

STAR ACADEMY SANDYFORD

Newsletter

STAR
ACADEMY • SANDYFORD

Issue 06 | February 2018 | www.staracademy.atrust.org.uk | Tel: 01782 235055

DIARY DATES

19th - 23rd February
Half Term holiday

1st March
World Book Day

7th March
Y2 Dance Performance Victoria Hall

19th March
Family Science Afternoon

22nd March
Easter Disco

26th March 9.15am
Easter Bonnet Parade

28th March
Egg Rolling Competiton

29th March
Academy Closes for Easter at 3.15pm

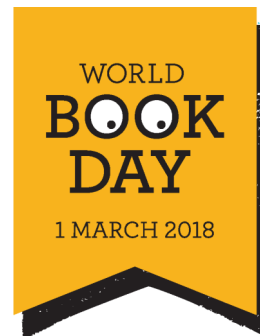
IN THIS ISSUE

- World Book Day
- Attendance Policy
- Child's Mental Health Week
- Easter Activities
- Parent Conferences



World Book Day

March 1st sees the arrival of World Book Day. Here at the academy we will be dressing up as characters from fairytales. We are looking forward to seeing all of you in your costumes. We have also been so lucky to win a visit from Alice in Wonderland. This was thanks to a number of parents sharing a post from social media. She will spend time with us and share stories and sing songs before going back to see the White Rabbit and Cheshire Cat.



A letter has gone out this week with further details.

Attendance Policy Changes

In our constant aim to improve academy attendance to match the national expectation of 96.5% (we are currently at 94.0%) changes have been made to our attendance policy.

FS1– 91.1%

FS2 - 92.6%

Y1 - 94.1%

Y2 - 92.9%

Y3 - 96.7%

Y4 - 92.6%

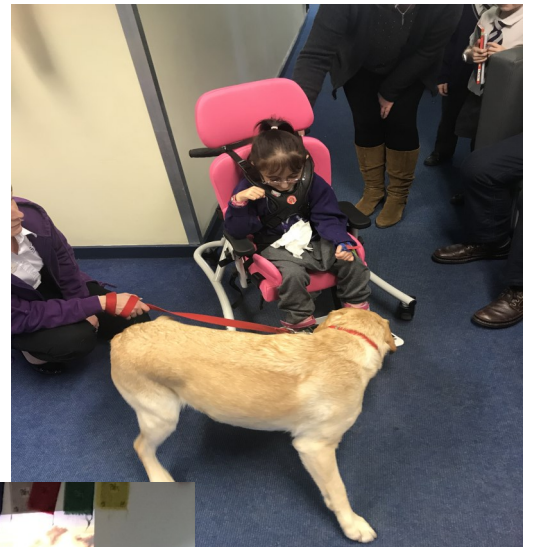
Y5 - 93.1%

Y6 - 94.9%

There have been many illnesses over the past few months that have affected attendance. However changes have been made to the attendance policy to support improvements. Changes have been made to the second paragraph under the heading 'Understanding types of absence' with regard to medical evidence. **FOR THE AVOIDANCE OF DOUBT FOR PARENTS, EVIDENCE IS NOW NEEDED FOR ALL EXCEPT WHEN SENT HOME ILL (TO INCLUDE 48 HOURS RULE IF SENT HOME SICK) OR KNOWN LONG-TERM MEDICAL CONDITIONS FOR WHICH WE HAVE RECENT PROOF.** Also, under the heading 'if your child is absent we will' the % has been changed from 85% to 90% in line with new Education Welfare guidelines.

CHILDREN'S MENTAL HEALTH WEEK

Keeping ourselves fit and healthy is always a focus for us here at STAR. Our well-being and feeling good in ourselves is also very important. Last week we had lots of activities that taught us ways in which we could keep shining and smiling. We welcomed Mrs Bell's Mum and Dad with their dog Bonnie for a "Pat a Pet" session. Mr Griffiths from Entrust Outdoor Education joined Year 5 and 6 to do a mindfulness session. All children completed an activity to say what was special about them and then we finished the week by wearing clothes that make us happy. Great fun all round.



PARENT CONFERENCES

Many thanks for the great attendance to the parent conferences last week. If you missed yours or did not make an appointment staff will be contacting you to make alternative dates.

FAMILY LEARNING

Mrs Lewis would like to thank all the parents who attended the family learning session. We have had some feedback that we are running too many sessions in the day and will endeavour to find a way of rectifying this moving forward.

ADVANCE EASTER ACTIVITIES WARN- ING



So that you can be well prepared I am giving you an advanced warning of the Easter activities that will be happening next half term. Wednesday 28th March at 11am will be our annual egg rolling competition. All children will need a hard boiled egg. This can be decorated if they wish. All classes will race their eggs against their classmates across the playground.

Foundation Stage (Nursery and Reception) will be taking part in an Easter Bonnet Parade. You are all invited to watch on Monday 26th March 9.15am. So time to get creative.

PTA will also be holding an Easter Raffle for the children. Any prize donations would be gratefully received.