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Long Lawford News...

Autumn 7

This week it has been lovely to welcome the children back to school after the half term break. The children have come back eager to learn and have settled down to their studies well. In recent weeks I have tried to highlight the many wonderful things the children do each day on twitter. Using #Ace Ace of course refers to our core values of Achieve Care and Enjoy or Ace for short. The school twitter account can be found at Long Lawford Primary @llawfordprimary

It's good to talk - Before the half term break it was great to see so many parents and carers take the time to meet with their child's class teacher. I am really grateful to the many parents and carers who took the time to fill out a questionnaire. Thank you for the overwhelmingly positive comments. It is very pleasing to see that the vast majority of children, parents and carers are happy at the school. A few parents mentioned homework and taking this on board we have changed the format of homework in Year 3 and 4. We have also took on board the frustrations with the school app and are working on resolving these with the provider.

Christmas shoe box appeal - We will once again be running our Christmas shoebox appeal this year. In previous years parents, carers, grandparents and children have been extremely generous and contributed many ,many boxes. Leaflets we will be going out shortly, but in the meantime to take part, simply:

1. Find an empty shoebox
2. Wrap it in Christmas paper
3. Decide if the box is for a boy or girl
4. Fill your box with items such as toothbrush & toothpaste, hair accessories/ brush, soap & face cloth, stationery & paper, gloves, hat & scarf, a small toy, puzzle and sweets.
5. Do not include any food items (except sweets), war related items such as soldiers or guns or anything fragile.

For more details please go to teams4u.com

All shoeboxes need to be returned by Friday 18th November 2016.

STARS OF THE WEEK (and the week before half term!)

Star Workers: Caitlin Mayfield, Mariam Ikram, Scarlett O'Keeffe, Kacey Townsend, Leyton McDonnell, Connor Clarke, Kobe Summerscales, Ellie May Newman, Esme Mills, Kendra Brady, Ashton Castleton, Aiden Bannerman, Wayne Nhidza, Abigail Perrier, Sam Cooper-Sanchez, Nicholas Palade, Maizey Batchelor, Lois Arrow, Esmail Baker, Stanley Crane, Evie Scott, Oscar Piotrowski, Avery Smith, Alexa Batchelor, Lexie Ball, Kane Simpson, Oliver Francis, Ava Armstrong, Lilly-May Grimsley, Faye Taylor, Riley Cutter, Elle Johnson, Conor McGarrity, Aram McCormack, Sonny Greenhalgh, Elyse Glover

Star People: Liliana Troc, Nancy Lamb-Carr, Freddie Newman, Oskar Sawada, Ava-Rose Jackson, Leo Bennett, Ethan Jones, Jaiden Godward, Kai Stafford, Ada Azogu, Olga Sionkowska, Julia Kowalczuk, Rubeun Elson, Louisa Hozee, Hollie Conboy, Chloe Wilson, Rocky James, Amit Toor. Olivia Furniss, Jacob Demetriou, Luke Lievesley-Martin, Jacob MacDonald, Ava Jackson, Lewis Jackson, Connor Verity, Junior Kabeya, Bethany Greenwood, Marta Borowiec, Edward Crane, Ellis Brown, Aimee Jones, Riley Gibson, Callum Graham, Hannah Fletcher, Madison Walker, Mellisa Critchley.



WELL DONE to them all!

LEAVE OF ABSENCE DURING TERM TIME 2016-17

– INFORMATION FOR PARENTS

In September 2013, the Government introduced some significant changes to attendance regulations for pupils at school. The regulations will continue to apply during this academic year (2015/2016).

The most important of these is in relation to term-time leave of absence.

The amendments set out in Education (Pupil Registration) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2013, govern all requests for leave within term-time. When considering such requests for a leave of absence, the school are obliged to act within the law.

The amended regulations removed references to 'holiday' and 'extended leave', as well as the statutory threshold of 10 school days. It is now clear that Head Teachers may not grant any leave of absence during term time unless there are exceptional circumstances. If the leave is granted, head teachers are able to determine the number of school days a child can be absent for.

The Government has not defined 'exceptional circumstances' as referred to in the 2013 regulations. It is for the Head Teacher to decide what he/she views as 'exceptional' and it is at their discretion if the circumstances warrant the leave to be granted.

The school can only consider Leave of Absence requests which are made by the 'resident' parent.

Each application for a leave of absence will be considered on a case by case basis and on its own merits.

Where applications for leave of absence are made in advance and refused, the child will be required to be in school on the dates set out in the application. If the child is absent during that period, it will be recorded as an unauthorised absence, which may result in legal action being taken against the parent(s), by way of a Fixed Penalty Notice.

Failure to make an application for leave in advance can also result in a Fixed Penalty Notice being issued to the parent(s).

It is important to note, Fixed Penalty Notices are issued to each parent of each absent child, (for example 2 children and 2 parents, means each parent will receive 2 invoices in the amount of £120 each, totalling £240 for both children, this is reduced to £60 per child if paid within 21 days).

Where a Fixed Penalty Notice is not paid within the required timeframe as set out on the notice, the matter will be referred to Warwickshire County Council's Legal Services to consider instigating criminal proceedings under S444 Education Act 1996.

Fixed Penalty Notices are issued in accordance with Warwickshire County Council's Code of Conduct for Penalty Notices.

Warwickshire Secondary School pupils recorded 22,920 half day sessions of absence due to holiday in the Academic year 2013/14. This is a decrease of 13,063 on previous years. This is a positive outcome as it means that 6,531 days of education was achieved.

We greatly appreciate parental support to reduce the total amount of days lost due to holidays. We are committed to working in partnership with you to enable your child to reach their academic targets and to support their social development. For this to happen we need to keep individual attendance as high as possible - we all need to play our part.

Your child's progress academically as well as socially is our shared priority