

06.09.2018

TUPTON PRIMARY AND NURSERY SCHOOL

NEWSLETTER

Welcome Back

We hope you all had a fantastic summer break and children have come back to school ready to learn.

School Attendance

We would like to remind you of the importance of attendance and the punctuality of pupils at Tupton Primary and Nursery School. In order that our children can make their best possible progress with their education, it is vital that they have a good attendance record. Children should only be absent for 'unavoidable reasons'. As you may be aware, The Department of Education stated from September 2015, the criteria for Persistent Absence will change from 15% to 10%. This means that pupils with less than 90% attendance will fall into the Persistent Absence category and their progress will have to be reported to the national and local government whilst they remain in this category. The reason for this change is the continued commitment to improve achievement across all schools.

We have devised an attendance policy whereby staff, pupils, parents and the education welfare service work in partnership. The school will monitor attendance and ensure quick and early intervention if a child's attendance causes concern. Mrs Willock/office staff will liaise with home and other agencies when this is appropriate. Children whose attendance is good or better (96% or above) will be rewarded every term through Class Dojo and certificates. The attendance policy is based on the premise of equal opportunities for all. **THE FULL ATTENDANCE POLICY** is available from the school on request.

Keeping School Informed of Absence

There will be times when illness or other exceptional circumstances make it impossible for your child to attend school. If your child is absent, please let the office staff know by 9:00am on the first morning of absence, if this continues over the weekend, please inform the office staff again. As a matter of school policy, if your child is absent and you have not informed the school, then we will make a call to enquire about your child's absence.

Leave of Absence during Term Time

In line with new government guidelines, Tupton Primary and Nursery School will only agree to children missing education for a family holiday in very exceptional circumstances. For any term time absence, please complete the 'Leave of Absence' form available from the school office and return it to school. We strongly recommend this is completed and you await the response prior to booking/confirming your holiday. 'Exceptional Circumstances' are at the discretion of the Headteacher, with supporting evidence required. **Parents who take their children on unauthorised holidays or who fail to return their child on the agreed date could result in a Penalty Fine of £120 (per parent, per child) reduced to £60 (per parent, per child) if paid within 21 days, being issued by Derbyshire County Council. Please note: 'Leave of Absence' will not be authorised on the run up to and during SATs week for children in Years 2 and 6.**

School Grounds

Dogs are not allowed within the school grounds (even if they are being carried).

School Gates

Children MUST NOT swing on the school gates whilst Roger (School Caretaker) is opening and closing them.

Smoking

The school is a no smoking zone. Therefore, smoking will not be permitted within the school grounds, including E-Cigarettes.

Mobile Phones/Scooters

Children are allowed to bring mobile phones with them to school if they are walking to and from school by themselves. The phones must be switched off and handed in to the school office and collected at the end of the day. Children are permitted to come on their scooters provided they do not block the entrance to the school and are aware of others whilst riding them on pavements. The scooters can be kept in the bike store within the car park. Scooters are not to be ridden on the school playground. The school does not accept any responsibility for scooters or mobile phones on school premises.

French Friday

French Friday snacks will be available from this Friday, 8 September at a cost of 40p each item.

School Dinners

The cost of a school dinner is £2.10 per day, £10.50 per full school week, £79.80 up to half-term. Can we please remind parents that if your child changes from dinners to sandwiches or visa versa, please inform the school office. Please send your child with their dinner money in an envelope, put their name and class on the envelope and ask them to put it in the register basket in their classroom. We would like everyone to put the money in the register basket, but if it is a large amount you may hand it into the office in an envelope with your child's name and class.

Weekly Newsletters

If you have supplied an email address, newsletters will be emailed out to you on a weekly basis from next week. If you prefer a paper copy please contact the office. If you haven't given the school an email address and would prefer for newsletter to be emailed, please give email addresses to the school office. Newsletters are available to see on the school website each week, www.tupton.derbyshire.sch.uk

Personal Belongings

Please can we ask all parents to label all children's uniforms, bags, PE kit, shoes etc. Then, if items get lost, we can so easily return them if they are labelled.

Jewellery

Children are allowed to wear a watch and stud earrings (children must be able to remove their own earrings for PE and swimming).