

St Levan School Newsletter

15th January 2017

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WELCOME BACK EVERYONE!

It is a delight to welcome Thea in Year 6 and Rufus in Year 3 - we hope you will be very happy at St Levan.

We welcome Mr Lugg, a trainee teacher and Mr Fletcher, an experienced teacher in Class 1.

The children have shared lots of exciting news from their Christmas break, it is lovely to see everyone refreshed and throwing themselves into an exciting new term. Please see your class overview to find out more about the new topics. We are especially proud of our Year 3 children who have moved flexibly between both classrooms- getting the best of everything! We are fine tuning arrangements to ensure everyone benefits with the right level of support. There were times last week when we were fortunate to have a very high ratio of staff to children enabling all staff to work with everyone to make great progress in all of their learning.

We wish you all a fabulous new year ahead!

Please see below for important information and some whole school updates.

Health and Safety

Parking – Thank you for supporting us with this whilst we wait for action from the Council. Some parents have taken advantage of pulling into the area in front of the minibus when a member of staff is present. To prevent congestion and cars waiting, this is only for parents who are dropping their children and driving straight off. If you need to come into the playground or catch parents/staff then please park in a safe place. Thank you.

Heating- We finally have a long-overdue program of work underway to address the heating system in the whole school, in particular Class 2 where it can be cold. In the meantime please make sure your child comes to school with an extra layer such as a fleece. Thank you.

Attendance

You will receive your individual child's attendance report this week with a leaflet attached to aid understanding regarding attendance and percentages. Whilst 90% sounds high, in an attendance context this is a great cause for concern - deemed by the Government as being persistently absent and would be picked up by the Educational Welfare Officer. Our attendance objective is to sustain National Average at 96% for every child. As a small school we need your support in minimising absence in order to meet government targets. We are unable to authorise absence for holidays taken in school time unless there are exceptional circumstances which have been discussed in advance with the Headteacher. As always, we look at each case on an individual basis and take into consideration a number of other factors detailed in our 'Attendance Policy' (available on the website). If you are planning to be absent, please remember to complete an absence request form one month in advance,

3available from the office or on the website. If you are able to book unavoidable medical appointments after school or late afternoon (rather than the morning), this would help keep your child's absence level down.

Pupil Premium

The criteria for claiming free school meals has recently changed and now includes Universal Credit as a qualifying benefit.

If you would like us to check your eligibility for claiming please contact Hayley in the office by Wednesday 17th with your national Insurance number. This is crucial for school funding as the amount for each child is considerable and benefits the school enormously. Your details will be kept confidential.

In Assembly, it was wonderful to hear so many children talking positively about new books they had read over Christmas. There was much excitement about new authors and sharing of new books – a real buzz. Well done everyone!

Congratulations to the following children for gaining their reading bands:



YELLOW KARATE SUPER READING STARS (30 reads)

Jemima, Florence, Freya, Tonsley, Lola

ORANGE KARATE SUPER READING STARS (45 reads)

Martha, Bryher, Hayley, Elliot, William, Tamsyn

GREEN KARATE READING STAR (60 reads)

Sebastian, Elliot, Ruby, Alice

BLUE KARATE READING STAR (80 reads)

Lailani, Ruby, Elyssa, Tess, Tia, Amelia, Alfie, Olivia R

PURPLE KARATE READING STAR (100 reads)

Lailani, Morvy, Elyssa, Tess, Amelia, Alfie, Olivia R

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR SHINING STARS

Freya for always working incredibly hard and smiling through everything. Well done!

Alice for her excellent concentration in every lesson and wonderful manners at all times. Thank you Alice.

We are very proud of all our children

Our Virtue for the next couple of weeks: RELIABILITY

Reliability is when you...

Make promises you can keep and care about what you promise

Plan ahead

Find another way if obstacles occur



Dates for your diary

- Monday 15th January – Clubs start
- Tuesday 16th January – Swimming starts for Yr 3 and 4
- Monday 22nd January – School Council meeting with Chartwells