

St Stephen's Catholic Primary School

Newsletter



**Working together to succeed through faith
in Jesus Christ**

Friday 26th April 2019

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome Back!

Welcome back to the Summer Term! We hope you all had a wonderful break over the Easter holidays and enjoyed the lovely weather! We have lots to look forward to over the coming months as we begin a brand new term and head towards the end of the academic year. Accompanying the newsletter today is:

- Summer Term Diary Dates - stick it on your fridge and use it to guide you through each week until July.
- 2019/20 School Holiday Dates - in order to help families plan trips, holidays and time off from work we have circulated next year's holiday dates. These are also available on the school website.

After School Clubs:

Information about our after school clubs for this term has been sent home this week. All clubs begin next week and will run across this half term. They will finish during week commencing Monday 20th May but will continue after the half term break. You will be notified if your child has or has not been successful on securing a place on a course. Places will be offered on a first come, first served basis.

School Uniform:

As we are now in the Summer Term, pupils are permitted to wear our summer uniform. Girls may wear summer dresses and boys may wear grey shorts if they wish to. As stated in our uniform policy, pupils are expected to wear black shoes and I would ask that this is followed by all pupils. White/colourful trainers are **not** allowed.

PE Kits:

Pupils are to wear white t-shirt, black/navy shorts and trainers or pumps for PE each week. Letters have been sent home this week with pupils who did not have their PE kit in school. I expect to see those children with a PE kit in school next week as taking part in weekly PE sessions are a legal requirement of the National Curriculum. If there is an issue with your child's PE kit then please speak to their teacher as soon as possible.

Y4 First Holy Communion:

This weekend sees the start of our Year 4 pupils making their First Holy Communion. The children and their families have been notified about the date, time and venue for which they have been allocated over the next four weeks. We ask that you keep our Y4 children in your thoughts and prayers as they take this special step in their sacramental journey.

REMINDER:

Wednesday 1st May - Y2 SATS Information Meeting at 9am with Mrs Doyle and Mrs Fitzharris

Parents/carers of Y2 are encouraged to attend these important meetings to find out about the arrangements for the important assessment weeks coming up in May.

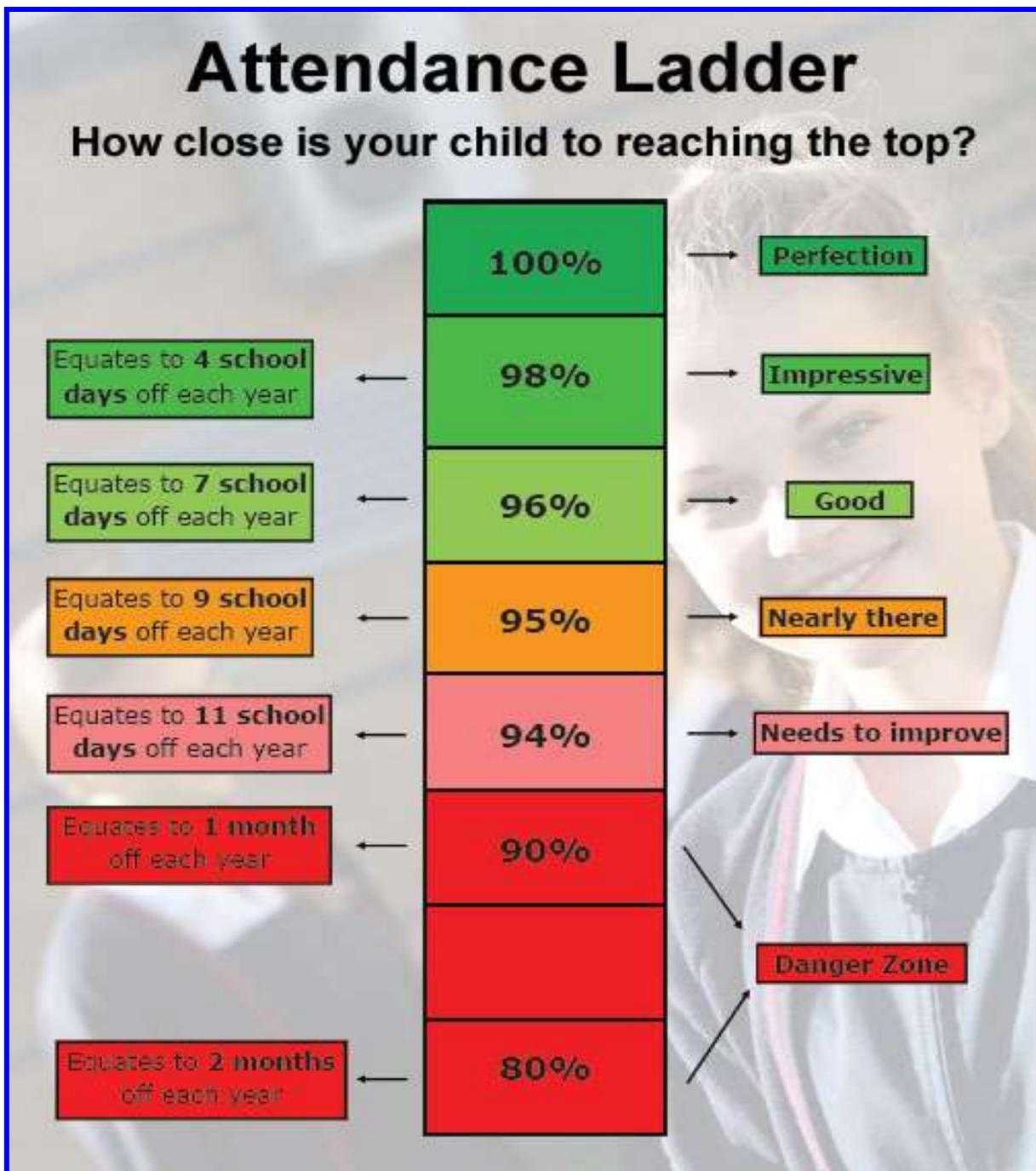
ParentPay Accounts:

After the successful launch of our cashless system last half term, I ask that parents/carers keep their child/ren's account in credit as best as you can. Payment for lunches have been good however pupils are incurring debts by not having enough money in their account to pay for snack at break time. Just by adding £1.00-£2.00 a week to their account will make a huge difference, enable your child to buy a snack and keep their account debt free!

Attendance Update:

Class	% Attendance up to the Easter holidays	Difference from National Average (96%)
Reception	95	Below by 1%
Year 1	94	Below by 2%
Year 2	96	In line
Year 3	94	Below by 2%
Year 4	94	Below by 2%
Year 5	96	In line
Year 6	95	Below by 1%

We are currently below our whole school target of 96% for the whole school's attendance. We need a big effort from everyone this half term to get our attendance figures up. Please remember term time holidays will not be authorised and providing medical evidence to the school office is advised as a means of gathering to help support our discussions with the Local Authority Attendance Team.



Punctuality Changes:

As of Tuesday 23rd April, changes to the start of the day procedures began. The school bell rings at 8.45am as normal which signals the start of the school day. However, we still have far too many children arriving to school late each day and losing key learning time and disrupting their class and teacher by arriving late. So the following now takes:

- **8.45am** - School bell rings and children enter class to start the day
- **8.45 - 8.55am** - classroom doors and the main school gate will remain open for pupils to come into school.
- **8.55am** - the main school gate and classroom doors will be locked
- Any child/ren arriving at this time must report to the school office
- ***Any child/ren arriving late to the school office will now need to be signed in by an adult and a reason for the lateness must be provided***
- If your child/ren is persistently late we will now be collating the amount of minutes of teaching time lost by late children and taking action within school and via the Local Authority Attendance Team.

School attendance and punctuality is vitally important in securing the best outcomes for our children and home and school working together is the key to this success.

I thank you in advance of your support with this matter.

Y5 Residential Trip for October 2019:

The deadline for the final payment for the trip to Colomendy is Friday 12th July. However, to avoid a big payment all at once in July, why not pay off a small amount each week? The difference as little as £5.00 a week or once a fortnight can make will help out all of our families I am sure. Please send in your payment card with any money you send in as proof of payment. If you have any questions or query about the trip then please speak to Mr Glynn, Mrs Bishop or myself.

Y3 Swimming Lessons:

Pupils in Year 3 began their swimming lessons on Tuesday from 2.00-3.00pm. They will need the correct kit in school each Tuesday in order to take part in the sessions which run for 10 weeks. Please note that the children will arrive back to school by 3.30pm. We apologise for any inconvenience this may cause however this is a situation out of our control.

School Meals Menus:

As of Monday 29th April, a new menu will be launched by our cook Ms Culleton. The three week menu looks absolutely delicious! If you would like to look over the new menu or talk it through with your child/ren then a link to the menu can be found on the front page of the school website.

Contact Information:

Please ensure that the school office has your up to date personal information such as telephone numbers and addresses. This is a key safeguarding matter should we need to contact you about your child/ren in case of an emergency due to sickness or illness. Please pop into school to see Mrs Bellis or Mrs Burton if you need to update your information.

Events week beginning 29th April 2019

Tuesday - Y3 Swimming Lesson - Orford Jubilee Hub

Wednesday - KS1 SATS Meeting for Parents - 9.00am

Yours sincerely,
Steven Hatton
Headteacher