

# Newsletter



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# Spring Term - March 3rd, 2017

Why worry about attendance? - Should I????

Did you know?

- Most children with higher attendance achieve higher levels than those with lower attendance.
- Most children with high attendance make better progress than children with lower attendance.
- Obvious facts really ... I'm sure you'd agree.

So ... do you want your child to do well in school so that they can do well as young adults in the future? Obvious answer, because you care for your child is YES!

How many days has your child been off school and lost hours of learning?

1 day =  $5 \frac{1}{2}$  hours

2 days = 11 hours

 $3 \text{ days} = 16 \frac{1}{2} \text{ hours}$ 

4 days = 22 hours

5 days (one week) =  $27 \frac{1}{2}$  hours

If you receive a letter very soon, this is because your child's attendance is below 90% and they have had at least 10 days off school, and we are only half way through the year. This means that they have lost a considerable amount of learning time and we are worried about your child's educational progress to achieve expected levels for their age. Children who have attendance below 90% at this moment in time have lost 55 hours of learning!! You may need to consider how your child will 'catch up'. If you need advice on this please let us know. School intervention programs that are now in place will require a commitment to good attendance.

We will be sending out your child's current attendance in the next few days so you can consider the above information in relation to how this is affecting your child's education and learning. If you need to discuss it further please let us know.

#### Thank you

Coming to school on time is obviously also very important. Thank you so much for supporting this and it has very much improved over the last few weeks. Please remember that we only nag you about this to ensure your child achieves the full day learning time!

### Eco schools platinum award

A big big thank you to all the children and staff. This has been led by members of staff and a small group of children but it wouldn't have happened without the support of everyone! We have proved that it's a whole team achievement. Well done everyone!! It's worth it - it's the future - so keep up the good work and good attitudes. Very impressive!!

#### Thank you parents

It has been a difficult time for the school recently and I'd like to thank you all for being honest and expressing your views directly to the school. We understand your concerns and hope that you feel reassured there are positive plans in place for the school. Estyn inspectors are receiving regular reports from the local authority and the school. We will keep you up to date with progress and we have valued your views for the future of the school. We will be sending out questionnaires for those who are unable to come into school for meetings in order for us to get as many views as possible. The local authority is pleased with the improvement plan and this is being sent to Estyn next week. It is a large document which will be summarised very soon to ensure you understand what the school is working towards. You can also come and see us!

#### St David's Day

Well what a fantastic day! A great way of experiencing Welsh culture and the children produced some good work. Thank you to all staff and children! Everyone took it in their stride and we all had a good day! Da iawn = very good. (Ask your child to help you speak Welsh)

## **World Book Day**

Again, thank you children, parents and staff! It was great to see the children dressed up and talking about books and stories. An amazing day again! It's been a great week! But.... where's Wally?? Disappeared again! So funny! so many happy faces. Wonderful!!

Diary Dates	
March 6th	Estyn inspectors receive the school's plans for school development. Year 4 - Tag rugby
March 9th	Rugby and netball matches at Llandarcy
March 13th	years 5&6 - workshops to educate pupils about racism - Show Racism the Red Card. Tag rugby - year 4
March 23rd	Rugby and netball matches at Llandarcy
March 27th	Year 4 Tag rugby
April 5th	Easter bonnet parade Easter bingo
April 7th	Last day in school - Easter holidays!!