



Micklefield C.E. (VC) Primary... 'a GOOD school', SIAMS 2016

Newsletter



Autumn themes: New beginnings; forgiveness

'Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Matthew 6:12

28th September 2018

Autumn Themed Week

We have had a busy week with lots of learning opportunities focusing on maths and computing. On Monday, the children carried out a variety of maths activities, including planning a train journey and shopping trip to Tesco in Garforth to buy the ingredients for their baking. I was delighted to receive an email from a member of the public who was kind enough to compliment us on the behaviour and attentiveness of the children in Classes 3 and 4 while they were in the Tesco store on Tuesday. The Family Unit and Class 2 travelled to Garforth on the train for their Tesco trip on Wednesday. The Big Bake Sale took place on Thursday and, judging by the children's smiley, chocolatey faces, it went very well!

We'd like to say a big thank you to the parents who came to lend a hand. It was good to see so many of you at the Open morning too.

Harvest Festival

It was lovely to welcome parents and children to St. Mary's Church for our Harvest Festival and we were glad to see the sun shining after a wet and blustery day the day before. Many of our families sent tins and packets for the harvest display at the front of the church. Father David takes these to St. George's Crypt in Leeds to help with providing meals for the homeless.

We started our silver collection for our global link in Tanzania. Last year we sent money to buy a new carpet for the nursery children to sit on. This year, Kathryn visited us on 3rd September and told us about the work she is doing to train teachers and to raise money for a well so that the families can grow fruit and vegetables. She told us that sometimes the children are hungry and don't have enough energy to run and play or to do their work at school. Our harvest collection this year will enable Kathryn to buy fruit and vegetables for the children while they are waiting for the well to be operational. They now have the well but need a pump to make it work.

Please send those silver coins in to help us fill the jar(s). Thank you.

Attendance

Attendance was disappointing for 2017 – 18, with over 30 children appearing on the Persistent Absentees list (less than 90% attendance) each half-term. I will be sending letters out to those parents so that you are aware if your child's attendance is a problem.

If you have to take your child out of school in term-time, you must provide evidence that this is unavoidable for **exceptional** circumstances. Holidays booked and/or paid for by relatives or as a surprise **cannot** be authorised and you could be fined, especially if your child's attendance is under 90%. **The target attendance is 95%.**

| Class | 2017 - 18 |
|-------------|-----------|
| Family Unit | 89.5% |
| Class 2 | 92% |
| Class 3 | 92% |
| Class 4 | 92% |

Please note that I am not allowed to authorise any holidays at all in term time unless the circumstances are exceptional. We have tried to encourage parents not to take their children out of school by drawing your attention to this in our newsletters and prospectus but our attendance has not improved and the main reason for this is pupils being taken out of school for term-time holidays.

If you take an unauthorised holiday you will be called into school for a formal meeting and are highly likely to incur a penalty fine.