



22<sup>nd</sup> June 2018

Dear Parents & Carers,

I thanked the children today for making me feel 'like a princess' yesterday. Thank you all for your amazing support and generosity. I'm seldom lost for words but I can find none to express how overwhelmed I am by all you have done for me. My family can see why I love you and your children so much! Thank you from the bottom of my heart. I took the weekend off so the newsletter is going out today.

**Reports to parents**

It's a busy time for the school office as they send out the following pupil information:

- Nursery receive their end of year reports
- Reception receive their EYFS profile scores, moderated and checked against County and national scores to ensure judgements are accurate and consistent.
- Year One receive their phonic test scores, as do any Year two children who didn't meet the required standard last year.
- Year Two receive a written report and the results of their Year Two teacher assessment. This is based on ongoing teacher assessment, part of which are some tests, and is rigorously moderated.

Information on KS1 outcomes is being prepared for the school website and will be found at <http://ssasinfants.herts.sch.uk/statutory/>

**Attendance**

All pupils will receive their attendance figures for the year. Our aim is 100% attendance for all pupils but we appreciate that children do fall ill. Please note that one school day = 2 sessions because we take registers both in the morning and after lunch. A child with 94% attendance will have missed the equivalent of 11 days or 2 school weeks over the year; 90% attendance equates to a staggering 20 school days or 4 school weeks! Attendance is carefully monitored by both school and County and is key to academic progress and building good social relationships. Medical appointments should, therefore, be made around school hours wherever possible and **term-time holidays will not be authorized**. Exceptional circumstances will always be considered but are for urgent situations only. Thank you for your support.

**Films, Games and Apps**

As the holiday approaches, I would urge you to take care when choosing films, games or apps for their children. We teach the children how to stay safe online at school and take guidance from Herts, which can be found at <http://www.thegrid.org.uk/eservices/safety/parents.shtml>. Some children have told us they have seen Avengers: Infinity War which is a 12A certificate. There are occasions when they take things they see in films and games and 'play them out' in the playground, which can lead to children getting hurt. We can recommend:

For films - <https://www.imdb.com/>

For apps and tablet games - <https://www.apple.com/uk/itunes/charts/>

For computer and console games - <https://pegi.info/>

Many parents have found an American site called <https://www.commonensemedia.org/> useful. Please do check. We will organise an eSafety workshop in the new academic year which will give top tips and practical advice to help you make the most of excellent technology and information whilst keeping your children safe online.





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### **Assembly & birthday celebrations**

The KS1 children really enjoyed their Mexican music workshop on Friday. Thank you so much for foregoing assembly. There will be our usual assembly this Friday 13<sup>th</sup> July. The final Leavers assembly of the year will be on Friday 20<sup>th</sup> July at 9:10am when we will celebrate all remaining Year 2 birthdays as well as Y1 and Reception birthdays to 22<sup>nd</sup> July. Any birthdays after 22<sup>nd</sup> July will be celebrated when we return to school in September.

### **Year 2 seaside trip**

Year Two are heading to Thorpe Bay tomorrow. Staff are taking gazebos but please ensure the children have plenty of suncream on before they come to school. Children must wear PE kits, school hats and trainers or sandals. Your child must have two drinks and a named bucket and spade, if possible. Staff aim to arrive back for the end of the school day, traffic permitting. We will keep you updated in the event of any delays.

### **Year 2 leavers**

The children have been practising for the Goodbye Mass on Wednesday 18<sup>th</sup> July at 9:10. Parents are welcome to join us for this KS1 only celebration. On the next day, Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> July, Year Two will have a party and can wear their own clothes to school. Teachers will put out lists for party food donations in the main entrance from Monday.

### **Classes for September 2018**

We are busy preparing for Thursday's transition day. All parents will receive a letter after school with details of class organisation – the children love telling you their important news! In a change to the past, Reception parents will receive an *individual* letter telling them which Year 1 class their child will be in rather than class lists. We will no longer circulate these in any year group; there are new rules around the way we share personal information. New Reception and Nursery parents will also be informed about classes on an individual basis.

### **Staff vacancy**

We would like to recruit an additional member of staff for our Breakfast Club. The club runs every day from 7:45 to 9:00 in the school hall and takes pupils from both Infants and Juniors (there is some flexibility over the start time i.e. from 8:00am). Any advertised vacancy in school is subject to an enhanced DBS and safeguarding checks. Staff must be able to relate well to children, engaging them in play with peers and chatting to them about their interests. If you are interested in finding out more, please speak to Mrs. Dempsey or Miss Cannon.

### **Badgers**

A reminder to all Badgers parents that the club does not run on the last day of term. Last day for all Badgers children is Thursday 19<sup>th</sup> July.

Kind regards



*Building God's Community of Love and Learning*