

Windmill L.E.A.D. Academy
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Newsletter 3
September 23rd 2016
www.windmillacademy.co.uk

Dear Parents & Carers

What a wonderful, busy week here at Windmill. Autumn has arrived and I can't believe it will be half term shortly.

You will find on the reverse of this letter, a request for parents who might be interested in becoming a school governor. As you know, we strive to be a learning **community** here at Windmill. This means our children and families should play a key role in shaping the direction and future of our school.

I am currently trying to arrange some more FREE adult learning classes, watch this space for more information.

Best wishes



Ellie Green
Head Teacher

In this newsletter you will find information about:

- Attendance
- After School Clubs
- INSET Day

Attendance Award

Well done 4NG for achieving the highest attendance last week. Any class achieving 100% three times will receive a special prize.

Attendance

As you are aware, children's attendance is closely monitored at Windmill. In line with government expectations, we expect your child's attendance to be at least 96% by the end of the year. This takes into account days off due to the bugs and colds children pick up from time to time.

Our team of dedicated attendance officers Melanie Jago and Lauren Bradshaw will be in touch with you about any unexplained and regular absences, this will enable a discussion about how we can support you in improving your child's attendance, to avoid triggering a referral to the Education Welfare Service **who may take legal action.**

On 1st Sept 2016 Education Welfare implemented a new referral criteria; which school must adhere to:

"Any pupil with 10 sessions of unauthorised absence over a rolling 10 week period (10%) unauthorised absence. This can include lateness after the register has closed and unauthorised holidays or just consist of unexplained or unacceptable reasons for absence".

If you need any clarification on this referral process, Melanie is available in school Tuesday afternoons and all day Thursdays; Lauren is available all day on Wednesday each week. If your child's attendance drops below 90%, or unauthorised absences are recorded it is very important that you understand the new referral process.

I sympathise with those with family overseas however, visiting during term time has a serious negative impact on your child's learning, achievement and friendships.

Important Dates

Our next INSET day will be on Friday 14th October. Parents Evening are planned for early October.

After School Clubs

After school clubs start next week – make sure your child has signed up to join in with something they enjoy. Clubs finish at 4 pm and we ask for children to be collected promptly.

Parents & Carer Comments

Please let us know your thoughts

Vacancy: Windmill Parent Governor

Are YOU interested in becoming a school governor?

We currently have vacancies for interested parents to form part of our governing body.

Here at Windmill, it is vital that parents have a voice in the direction and developments within our school. YOU have an opportunity to influence and challenge change by becoming a Parent Governor.

What will this commitment mean?

- One meeting per half term, usually at 5 pm.
- Our next meeting is an Engagement meeting which will take place at 1:30pm, during the school day so that governors can experience the school in action.
- Often there are papers to read before the meeting – usually this is my Head Teacher’s report which is a bit like an extended newsletter.
- During the meetings, you can contribute your ideas and thoughts.

If you are interested in this role or would like some further information, please contact me – it would be great to hear from you. You can chat to me at the school gate, give me a call or speak to my office staff to arrange a chat.

