



Topic: Brother Eagle Sister Sky Focus Value: Tolerance

"The highest result of education is tolerance." Helen Keller



Dear Parents and Carers,

A very happy 2017 to everyone - I hope you had a lovely Christmas with some relaxation despite the very short school holiday.

This term, our focus value is tolerance: a difficult concept for children but one that is becoming more and more important in our troubled world. In assemblies, we started the term by learning about the Ten Commandments of the Native Americans, with whom we share many of the same values! We have learnt about valuing and appreciating the amazing variety in our natural world as well as the differences between people, and we will learn more as the term goes on.

We hope you will join us this term for Exciting English; Mothers' Day afternoon; and various class assemblies. With best wishes,

Mrs Stephanie Gibson
Head Teacher

Attendance

Ruby class won the attendance award for the last week of half term with 100%. Well done to them!

Attendance Slips

Mrs Jenvey will be sending out attendance slips for last term in the next few days. Good attendance is really important if children are to achieve their best at school, and to develop good friendships. As you know, the government expects children to attend school for a minimum of 95% of sessions. **Anything below 90% is now classed as "persistent absence"** and the education welfare officer will follow these up when she visits for her register checks.

You will receive a green, amber or red slip. Green means that your child's attendance is 95% or over, which is great news! Amber means that their attendance is between 90 and 95% and red means that it is below 90%. We know that a bout of illness during the autumn term can have a disproportionate impact on their overall attendance at this point, and we take this into account. Therefore, an amber slip is to bring to your attention the fact that attendance is below 95% with the hope that it will go up this term, and the red slips will clarify whether an extended period of absence has caused the low figure, or whether there are concerns due to multiple odd days of absence.

Mrs Jenvey is available to support any parent with attendance issues, and you can contact her via the office.

Mobile Phones:

A reminder that in line with the latest safeguarding guidance, no adult should use a mobile phone on school premises when children are present – thank you for your co-operation.



Severe weather

In the event of severe ice or snow, we may need to make special arrangements. Generally, a later start and earlier finish has been very effective in allowing pupils and staff to travel safely whilst remaining open and continuing to provide education each day. We have a policy on our website, and we publish arrangements via local radio, the website, Surrey's website, email and text messages.



School Dinner Money

PLEASE REMEMBER that meals MUST be paid for in advance. School meals are supplied by Surrey County Council who require dinner money weekly in advance. We collect the money on their behalf and we are being pressured to collect money more promptly. We would be grateful if you could ensure that you do pay promptly, as we cannot continue to provide school meals that have not been paid for. Thank you.



Online Safety Tip

Got a nickname? - Think about using a nickname instead of your real name if you're signing up to a microblogging site like Twitter.

Consider setting up a separate, personal email account to use with social media sites, rather than using your work, or even your main personal email. Remember, only connect to people you know.



Threadworms

We have had a number of incidents of threadworms. Whilst they do no real harm, they are unpleasant and uncomfortable. Symptoms are itching around the bottom, especially at night-time. It would be good if we could all work together to help eradicate them. Please ensure that you:

- Keep children's nails cut short
- Ensure that they wash their hands thoroughly and frequently, including brushing their nails
- Discourage them from putting fingers in their mouths
- Treat the whole family if you have symptoms

Thank you for your co-operation.



Headlice: we also have a few cases of headlice, so please check the family again – thank you.

Internal Door

Please ensure you never hold the internal door open for another parent – due to both fire and safeguarding procedures, anyone entering/leaving the school needs to ensure the office are aware that they are entering/leaving the premises.

Clubs

A new club list will be sent out very shortly. The external after school clubs (all payable) will be:

- Monday – Karate, pottery
- Tuesday – Football
- Wednesday – Pop dance
- Thursday – KS1 gym
- Friday – KS2 gym

Communications Survey

We understand the link to the communications survey has not appeared on the tucasi email message. The link is <https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/Z3KWDXN>. We have now extended the survey until 25th January.



Staff Required:

Oscah's are looking for staff -please ask at the after school club for more information.



Term Dates and Holidays 2016 -2017

All term and holiday dates for this year and next year are available on the website. Please ask at the office if you cannot access them.

Inset Days 2016/2017

- Friday 28th April 2017 (giving families a long weekend, with Bank Holiday Monday)
- Monday June 5th 2017

Coming Up...

January

- 23rd Toddler morning
- 25th Exciting English

February

- 3rd Orange Sapphire Assembly
- 8th/9th Nursery to Polka Theatre
- 10th School finishes for half term

