year. This is just a guide. **Note all cases of school attendance are personal and will be considered on an individual basis to consider the individual needs of the pupil & family.** 

<u>KEY QUESTIONS</u> – does your child have time off school every half term? Does your child have odd days off school which could have been avoided? Are there reasons behind your child's absences which could be resolved? Please speak to us in school if we can be of any support in overcoming any barriers to attendance or punctuality for your child.

#### WHAT DOES THE LAW SAY?

All children of compulsory school age must receive a suitable full-time education. As a parent, you are responsible for ensuring that this happens, either by registering your child at a school or by making appropriate alternative arrangements. Once you have registered your child at a school, you are also legally responsible for ensuring that your child attends school regularly. If you fail to do this legal action can be taken against you by the Local Authority. It is a legal offence to fail to ensure your child attends school regularly. Legal action can involve a penalty notice or being taken to court.

#### **HOW CAN YOU HELP YOUR CHILD?**

- Never cover up an absence if your child is refusing to attend school / avoiding school for any reason. Staying at home means your child misses several hours of learning and it can affect their well-being. Please communicate with us at school so we may support you with your child's attendance.
- 2. If children see that it is optional to attend school (even from a very young age), then this can become a habit of school refusal. Please ensure children know that the decision to remain off school is down to the parent/carer, not them. Be aware if your child is having time off school every half term / week.
- 3. If there are <u>any matters affecting your child</u> which you think may impact on their school attendance and or punctuality, please <u>communicate these to school</u>. Be aware of any patterns of absence or avoidance. We hope to support you with resolving any concerns as soon as possible.
- 4. If your child is unable to attend school due to <u>medical matters</u>, please consider obtaining advice from a medical professional (at the time of any appointments) of how well your child can attend school. Please provide this information to school where possible.
- 5. Please ensure <u>medical appointments</u> occur outside of the school day (or in school holidays) where possible. If this is not possible, please ensure your child attends school before or after the appointment rather than missing a whole day.
- 6. Please ensure you keep up to date on the school opening dates after a school holiday. All information is provided on the school website.
- 7. Please ensure your child is supported to attend school by having all of the <u>correct uniform</u> and is supported to achieve their best with their schoolwork. Please contact school if we can be of any help regarding any of these matters.
- 8. <u>School starts at 8:50 am</u>. Please ensure your child has plenty of sleep and has good routines for getting to school on time. If there are problems with your child's <u>punctuality</u> please re-consider both yours and your child's routines to overcome this. Please note late arrival after registers have closed can lead to a Penalty Notice.
- 9. Please ensure your <u>holidays</u> are taken in the 13 weeks of school holidays to avoid disrupting your child's education. Holidays during term time will only be authorised if there are exceptional circumstances.
- 10. <u>Safeguarding</u> please ensure <u>you contact school by 9:00am on each day of the absence</u> (Tel: 01785 334977) in order for school to be aware of the reason for the absence and so we are aware that your child is safe.

For further information regarding attendance at our school, please see our Attendance Policy available on our school website.

Below is a list of voluntary support agencies for families and children in Staffordshire:

**Early Help Services** When things are tricky at home it can create situations where a child may not feel able to attend school on a regular basis. They could be experiencing higher levels of worry or stress, losing sleep, feeling worried for a parent being left at home and lots more. The family support services in Stafford provide help families who need a little extra support when things are not going as easily as you would like them to.

The **Staffordshire Family Support and Outreach Service** Offers support to children and young people aged 0-19 (25 if they have SEND) and their families with any vulnerabilities they may have which may be affecting their family life. The following website provides further information on the service and how to request their support:

 $\underline{https://www.staffordshireconnects.info/kb5/staffordshire/directory/service.page?id=rtgbpYg0iDk\&localofferchannel=1-6-1$ 

The **Family Practitioner Service** in Staffordshire works with children and families who may be experiencing multiple or complex difficulties. The following website provides further information about this service and how you can access it:

https://www.staffordshireconnects.info/kb5/staffordshire/directory/service.page?id=\_mF5RSfS20s &localofferchannel=1-6-1

Please note: School staff can you support you in accessing both of these services. Please contact us if you would like our help to do this.

#### Families Health & Wellbeing 0-19 Service

This team is made up of Health Visitors and School Nurses and they offer a huge variety of support to children & young people from birth - 19 years old. The website contains a wealth of information and support options - from telephone numbers, a text chat service and drop-in session information. You can self-refer to this service or we can support you to do this as a school. Contact us if you would like us to help: <a href="https://www.mpft.nhs.uk/services/health-visiting-and-school-nursing/information-professionals/families-health-andwellbeing-0-19-service">https://www.mpft.nhs.uk/services/health-visiting-and-school-nursing/information-professionals/families-health-andwellbeing-0-19-service</a>

#### **SENDIASS**

It is widely recognised that children who have SEND can often experience more challenges when it comes to accessing their education as they deserve too, for a variety of often complex reason. This service is Staffordshire's Special Educational Needs and Disabilities, Advice and Support Service. The team support parents/carers of children & young people with SEND aged 0-25, and the children themselves. You can access a wide range of support and advice from this team: <a href="https://www.staffs-iass.org/home.aspx">https://www.staffs-iass.org/home.aspx</a>

#### Catch 22

Within school we are fully aware of the impact of exploitation/grooming/unhealthy relationships can have on a young person's ability to engage fully with school. Catch 22 offers support and advice to young people who may be in unhealthy relationships, a victim of exploitation or who are going missing from home. They can also provide advice to parents. The following website provides further details. You can self-refer or we can refer on the child's behalf, just contact us to ask for our help: https://www.catch-22.org.uk/services/stoke-staffordshire-cse-missing/

#### Young Minds/Action for Children

We recognise that when a child experiences emotional health difficulties it can make it difficult for them to be motivated or able to attend school consistently. As a parent this can be distressing. Young Minds are a charity who support children and young people who are experiencing difficulties with their mental health, but they also have a lot of information and support available for parents too: <a href="https://www.youngminds.org.uk/">https://www.youngminds.org.uk/</a>

**Action for Children** are a mental health support charity for children aged 5-18 years old. Parents are able to refer directly to this service, or we as a school can do this on your behalf if you would like us to: <a href="https://www.staffordshire-ewb.actionforchildren.org.uk/">https://www.staffordshire-ewb.actionforchildren.org.uk/</a>

#### **UK Safer Internet Centre**

We understand that online safety is of great importance to parents. We also recognise that internet use (including gaming) can be a bone of contention for parents and their children, and the impact of poor habits can ultimately impact on attendance through fatigue, for example. It can be difficult to understand each and every form of social media, gaming, etc. and each one of these has different safety measures and risks. The UK Safer Internet Centre have resources for everything you could need to know as a parent, as well as advice on how to manage concerns, reduce risks and help your child to implement positive habits. https://saferinternet.org.uk/

#### **Young Carers**

There are thousands of Young Carers throughout the UK who play a vital role in helping someone close to them who needs additional support. We recognise that this role is complex and can have a knock-on effect for children & young people at times, including the emotional health and being able to engage fully with school. The Young Carers support in Stafford is a fantastic service who work closely with the child, family and school where appropriate to make sure each child can access the education to its fullest: <a href="https://www.ncompass.org.uk/our-services/carers/staffordshire-together-for-carers-service">https://www.ncompass.org.uk/our-services/carers/staffordshire-together-for-carers-service</a>



Attend Today - Achieve Tomorrow

#### This Week's Thunk is .....













19<sup>th</sup> January – Fantastic Elastic Brain (Enrichment Day)
09<sup>th</sup> February - Inset day
07<sup>th</sup> March – Alice in Wonderland (Enrichment Day)
02<sup>nd</sup> May – School shut for Local Elections
17<sup>th</sup> May – Positive Playground Games (Enrichment Day)
03<sup>rd</sup> June – Inset day
11<sup>th</sup> July – Inclusive Olympic Games (Enrichment Day)
22<sup>nd</sup> July - Inset day



To help your messages get to the correct person, please refer to the list below:

School dinners, After School Club, Appointments & Absences - Mrs Stones (Office)

Learning or Behavioural Concerns - Class Teachers Special Educational Needs - Mrs Mayhew Breakfast Club - Mrs Stones

Please feel free to contact us by telephone, email or Dojo



## **Spring Term 2024**

**Term Starts:** Monday 08<sup>th</sup> January

**Inset Day:** 09<sup>th</sup> February

**Half Term:** Monday 12<sup>th</sup> February - Friday 16<sup>th</sup> February

**Term Ends:** Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> March

Holiday: Monday 25<sup>th</sup> March - Friday 05<sup>th</sup> April

Easter Sunday: Sunday 31st March

### **Summer Term 2024**

**Term starts:** Monday 08<sup>th</sup> April

May Day: Monday 06<sup>th</sup> May

**Half term:** Monday 27<sup>th</sup> May - Friday 31<sup>st</sup> May

**Inset Day:** Monday 03<sup>rd</sup> June

**Term ends:** Friday 19<sup>th</sup> July

**Inset Day:** Monday 22nd July

**Holiday:** Tuesday 23<sup>rd</sup> July – Friday 30<sup>th</sup> August