



Christ Church CE (VA) Primary School

**Wednesday 11th January
2017**

Head Teacher: Mrs M Long
Deputy Head Teacher: Mrs E Quigley
& Miss K Taylor

Ph: 0121 552 3625

www.christchurchsandwell.co.uk

headteacher@christchurch.sandwell.sch.uk

REMINDER—TRAINING DAY ON 13th MARCH

Attendance

Following a recent audit by the Attendance and Prosecution Officer it has highlighted that attendance across the school has started to become an issue. Many parents are still taking children out of school for extended holiday. On some occasions parents have not alerted us to their intentions to take a holiday and therefore we have had to undertake home visits and/or request evidence for absence. In some cases this has resulted in the child/ren losing their place at the school.

We have also noticed that some children are regularly having odd days off with 'illness'. Therefore in order to improve attendance across the school we will now be requiring all parents to call us and alert us to absences or it will be recorded as unauthorised and will lead to a referral to the Attendance and Prosecution Service. When we are alerted to an absence we will now be requesting medical evidence to determine the reason for absence. In many cases this will can be in the form of a doctor's appointment card or copy of the child's prescription. If you are unsure if your child is well enough to attend then please be reassured we will contact you if your child is unwell.

Whilst we understand that this will cause concern and frustration for some parents this is the advice from the attendance service. With your cooperation we can improve attendance and ultimately ensure your child does not miss out on their education.

Assemblies

19th January—Key Stage 2 Praise Assembly

20th January—Early Years Praise Assembly

27th January—Year 4 Assembly = Oak

3rd February—Year 4 Assembly— Pine

10th February—Year 3 Assembly—Fir

17th February—Year 3 Assembly—Willow

9th March— Key Stage 2 Praise Assembly

10th March— Key Stage 1 Praise Assembly

17th March— Early Years Praise Assembly

24th March— Key Stage 1 & EYFS Mothers Day Assembly

7th April—Whole School Easter Service

Collective Worship

Can I remind parents that if you choose to attend an assembly at the school you are often joining us for an act of collective worship. We therefore expect visitors to arrive on time and stay for the duration of the service so that the opportunity for spiritual development is not impeded by external distractions. We had a number of parents turn up late to join the carol service and unfortunately we could not permit entry. As I'm sure you will appreciate the children can be very distracted by comings and goings which is unfair when they work hard on their contribution to the collective e worship.

The amount of parents gathering late on the steps into the hall is also becoming a health and safety issue so all future events will not allow entry once the service has started.

The Christian values we will be focussing on this term are courage (Spring 1) and Forgiveness (Spring 2).

Our biblical reference to inspire us is from Joshua 1.9 'Be strong and courageous; do not be dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you whenever you go'. Please share with your child and help them learn the prayer below.

A Prayer for Courage

Father God,

Help us to be strong and courageous

Help us to speak out for others.

Help us to stand up and be counted.

Help us to do the right thing, not just the easy thing.

Amen

SinglePoint

A reminder that our Community Room SinglePoint is at the front of the school and is able to offer a range of activities and support to help parents. They offer a range of courses, before and after school club, as well as team of Parent Support Workers who can offer 1:1 support with a range of issues from housing, benefit advice, behaviour strategies, etc. There are other benefits to becoming registered with SinglePoint including discounts on family day trips. Pop-in and speak with the friendly staff about what they can offer you!