



Newsletter 7

Date: 23rd February 2018

<http://cogenhoe.northants.sch.uk/>

Our whole school value for this half term is **Co-operation**

Dear Parents and Carers,

Welcome back! We hope you all had a wonderful half term break. Many thanks to all parents who took the time to complete the on-line parent survey - I hope that you found the tool quick and easy to use. We had a fantastic response from almost a hundred parents and truly do value your feedback. The analysed results of both the parent and child questionnaires will be published on the school website next week, in the Information section. There were so many amazing, positive comments about the school and how committed all of the staff are to ensuring that your children achieve their best every single day, whilst having fun at the same time. I will be sure to share these comments with the staff as they really do deserve to be told what a fantastic job they are doing. One of the main areas of feedback was regarding communication about your child's progress- we couldn't agree more, and as a result you will be receiving a Mid-term Progress Report for your child on Monday 26th February. We aim to send another progress report at the end of April, before receiving your child's final end of year report in July. We will ensure that as we move forward, you will receive these three reports for every academic year.

Whole School Reward System

A huge congratulations to the house team, Orchard who were the overall winners for last half term after achieving a staggering 3,207 points, closely followed by Bramley who had 3,178 points. Every point really does count! All of the winning house received their reward this afternoon and thoroughly enjoyed themselves. The children were able to take part in some baking, art and craft activities and spent time playing fun games in the school hall. Thank you to all of the staff who helped to ensure that the event ran smoothly. I wonder what the reward will be for this half term?

Parking Reminder

Our Road Safety officers are continuing to be out in full force. They are working with the local council to help reduce speed and dangerous driving in the village. Their campaign to ensure that it is safe for all of children who walk to and from school on their own will continue for the duration of the academic year. Please do consider where you are parking your vehicle – is it safe for children to walk home? A huge thank you to all of our families who live in the village and support the school and surrounding residents by walking to school. It really does set our children up for the day and is a skill for life.

Attendance

As a school, we are continuing to closely monitor attendance – whole school, individual classes and individual children. Each week, the class which has 100% attendance receives a prize of an extra ten minutes playtime – unfortunately, we haven't had any winners for the last few weeks. It really is vitally important that your children attend school every single day, unless of course they are really poorly. Just missing one day of school equates to 5 hours of learning missed which over a week adds up 25 hours. I am sure you will appreciate the impact this has on a child – it would be almost impossible to catch up on this amount of work. Furthermore, research shows that missing only 10 percent of the school, or about 18 days throughout the year, negatively affects a student's academic performance -that's just two days a month.

Some other facts for you to consider:

Why is high attendance important to my child's education?

As a parent/carer you want the best for your children. Having a good education is an important factor in opening up more opportunities in adult life. Did you know that:

- a child who is absent a day of school per week misses an equivalent of two years of their school life
- 90% of young people with absence rates below 85% fail to achieve five or more good grades of GCSE and around one third don't achieve any at all
- poor examination results limit young people's options and poor attendance suggests to colleges and employers that these students are unreliable
- poor school attendance is also closely associated with crime - a quarter of school age offenders have truanted repeatedly
- at least 1 million children take at least one half day off a year without permission
- 7.5 million school days are missed each year through unauthorised absence.

Penalty notices for non- school attendance are issued in accordance with the statutory guidance from the County Council after the child has **Penalty notices for non-school attendance** - To issue a penalty notice, there should be 5 days (10 sessions) or more unauthorised absences in a 6 week period.

We will continue to publish each classes attendance regularly for your information. Currently, they are as follows:

Reception- 98 %

Year 1 – 96%

Year 2 – 96%

Year 3 –97%

Year 4- 98%

Year 5- 96%

Year 6- 97%

Cogenhoe Sport Report

We are continuing to really excel in our Sports Curriculum. A huge congratulations to our Boccia team who took part in their recent competition and are now officially the County Champions – the trophy is amazing! Furthermore, our Kurling team came joint 3rd. Keep up the good work 😊

World Book Day and Reading News

We are very excited about World Book Day on Thursday 1st March. Our “Bedtime Story” theme this year will save you all from having to traipse around the shops looking for a costume and I am sure that both the children and staff will love being able to stay in their pyjamas for the day! Don’t forget to check the school website out for our videos of staff reading some bedtime stories for your children to listen to.

A huge thank you to the school PTA for donating our wonderful cosy throws – the children have really loved using them in our reading zones during break and lunchtimes. I won’t reveal the mystery gift yet – but also a thanks in advance for the children’s present which will be donated to them on World Book Day.

The book swap trolley is now very full and the children are making really good use of it. Don’t forget that we now have an “Adult Only” book swap station in the school entrance so please do pop in before or after school and grab yourself a new read.

Fundraising and Charity Events

We are always so proud of all of children who value the importance of giving to and helping others. Some of our children really do go above and beyond and it is important that we share their achievements. Matthew Hockney will be taking part in a charity walk through the Lake District in Cumbria from Coniston to Barrow in Furness in May. The walk will cover a total distance of 21 miles and Matthew will be walking for a total of 7 hours – a very long way for such little legs! If you would like to support this cause and sponsor Matthew, please do ask the school office for more details.

Furthermore, siblings Harry and Isobel Smith have been training extremely hard after school in the dark, cold nights. In January, they ran 5k every single day throughout the entire month for the charity, “Mind”. They were absolutely overwhelmed with the amount that they raised, beating their target by over 210%! A huge well done to both children – we are so proud and inspired by you. Harry will be very modest but I have to tell you all that his fastest time was 21 minutes and 41 seconds! He tells me that he is still attempting to beat that and wants to enter another race soon...watch this space!

Diary Dates

Tuesday 27th February / Tuesday 13th March– Year 6 Bikeability

Wednesday 28th February- Big Bang @ Silverstone event – Years 5 and 6

World Book Day – Thursday 1st March

Tuesday 6th March – Year 6 SATS evening @ 6.30pm

Thursday 8th March – School choir @ The Big Sing @ Derngate

Tuesday 20th March- Film Night @ 3.30- 5.00pm

Wednesday 21st March Year 2 SATS evening

Wednesday 28th March – Crazy Hair Day for CLIC Sargent

Thursday 29th March – School closes

