

## Key Dates

26<sup>th</sup> September  
Year R First Class Photos  
for Kent Messenger

2<sup>nd</sup> October  
KS2 Harvest Church  
Service at 09:30

9<sup>th</sup>/11<sup>th</sup> October  
Parent's Evenings

19<sup>th</sup> October  
Tag Day

## Term Dates 18/19

### Term 1

Tuesday 4th September  
until  
Friday 19th October

### Term 2

Tuesday 30th October  
until  
Tuesday 18th December

### Term 3

Thursday 3rd January  
until  
Friday 15th February

### Term 4

Tuesday 26th February  
until  
Friday 5th April

### Term 5

Tuesday 23rd April  
until  
Friday 24th May

### Term 6

Tuesday 4th June  
until  
Tuesday 23rd July

## Headline

This week I thought I would remind you of our attendance policy.

As a parent or carer, you are responsible for ensuring that your child receives full-time education. Irregular or low attendance could undermine your child's educational progress and affect their friendships. Statistics show that children who miss school can become victims of crime or be drawn into anti-social behaviour.

Fixed Penalty Notices and court action will be used if your child's attendance is low and if, despite the best efforts of the school and Attendance Advisory Service for Schools & Academies, it does not improve.

Only the head teacher can authorise absence. I am not obliged to accept your explanation. Absence can be authorised for the following reasons: sickness; a one-off event such as sibling graduation; family bereavement; a public performance.

Absences will not be authorised if for example:

- Another member of the family is ill
- The family have overslept
- There are problems with uniform/clothing
- You have forgotten school dates
- Your child attends a medical or dental

appointment lasting more than half a day without written proof

- There is an annual family event such as a birthday
- You take your child shopping
- There is bad weather e.g. snow and we consider that you live within walking distance
- Attendance is below 95%
- You do not give a reason for your child's absence

You do not have automatic right to leave of absence for your child. You must apply for permission in advance. If you take leave in school time that has not been authorised or if your child has more than 10 unauthorised sessions ( a day is 2 sessions) in a 6 week period, you may receive a Fixed Penalty Notice (fine). Pupils will only be granted leave if the circumstances are exceptional.

Lateness may also be referred to the Attendance Advisory Service and can provide grounds for prosecution. Children must arrive before 08:45. Any child arriving after this time must go to the office and be signed in as late. Any child arriving after 09:15, when the late registration period closes, will be marked as absent for the morning.

Mr Carthy

## Uniform

A navy blue jumper, sweatshirt or cardigan. Navy, black or grey trousers, tailored shorts, skirt or dress/navy and white checked dress. A white or blue polo shirt, shirt or blouse. Flat plain black shoes or trainers (no heels or open toes). [www.tesco.com/ues](http://www.tesco.com/ues)

## Key Staff

**Mr Carthy** *Headteacher*

**Mrs Langthorne** *Deputy Head*

**Mr Chantler** *Deputy Head*

**Ms Gould** *Chair of Governors*

**Mrs Hill & Miss Knight** *SENCO*

**Miss Masters** *FS Leader*

**Miss Scudder** *KS1 Leader*

**Mr Chantler** *LKS2 Leader*

**Mr Atkins** *UKS2 Leader*

**Mrs Vella** *Family Liason Officer*

This school is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children, achieving equal opportunities and combating discrimination.

We operate a very clear whistleblowing policy for staff.

## News

### School Inspection

Thank you for your support and kind words during our Ofsted Inspection this week. Once the report has been through the quality assurance processes, we will share it with you.

### The Foyles Foundation & Our Library

We are very grateful to Foyles for their generous donation to the school. This enabled us to buy books for the school library.

In July five children went to Waterstones, Bluewater and purchased books with Mr Atkins and Mrs Barnes. It was lovely to see their excitement as they went around the children's section choosing books for pupils of all ages.

The books have now all arrived and some have already been put on the shelves and been borrowed by the children. Over the next few weeks the remainder of the books will be catalogued and will then be available for loan. We hope that you enjoy sharing some of these lovely books with your children.

### Data Collection

Next Friday we will be sending home a copy of the important data we hold on you and your child. This will come home in a sealed envelope and will be addressed to 'The Parent/Carer of ...'

We need to ensure that we are holding

the correct information. Please check this sheet, amend if required and return it to the school office as soon as possible. We will also be sending home updated Photographic consent forms. These too need to be returned next week.

## Reminders

### Harvest

Please send in donations of tinned and packeted goods for our Harvest Festival on Tuesday 25<sup>th</sup> September. Any fresh produce can be sent in on Monday 1<sup>st</sup> October. Thank you in anticipation.

Our Junior Harvest Festival celebration will take place at St Augustine's Church, Rock Avenue on Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> October at 9.30am. Children in Years 3-6 will be attending this service. Parents are welcome to attend, but please bear in mind that there may be limited spaces.

## Pat On The Back

The classes with the best attendance for the week beginning the 10<sup>th</sup> September 2018 were 2K with an amazing 100%! 1/2S had no late pupils during this week, and a fantastic 99.7% of children arrived on time.

## Also Coming Home

- A letter from The Westbrook Trust
- Holiday Club Leaflet
- 1/2S Trip Letter