



Friday 16th October 2020

INSET Days

We will continue to use INSET days to develop our curriculum. A wider curriculum allows our children to make as much progress as they can. This academic year, INSET days will be Monday 4th January, Friday 26th March, Friday 23rd July and Monday 26th July.

Reading Update

This year, our focus will still be to improve our children's reading ability so that they can read fluently. At the end of Key Stage 1, a child who can read at 90 words a minute is considered to be a fluent reader. In Year 2, the children are having daily lessons to improve their reading fluency with Miss Fidler. The children have been taking part in an activity called "echo reading" to help them read more fluently. In "echo reading", the child listens to the adult read the text aloud before reading it themselves. This helps the child to recognise any unfamiliar words and to develop their expression. Over time, this should help the child to read more words in one minute. Some of our children in Key Stage 2 are not yet reading at 90 words a minute. Therefore, they are also taking part in "echo reading". If you want to help your child to read fluently at home and you need more information about "echo reading", please speak to your child's class teacher.

Attendance

The table below shows the attendance for each class last week. Well done to year 6 and year 4 for having an attendance of more than 99% last week! Each week, our whole-school attendance should be at least 96%.

Upper Foundation	Year 1	Year 2	Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6	Whole School
97.86%	97.27%	97.35%	96.75%	99.24%	95.10%	99.26%	97.53%

Special Visitor

Last week, the vicar from Saint Helen's Church came to speak to Year 5. The vicar explained how he and the church help people in the community. The children could also ask the vicar questions about his work. After the visit, Linda told me, "We learnt that charity can mean love and action which Jesus showed through his work with the disciples." Alfie added, "Christian Aid works in more than 50 countries of the world and it supports some of the poorest places that are affected by floods or a tsunami."

Word of the Month

We must allow our children to learn and use new words. Each month, the children are introduced to a special word that is displayed in the classroom. Below, you will find the word of the month for each class in October:

- Year 1 - brief
- Year 2 - dodge
- Year 3 - hauled
- Year 4 - remorseless
- Year 5 - commotion
- Year 6 - desolate

We hope that our children can soon tell each other what the word means, use it correctly in their work and spell it correctly in their writing. Please encourage your child to use the word of the month at home.

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely,

Mr C Johnson
Headteacher