

29th November 2018

Welcome Back



Welcome Back,

We hope all our families had a relaxing week. This half term is a long and busy one! 8 weeks until Christmas Break. We want to share with you some of the things that have been taking place in school and inform you about up and coming events.



Stepping Stones Short Stay School
"small steps into giant leaps"

The school website has been updated over the past half term. Staff are ensuring they upload new content and update their class pages. The school blog also has regular updates on the value of the week and reminders etc. Please check it out www.steppingstones.lancs.sch.uk

A large focus of our curriculum and teaching at school is on self control, emotional regulation and managing feelings, responses etc. The children are taught in weekly sessions about all of the above and strategies to manage themselves in a positive way. We encourage children to use the strategies taught to deal with situations that they may find tricky. Each class have a weekly Zones of Regulation lesson, Personal, Social, Health and Emotional education lesson, relaxation session and access values education lessons throughout the week. They also learn about their brain and how the brain is responding in different situations in order for them to make positive choices and have self control.



Our Values For this Half Term



- Week 1: Respect
- Week 2: Kindness
- Week 3: Positivity
- Week 4: Responsibility
- Week 5: Trust
- Week 6: Caring
- Week 7: Friendship
- Week 8: Co-operation

Key Dates / Information



Will be in school weekly delivering music sessions to each class. This will lead up to the final Christmas Performance.

Skillz School continue to deliver Physical Friday sessions every week. We have Dance and Team Games this term.



SCHOOL CHRISTMAS PERFORMANCE AND SCHOOL FAIR



WEDNESDAY 12TH DECEMBER AT 1:30

LAST DAY OF AUTUMN TERM

THURSDAY 20TH DECEMBER

Alongside all of this we will be looking at self control and how the children can manage their thoughts, feelings, sensations in a positive way.



Welcome Back Reminders

95%	=	47 LESSONS MISSED EACH YEAR 8 days in total or 1 week and 3 days
90%	=	95 LESSONS MISSED EACH YEAR 16 days in total or 3 weeks and 1 day
85%	=	142 LESSONS MISSED EACH YEAR 24 days in total or 4 weeks and 4 days
80%	=	190 LESSONS MISSED EACH YEAR 32 days in total or 6 weeks and 2 days

BE SMART BE THERE!

Percentages based on 190 academic days

ATTENDANCE MATTERS

WHAT DO YOUR ATTENDANCE FIGURES ACTUALLY MEAN?

Remember to let the school office know if your child is ill.

Letters will be sent home this term to update you on your child's attendance.

DAMAGE TO SCHOOL AND STAFF PROPERTY

During the Summer and Autumn term we have had an increase in deliberate damage to school and staff property from children. We have dealt with a lot of this through the school behaviour policy and practice. E.g. children receiving loss of bonus points for damage. However, several areas of the school were significantly damaged including the new class bases and new sensory rooms. We understand that when children are feeling upset, frustrated and cross they may feel the need to lash out, however it is not acceptable to hurt, damage and destroy. The curriculum and support in place are all positive and preventative. There are lots of strategies and support mechanisms in place for all children at all parts of the school day.

One of our core values is Respect and we teach the children about this constantly.

We are therefore going to enforce the following actions.

If your child deliberately causes damage to school or another person's property we will do the following

Incident 1—Letter Home to parent / carer for you to discuss your child's actions with them at home. Reminding you and your child that if a further incident takes place there will be a letter asking for you to pay the cost of repair / replacement.

Incident 2—Letter home to parent / carer which will include the request for payment for repair / replacement of damage.

Any further incidents—further contributions / full costs will be asked for and a meeting will be held with parent / carer and child regarding behaviour.



ClassDojo

We use Class Dojo app across the school. All the teachers use the app to share success, share work and our children's achievements. Parents can download the app and see their child's profile as well as whole school news.

If you have not signed up yet, please do!

READING CHALLENGE

In the lead up to Christmas we will be launching more book packs to promote reading for enjoyment and reading at home. Your child can get a book pack to take home from Mrs Turner in the library. All they need to do is read to or with an adult / share the book, talk about the book and jointly complete an activity based on the book.

Return the pack and evidence that you read the book together and you will be put into the reading raffle, plus your child receives 50 bonus points! Remember to Dojo your reading selfies to the class teachers.

Author of the month:
November



David Walliams