

*A message from Miss Woodward*

*Hello and welcome to the first issue of the **Attendance Matters** Newsletter. As part of our attendance strategy to improve and promote attendance we have launched an Attendance Newsletter. The aim of this newsletter is to:*

- *Continue to raise awareness of the importance of good attendance*
- *Inform parents/carers of the schools policies and procedures*
- *Inform parents/carers of the schools current attendance figure*
- *Provide helpful tips on getting your child to school on time*
- *Promote the rewards for pupils who attend every day and on time.*

*This newsletter will be issued half termly to all parents and carers - we hope you will find this helpful and informative.*

*Miss Woodward*

### Important Attendance Facts

There are **190** days in a school year, which leaves 175 days to spend on family time, shopping, appointments and other things! Any child with attendance below 90%, regardless of the reason for the absence, is considered to be a **persistent absentee**. This equates to just 2 days each month.

190 Days 100%	183 Days 96%	179 Days 94%	175 Days 92%	More than 18 days absence — less than 90%
				
Very best chance of success	Off to a flying start	Less chance of success	Harder to make progress	Persistent Absentee (Not fair on your child)

**IS YOUR CHILD A PERSISTENT ABSENTEE?** Statistics show that persistent absentees are less likely to achieve their full potential, and can affect GCSE grades, and a child’s future prospects. If your child is a persistent absentee then you will receive a call from Mr Smart and Miss Woodward. You will then go on to a Fast Track program for 6 weeks, where we work with you to improve your child’s attendance. **CAN YOUR CHILD AFFORD TO MISS OUT?** It is your Legal Responsibility. If your child does not attend school regularly (over 90%) the Local Authority can take action against you. This can be through a Fixed Penalty Notice (fine) or a summons to appear at the Magistrates Court.

## Punctuality

It is important that your child attends school every day and on time. Arriving late to school is unsettling for children and disrupts the start to their day.

**Did you know? 10 minutes late every day = 33 hours lost learning each year!!**

If your child arrives after 9.00am this significantly affects their attendance and learning. **CAN YOUR CHILD AFFORD TO MISS OUT?**

### Contact Details

Please make sure that you inform the school office if you change your home address, email address or telephone number as it is important that we have the correct details to contact you in an emergency.

We also need to ensure we have 4 contact numbers on our system for your child, in case we can’t get through to you.