



Selwyn Primary School Newsletter

Friday 26 January 2018

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Dear Parents and Carers,

As I explained last week, for the next few editions of the newsletter I will be focusing on ensuring that we are a safe school with an effective safeguarding culture. In this week's newsletter, I want to highlight the safeguarding issues around attendance.

Many of you will be aware that in a borough not too far from Waltham Forest, there was a recent serious case review. Serious case reviews are usually held following the death of a child or young person, in order for the agencies involved to learn lessons and improve the safety of all children in their care.

In this review, the parent of an early-years child became unwell and subsequently died. The child was too young to raise the alarm and no-one from the school had followed up on the reason for their absence. As a result of this, the child perished.

At Selwyn, we have first-day calling procedures which mean that we call the home of every child whose parents have not notified us of their absence on the very first day they are away from school. This is to ensure our children AND parents are safe.

Unfortunately, many parents do not answer; neither do they return the call if they miss it. This means the office staff spend many hours trying to make contact with parents. Where we are unable to make contact, we visit the children's homes to complete a welfare check. This is a valuable thing to do when it could prevent harm or save lives but is less valuable when parents are at home and have simply failed to respond or make contact. Our Welfare Team's time could be better spent supporting children who really are at risk.

I am therefore asking you to help us protect all our children, and ourselves, by making sure that you report your child's absence from school at the earliest opportunity on the first day. This will ensure time is not wasted and that when parents do not inform us, we can quickly identify that there is a problem and take appropriate action. Working together is the only way we can keep our children safe.

Have a fantastic weekend.

Lisa Bogle
Headteacher

Diary Dates

| | |
|-------------|---|
| 29 Jan | Young Voices performance at 02 |
| 30 Jan | Craig, story-teller, in Rec/Yr 1 |
| 31 Jan | Chinese New Year Assembly - Rec 10.30 – 10.45 am |
| 1 Feb | Bring a Parent to School - Yrs1 & 3 9 am - break |
| 1/5/7/8 Feb | Science Museum Trip – Yr 4 |
| 2 Feb | Coffee Morning 9 – 10 am 'How we teach & assess children's work in reading, writing, spelling & grammar' |
| 5 Feb | Music Festival |
| 7 Feb | Ambulance Visit – Rec & Yr 1 |
| 8 Feb | Valentine's Disco |
| 12 – 16 Feb | Half-term break |
| 19 Feb | NSPCC Visit |
| 20 Feb | School Nurse – Yr 2 |
| 21 Feb | Parents' Evening 3.30 – 8 pm |
| 22 Feb | Egyptian Workshop – Yr 3 |

Safeguarding Notices

Reporting Absences

In the event that your child is unable to attend school, please call to notify us as soon as possible. Failure to do so may result in their absence being recorded as unauthorised.

Outside of school office hours, please leave a message, clearly stating your child's name and class, on: **0208 527 3814**.

After-School Collection

As mentioned last week, if someone else is collecting your child from school, please make sure the office has all their details, together with a password.

These measures are vital for ensuring the safety of all our children.

Young Writers Poetry Competition

Two more pupils - Khadidja Boudoucha and Zareen Juhit – are to be added to our list of ‘Little Riddlers’ competitors, with their riddles also appearing in the Young Writers published book.



It is truly fantastic to see so many children from Selwyn being recognised for their talent in writing and we are extremely proud of them all.

Houses of Parliament

This week, Year 6 visited the Houses of Parliament in Westminster. They were given a tour of both houses, and took part in a question and answer session which helped them get a better picture of the workings and practice of government in our country.



However, what fascinated them most was learning the fate of Guy Fawkes who was hanged, drawn and quartered for his part in the Gunpowder Plot of 1605 when a group of men almost blew up the Palace of Westminster (as it was then known).

Athletics Competition

This Thursday saw the turn of our Year 3 & 4 children to take part in the Waltham Forest Athletics competition. They competed in both field and track events. At each competition, the Sports Network awards a school a ‘Sports Value’. This time, Selwyn was named as the school which showed the most determination and was awarded this value.



Our congratulations to all those who took part!

Lost Property

We have an ever-increasing amount of lost property in school. We would therefore ask that, if your child is missing any item of clothing, you look through it as soon as possible. Any items not claimed by half-term will either be used by the medical room or donated to charity.

Attendance

The classes with the highest and lowest attendance for the week ending 19.1.18 were:

| Highest | Percentage |
|----------|------------|
| Hawthorn | 96.8% |
| Olive | 96.4% |
| Beech | 95.5% |
| Aspen | |
| Lowest | Percentage |
| Hornbeam | 92.0% |
| Willow | 91.8% |
| Cherry | 91.5% |

Writer of the Week



This week, our congratulations go to:

Lower Phase – Beyonce Sita, Walnut Class

Upper Phase –Alexia Mensah, Aspen Class



Mathematician of the Week



This week, our congratulations go to:

Lower Phase – Abdelrazak Yemmi, Walnut Class

Upper Phase –Josaphat Gokou-Siakouri, Beech Class