

NEWSLETTER

JUNE 2017



Attendance and Punctuality Update

At Vicarage we are very proud of the fact that many of our children come to school on time every day. However, over the last few years, our overall attendance figures and punctuality has been reducing. This is a worrying matter and we would like to remind you of the following:

All children are expected to attend school regularly and on time. We ask you to ensure your child is in school at **8:45am**, as this is the time children are able to gain entry to class. This gives them time to hang up their coat and say hello to their friends and be ready to start learning when the lesson starts at **8:55am**. **If your child arrives just 5 minutes late each day, they will be missing nearly 16 hours education over the course of a school year.** Children arriving late miss important information at the start of the lesson. They are often embarrassed by continual lateness and this can affect their self-esteem.

Our school gates are locked promptly at **9:00am**. Children arriving after this time must report to the school office to get their registration mark. You will be asked to provide a reason for lateness.

Please consider carefully if your child needs to take a day off school. Missing areas of the curriculum will leave gaps in their education which has a negative impact on progress and attainment.

- Make arrangements for travel during school holiday times.
- Where possible, medical appointments should be outside of school hours. You must provide medical evidence to cover such appointments.
- Please contact us if your child is absent.

At the end of the school day you are able to access the grounds from **3:00pm**. Please collect your child promptly as children become worried and distressed when they are not collected on time. The end of the school day at present is: **Reception, Years 1 and 2 at 3.10pm and Years 3 to 6 at 3:15pm**. School gates are locked at 3:30pm.

After school clubs finish at 4:20pm. If your child is attending an after school club they must be collected in the KS1 playground at 4:20pm.

Children who are persistently late to school or persistently collected late can become a safeguarding concern which may result in a referral to the Local Authority Social Care team. **Please help your child and school and bring them to school on time and collect them on time at the end of the school day.**

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The NSPCC's *Speak out, Stay safe* programme is visiting our school this week to support our work in ensuring our pupils have the knowledge and understanding they need to stay safe from abuse. NSPCC is the UK's leading children's charity, running a nationwide programme for every primary-school-aged child in the UK and Channel Islands. With the help of their friendly mascot, Buddy, they will be presenting an assembly and workshop to children to enable them to recognise the signs of abuse and reminding them of the need to speak out. Following on from the assembly and workshop, we will be hosting a non-uniform day on Friday 16th June 2017, to raise money to help NSPCC volunteers to carry on delivering assemblies and workshops in other schools. Please give a donation of 50p.

Enabling Enterprise

Enabling Enterprise is a project to equip young people with the **skills**, experiences and aspirations they need to succeed in life. Some of these skills are: Aiming High, Staying positive, Listening Carefully, Sharing Ideas, Working in a Team, Leading, Using Imagination and Problem Solving.

The weeks beginning 19th June and 26th June are set aside for our Enabling Enterprise whole school project. As a means of celebrating and showcasing to parents the work carried out, we will be holding assemblies on Friday 30th June:

KS1 assembly - 2:00pm/KS2 - 2:30pm for an overview of the project, after which parents can visit classrooms for an exhibition of the work carried out by pupils.

Read Write Inc

As a result of our excellent practice of Read Write Inc. Phonics, Vicarage Primary School has been appointed as a Read Write Inc. Model School for the academic year 2016/17. Read Write Inc. developed by Ruth Miskin, provides a whole-school approach to teaching literacy for 4-11 years olds that creates fluent readers, confident speakers and willing writers.

Read Write Inc is for:

- pupils in Year R to Year 2 who are learning to read and write
- any pupils in Years 2 and 3 who need to catch up rapidly.

Pupils are taught how to sound and blend words for reading and writing at the same time as developing handwriting skills and spellings. The scheme further develops pupils to become accomplished, confident readers and writers across the curriculum. It is delivered in a systematic programme. All our staff (teachers and teaching assistants) have been trained to deliver this programme.

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Twice a year (October and March), we hold Read Write Inc. parents' meetings for our Reception and Year 1 parents. In the workshops, we modelled the programme with pupils, discussing teaching methods and informing parents of how they can help at home. The feedback has been extremely positive and parents leave knowing more about how to support their children in reading. We also give parents the opportunity to buy speed sounds cards at a subsidised price to use at home with their children—please contact your child's class teacher or Mrs Mihdi-din if you would like to buy the speed sounds cards.

You can also go to <http://www.ruthmiskin.com/en/parents/series> where you'll find a series of information and tutorial videos explaining the basics of Read Write Inc. Phonics. These videos will help you support your child at home. If you have a question for us, please contact either your class teacher or Mrs Mihdi-din (RWI Leader).



Author's Visit

On Thursday 8th June, we were delighted to have children's author Chloe Inkpen visit children in years 1 and 2. Chloe, an award winning author, led two assemblies where she shared her work and brought her stories to life through drama and drawing activities.

Chloe stayed after school so that children could buy copies of her books and have them signed. It was a wonderful afternoon and we look forward to seeing Chloe again.

We are also very excited that author Paul Delaney will be returning to Vicarage Primary next Wednesday for the London Launch of his new book "Norris Snoot". We are especially excited as the story is set in our school! We can't wait to read it! Paul will be leading three assemblies on 21st June to talk about the inspiration behind his new book and share with the children how his ideas have become a printed book. Order forms for his new book will be going out following the assemblies for the children to get a signed copy. Don't miss out!

Dates for your Diary



Friday 16th June - Non Uniform Day to raise money for NSPCC

Friday 30th June - Parents Coffee Morning at 9:00am

Friday 30th June - Enabling Enterprise Assemblies - KS1 = 2:00pm KS2 = 2:15

Thursday 20th July - Class Parties

Friday 21st July - Last day of term 6

Mrs S Khan
Head Teacher