



**STIVICHALL PRIMARY SCHOOL**

**tel: 024 7641 9555**

**email: [school@stivichall.coventry.sch.uk](mailto:school@stivichall.coventry.sch.uk)**

**website: [www.stivichallprimary.org](http://www.stivichallprimary.org)**



Dear Parents/Carers

20<sup>th</sup> December 2019

This will be the last newsletter of 2019 and I would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a happy and peaceful holiday.

Important Dates for first week of the new term:

- **Monday 6<sup>th</sup> January** - Children return to school
- " " " - First Forest School session for class 2P & 1P

#### School News

- The Reception Christmas concert took place this week and the children performed really well. We were very proud of them. Thank you all for attending in large numbers and thank you to the staff for preparing the children so well.
- A big thank you to the kitchen staff and lunchtime supervisors for all their efforts on Wednesday when both children and staff enjoyed a wonderful Christmas lunch.
- Congratulations to Anna D., class 6P and family who won the library Christmas Quiz.

#### Sports News

- On Thursday afternoon, fourteen year 5 children took part in the School Games 'Spirit of the Game' dodgeball event at the Woodlands School Sports Complex. Whilst the games themselves were competitive and exciting, each team scored more points for respect, honesty and teamwork (awarded by their opponents) than for a win. The children from Stivichall played with enthusiasm and determination, and represented the school in a positive, polite and friendly way.

#### Staff News

- We welcomed back Miss Williams to school on Monday following her maternity leave and look forward to the return of Mrs Watson in the New Year.
- Mrs Kaur leaves us today and we send her our best wishes for the future.
- Mrs Wills, one of our lunchtime supervisors, also left yesterday after working at Stivichall for over 12 years. She has very kindly agreed to continue to volunteer at one of our afterschool clubs but we do hope that she now finds a bit of time to put her feet up once in a while!

#### Wonderful News!

As many of you may be aware, Mollie in year 1 was diagnosed with a Wilm's tumour last November and had to undergo surgery and a course of chemotherapy. After a difficult year for the whole family, we are extremely delighted to share the wonderful news that following Mollie's recent scan she has been given the all clear. Mollie's family would like to express their most sincere thanks to the children, parents and the whole school community for all the support and kindness given to them over the past twelve months. We hope the whole family have a wonderful Christmas and wish them every happiness in 2020.

#### Christmas Decorations

Well done to the Pupil Leadership Team for their successful Christmas decorations project which managed to raise £70 for the Young Carers Trust in Coventry. This would not have been possible if it had not been for all the hard work and efforts from the children and parents who gave their time and effort in creating the decorations. Thank you to everyone who helped to contribute to a great cause over the Christmas period.

#### Attendance

The attendance for the whole school for the Autumn Term is 97.19%. We hope that all children who have been poorly over the last week, and who are recuperating at home, make a full recovery to enjoy the Christmas festivities.

#### School Dinners

Please remember to inform the school office if your child wishes to change their meal pattern next term. If your child normally has a school dinner but changes to packed lunches without notifying the office, any meals booked will be charged for. Although Reception and KS1 meals are free under the Universal Free School Meal Scheme, we would also request that parents inform the office of any meal pattern changes. Please remember to check your ParentPay account for any outstanding payments on your account.

### **Parking**

The office have received two calls this week from our neighbours living on both Green Lane and Wainbody Avenue North regarding parents blocking their driveways. The first incident resulted in the resident being late for work and the second incident made it impossible for carers to access the driveway to attend to an elderly man. In both cases, the drivers were rude and aggressive when the neighbours politely spoke to them. The office have asked both neighbours to report the incidents.

We received another call yesterday regarding the irresponsible parking on double yellow lines in Gregory Avenue. Parents are also choosing to reverse out onto Green Lane. This is an extremely dangerous manoeuvre, not only to pedestrians but to oncoming cars, and at times the road is completely inaccessible.

Please can I remind parents to use consideration when parking, as well as respect in relation to our neighbour's driveways and properties. We are all part of the same community and all have a duty to behave responsibly.

### **Parental Questionnaires Analysis**

Thank you to staff and parents for two very successful parents' evenings at the end of last half term. I am delighted to say that we had 98% attendance across the whole school with 11 classes celebrating 100%. This is exceptional and is testimony to the strong relationship between home and school. If you are one of 4 families who have not made an alternative appointment after missing parents' evening, please do aim to do so at your earliest convenience.

Thank you also to those parents who took the time to complete the parents' evening questionnaires. We had 204 questionnaires completed which is our highest number yet. The questions are taken from the revised Ofsted Parent View survey. The responses reflect an extremely high level of satisfaction with the school with 13 of the 14 questions having an agreement rate of 96% or above and 7 of the questions 99% or above. Many of the don't know responses, understandably, came from parents new to the school, these affected the statistics without necessarily indicating dissatisfaction. The number of parents strongly disagreeing did not rise above 2 for any of the questions and was 0 for many of them. We were delighted that 201 parents completing the survey would recommend this school to others (2 were unable to answer). We were also extremely heartened to find that 100% of parents who were able to answer the question felt that we provide a good range of subjects. This is testimony to the hard work and dedication of our staff, our curriculum vision and school ethos.

For Question 4, 6 and 7, the new format meant that parents were first asked to indicate whether they had reported bullying, whether their child had SEND and whether they had raised any concerns. This affected the statistics as indicated below:

Of 23 parents answering yes to **Question 4: My child has been bullied and the school dealt with the bullying quickly and effectively**, 20 indicated high levels of satisfaction, which statistically is 88%. This is the only question with a satisfaction level below 96%. If considered as part of the wider group, with a negative response to the initial question indicating our anti-bullying work is effective, then the outcome is 99% (giving us 14 of 14 above 96%).

Of 101 parents answering yes to **Question 6: When I have raised concerns they have been dealt with properly**, 97 indicated high levels of satisfaction, which statistically is 96%.

Of 24 parents answering yes to **Question 7: Does your child have special educational needs and does the school gives them the support they need to succeed** 3 parents answered don't know with the remaining parents indicating high levels of satisfaction. If you were one of the three parents requiring more information, please contact your child's class teacher or our Inclusion Lead, Miss Lilley, to answer any questions you may have.

Areas that we will continue to work on include our communication with parents to let them know how their child is doing. Although 96% of parents feel we do this well, the remaining 4% have indicated we could do more. We ask parents to share their ideas for addressing their needs so that we can work together to review and improve the ways in which we do this. Currently we have two formal parents' evenings, a written report, 3 open mornings, an end of year book look, celebration assemblies, class assemblies showcasing the learning that has taken place and an open invitation to make an appointment to speak to your child's class teacher. In addition, we share termly overviews, recommended reading lists and

provide a home school diary. Any further ideas will be welcomed with due consideration given to teacher workload.

The introduction of Sticky Questions was commented on positively as was Mathletics. Homework came up in one or two comments with parents asking for more traditional style homework as well as an English equivalent to Mathletics. Please look out for a message from the English team about Spelling Shed which is about to be introduced. Thank you for taking the time to provide feedback that enables us to shape our provision to best meet the needs of our pupils.

#### Knights of the Times Table Update

Children continue to do well in learning their times tables here at Stivichall. Children say that the badges and medals are helping to motivate them to learn and practise these key number facts – learning them so thoroughly means that the confidence and quick recall will hopefully stay with them for life.

A guide to parents for learning times tables has been updated and emailed to parents along with this newsletter. Please do take the time to read this useful and informative resource to help with continuing to teach your child(ren) at home. Year 4 parents will receive more information via a separate letter in January about the statutory online multiplication tables check (MTC). All year 4 children across the country will be taking part in these checks from June 2020.

#### **PTA NEWS**

The money from the Christmas Fayre has been counted and we have raised over £2,000!! Well done to you all!

We have had a very successful term fundraising and we would like to thank you for your continued support throughout 2019. Your help in volunteering, donating and spending has been invaluable for our children at Stivichall.

Have a wonderful Christmas and we look forward to some more exciting events in the New Year.

#### ***Community and Information News***

##### Research Survey

A student from the University of Warwick is conducting a research project on the barriers to parents using natural spaces (e.g. parks or forests) with children. She is looking for parents living in Coventry with primary-aged children to answer a brief survey about their use of natural spaces and ideas around outdoor play and has asked if our parents would help. The survey takes approximately 10 minutes to fill in.

To take part in the survey, please click on the link below:

[http://warwick.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_bmu1N6numwUUS7b](http://warwick.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_bmu1N6numwUUS7b)

With festive wishes

***Mrs K Ferguson***

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Head Teacher

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