



LET'S IMPROVE ATTENDANCE!

Although improving attendance over the last 3 years has been a challenge due to Covid-19, we now really need to make an improvement. Our attendance as a school is currently below the national average for both overall attendance and the percentage of pupils who are persistently absent. We need to improve! We currently have processes in place to track everyone's attendance and where appropriate, we speak with parents and/or send letters which inform parents of any issues. Often parents don't realise their children are classed as persistently absent and they don't realise how a day or two off here and there can add up. Therefore, I am going to provide a weekly attendance update on parentmail and also send more frequent individualised parentmails to keep parents well informed.

The government classify a pupil as 'persistently absent' if their attendance is less than 90% which means they miss at least one day of school every fortnight. Unfortunately, we currently have 79 pupils out of our 285 pupils on roll classed as persistently absent for the year so far. This equates to 27.7% of the pupils in Reception to Year 6. Although persistent absence has risen across the country, we are still too high and must improve.

I would therefore like to set ourselves a challenge to reduce the percentage of persistently absent pupils to 10% by the end of the year. Given the fabulous support parents and carers give this school, I really believe we can do it! I look forward to working with you all on this and hopefully we can be celebrating a big improvement come July.

NEW DEPUTY HEADTEACHER APPOINTED

I am pleased to announce that following a robust recruitment process, we have appointed a new Deputy Headteacher.

Amy Frost will be joining our school from the Northam Federation, where she is currently an Executive Deputy Headteacher. Ms Frost has a strong track record of developing teaching and learning and I believe she will be of great benefit to our team, when she joins us in September.

NORMAL SCHOOL UNIFORM RESUMES

For the Summer Term, I will be asking pupils to return to wearing their normal school uniforms and stop wearing hoodies/non-school jumpers in class. We will still be seeking to keep the classes ventilated but due to the warmer weather (hopefully!!) we believe that a normal school jumper or cardigan will suffice. Can I also ask that parents refer to the recent parentmail regarding PE kit. Due to a large number of pupils forgetting their kits, we are going to ask that pupils leave their kits in school.

STEM PROJECTS ACROSS THE SCHOOL

Over the last few weeks, we have invited 'Cognition Learning' into our school to deliver some projects which link in with our design technology and science curriculum. Pupils from across the school have been using lego and IT to learn about levers, pulleys and forces.



EASTER PARADE AND SERVICE

As usual, the school was wonderfully supported by parents, carers and the community when we took to the streets of Holsworthy for our Easter Parade. Our Easter service followed the parade and was led by Mother Elizabeth and our Pupils' Ethos Group. Pupils of all ages took part, singing songs and retelling the story of Easter. Many thanks to all the parents and carers who made Easter bonnets for the children and came out to support our parade and service.

