



Striving for 100%

Attendance

Autumn Term:

Reception	93.6%
Class 1	95.9%
Class 2	95.8%
Class 3	94.9%
Class 4	94.2%
Class 5	95.3%
Class 6	96.3%
Overall	95.1%

Attendance Champions:
Class 6 - Congratulations

Our school attendance expectation is **97%**. Well done to everyone who achieved this.

Growth in MIND, BODY, SPIRIT Values for Life

This half term in collective worship we are focusing upon the value of: **COMPASSION**
This week's focus will be:
COMPASSION

Colossians 3:12:

"Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience."

Global Citizenship Thread

This half term our whole school Thread is **SOCIAL JUSTICE**

Spring 1 – Social Justice	
EVFS	What makes a good friend?
1/2	Do I understand and value fairness?
3/4	Do I recognise that actions have intended and unintended consequences?
5/6	Can I challenge injustice and develop a pragmatic case?

"Please drive & walk safely near school, especially on Lee Lane. Be courteous & slow down. Let's keep our children safe."



Newsletter – Monday 8th January 2024

Educating 'for life in all its fullness.'



Dear parents/carers,

Growth in MIND,
BODY, SPIRIT

Happy New Year to all our families! As we step into 2024, we've begun our term by exploring the value of compassion, taking inspiration from the courageous life of Helen Keller. Her ability to overcome immense challenges with grace and her dedication to advocating for others exemplifies the spirit we nurture at our school. Helen's story has reminded us that every individual has the potential to make a positive impact, embodying our school's vision of 'life in all its fullness'. Let us carry this sentiment of empathy and support through the year ahead, continuing to build a community where every child is valued and empowered.

Staffing Updates

I would like to share with you some upcoming staffing changes that will take effect in the summer term. These changes are part of our ongoing commitment to both support our staff in their professional and personal development and ensure the best educational experience for our pupils.

Firstly, in Year 1, Miss Delemere will be taking a year-long sabbatical to fulfil her dream of teaching in Australia. We fully support Miss Delemere in this exciting venture and look forward to welcoming her back next Easter. In the interim, we are actively seeking a new Year 1 teacher to join our team, with an advertisement currently live for this position.

In Year 2, we have accommodated Mrs Albaya's request to reduce her working hours. I am also delighted to announce that Mrs Thompson will be returning from her maternity leave to job share with Mrs Albaya in Year 2. This arrangement will benefit both our staff and pupils, bringing diverse experiences and perspectives to the classroom.

Furthermore, Mrs Thompson's return creates a permanent teaching opportunity in Year 4. We are in the process of recruiting for this position, with the aim of finding a dedicated and dynamic educator to join our team.

Throughout these transitions, our primary focus remains the stability and continuity of our pupils' education. We are committed to ensuring a smooth and effective changeover in staff, and are confident that these changes will enrich our school community.

We appreciate your understanding and support during this period of transition and look forward to an exciting and productive summer term.

Languages Day

This Friday, 12th January, we're excited to host our Languages Day, focusing on the vibrant culture and language of Spain. We invite all children to embrace the spirit of the day by wearing red and yellow, the colours of the Spanish flag.

Our special Spanish-themed lunch will be a culinary adventure, offering a taste of Spain's cuisine. Throughout the day, children will engage in a variety of activities designed to immerse them in Spanish language and culture, providing a fun and educational experience.

We look forward to a day full of learning, excitement, and cultural exploration!

Calendar



January

Fri 12th

Languages Day

Tue 16th

Year 2 Class

Worship

(Parents

Invited –

9:15am)

Thu 18th

Year 2

Florence

Nightingale

Visit

Fri 19th

Open

Afternoon

(Parents

can view

children's

work from

2:45pm)

Fri 19th

Cross

Country

Comp

Mon 22nd

Year 5 Class

Worship

(Parents

Invited –

9:15am)

[Key Dates](#)
[2023-24](#)

Recent Letters – [After School Activity Clubs Spring Term](#)
[School Lunch Menu – Spring 2024](#)



National Issue

Growth in **MIND, BODY, SPIRIT**

PACE: Parents Awareness Session

Parents Against Child Exploitation (PACE) are holding a number of Parents Awareness sessions designed to help parents/carers:

- Learn how children are groomed online
- Develop their understanding of behaviours of exploited children
- Develop their understanding about what child exploitation is
- Understand the signs of child exploitation

For more information please [click here](#).

Christmas Events

Growth in **MIND, BODY, SPIRIT**

What a wonderful couple of weeks it was leading up to Christmas in school. It was great to see the children enjoying the pantomime, Christmas productions, the church carol service and their Christmas parties.

There were so many happy faces during the productions, both performing in and watching the shows, a delight to see.

The children and the staff worked extremely hard and we were tremendously proud to see the end results. Thank you to everyone who contributed to and supported the productions.

Key Stage 2 were delightful in their carol service at St. Cuthbert's too which was a wonderful way to finish the term. We felt humbled by how the children shared the true message of Christmas.

Severe Weather

In the event of severe weather, we have, on occasions, been forced to close due to health and safety issues. If the school has to close, we will endeavour to make a decision as soon as possible on the day. Parents will be informed by the following methods:

- A text message will be sent out to parents/carers.
- The Local Authority will be informed and they will update the details on their website.

Dinner Debate

This week's question to debate with family and friends at home:

"Tomorrow is a new day with no mistakes in it yet." - L.M. Montgomery, Anne of Green Gables.

As we welcome the New Year, let's cherish the fresh start and endless possibilities it brings. What adventures await you this year?

Healthy Recipes

Growth in **BODY**

Year 5 children have been cooking some very tasty healthy recipes. They have substituted ingredients to make the recipe as healthy as possible. It was a thumbs up from all who taste tested!

Christmas Parties

Growth in **BODY, SPIRIT**

The children thoroughly enjoyed their parties in the final week of term, playing games and getting into the Christmas spirit! Our eldest children completed a quiz in teams and encouraged each other in the candy cane challenge!

Pupil Leaders – Safety Monitors

Growth in **MIND, BODY, SPIRIT**

Our Safety Monitors have been excellent in their leadership role recently demonstrating care and respect, encouraging our routines, such as terrific transitions, and promoting respect for our environment by litter picking. Well done!

Decorating Christmas Trees

Growth in **MIND**

In Nursery, the children enjoyed decorating their own Christmas trees.

Special Visitor

Growth in **BODY**

The children had a very special visitor whilst they were enjoying their Christmas parties and were excited to dive into their new books!

Algorithms

Growth in **MIND**

Year 1 have been programming in Computing. They have been following sequences to control Bee-Bots and create a sequence of movements.

Shapes

Growth in **MIND**

Reception have been learning about shapes. They have been exploring squares and rectangles and even went on a hunt around school to find some and discuss their properties.

Attendance Really Does Matter... Autumn 2 Statistics

- 55% of children (114) achieved above 97% attendance.
- 35% of children (72) achieved 100% attendance.
- 10% of children (22) are now classed as persistently absent as their attendance is below 90%. This is being monitored by school and the local authority.
- A number of sessions were marked as children arriving late during the half term. School starts at 8:50am.

Stay safe, well and keep the faith – your support is greatly appreciated

Michael Walker – Headteacher

Proud of our partnership with Mshikamano (Solidarity) Primary School

Bega Kwa Bega (Shoulder to Shoulder)