



# Working Together for Our Children

Half Term Next Week

Summer Term 2014/15 Newsletter

## Holidays Taken in Term Time

**A Message from our Chair of Governors,  
Mrs Jeanne Pratt**

Neither Mr Kidd nor Mr Harris make the rules regarding holidays that parents/carers want to take in term time.

The school is duty bound to adhere to the regulations passed by the Government in 2013 abolishing the right of Headteachers to authorise holiday absence during term time, unless the absence is considered as being a "one-off exceptional circumstance which outweighs the harm caused to a pupil's education by missing school".

Children's unauthorised holiday absence during term time will, as from May 1st 2015, result in a referral to the Local Authority to request a Penalty Notice for unauthorised leave of absence. The Penalty Notice fine is £60 (rising to £120 if unpaid after 21 days), per parent per child.

Please don't blame the school for this regulation. It is a political decision upheld by the Secretary of State for Education.

If you want to write to her and complain here are the details:

Ms Nicky Morgan MP  
Secretary of State for Education  
Ministerial and Public Communications Division,  
Department for Education,  
Piccadilly Gate, Store Street,  
Manchester M1 2WD  
(email: [ministers@education.gsi.gov.uk](mailto:ministers@education.gsi.gov.uk))

## Staff Training

On Monday 8<sup>th</sup> June the school office will close at 3:10pm for whole school child protection staff training. Please ensure that your child is collected promptly from school as there will be no one to supervise them after 3:10 pm.

The After School Football Club for Year 3/4 pupils will run as normal but again please ensure that you collect your child from school promptly at 4:15 pm (unless they normally walk home).

## Change to Pupil Contact Details

Please don't forget that if you change your contact details, in particular your mobile 'phone number, you need to inform the school office so that we can update the records we hold for you.

## End of Year

### Pupil Progress Consultation Meetings

We go a bit further than most schools in supporting you to track and have an understanding of your child's progress. Each time we meet with you teachers explain whether your son/daughter is reaching the expected level of attainment for their age when compared to the national average for their age.

Towards the end of the Summer term we have a slight change to our usual parent consultation arrangements. You will all receive your child's report, a summary of their attainment this school year. However, we will NOT be asking ALL parents/carers to meet with us in July.

Where there are issues related to a child's educational progress, their attendance or attitude to school, we will ask for an appointment with the parent/carer and then share the report with you.

Of course, any parent/carer specifically wanting a meeting with their child's teacher can ask for one.

One of the many changes this government has made to education is to remove the way we report on national curriculum progress. You will have got used to teachers levelling children as 2b, 3c, 4b etc. – not anymore!

Each school has had to introduce their own progress tracking system based on pupils:

- Working BELOW age related national expectation
- Working IN LINE with age related expectation, or
- Working ABOVE age related expectation

So, be prepared as your child's report will be based on the terminology above that we now have to use in reporting attainment and pupil progress.

## Breakfast Club / After School Clubs

Our Breakfast Club and after school clubs will resume the first week back following next week's half term, on Monday 1<sup>st</sup> June.

### Change To The Length of the School Working Day

Governors have approved a proposal to alter the length of the school working day beginning in September. In short school will finish at 3.30pm allowing additional time to be allocated to the lunch hour, extending the afternoon session by 25 minutes.

There will be no alterations to our morning nursery provision but our afternoon nursery provision will begin at 12:30 and finish at 3:30 pm.

Our school role is significantly larger than it was some years ago and changes are needed to make areas of our work more efficient. Including our nursery we have 357 pupils, a lot more than even 5 years ago. For the 5<sup>th</sup> consecutive year we have had more applications for our September reception class than we have spaces available and most other year groups are full, some with a waiting list.

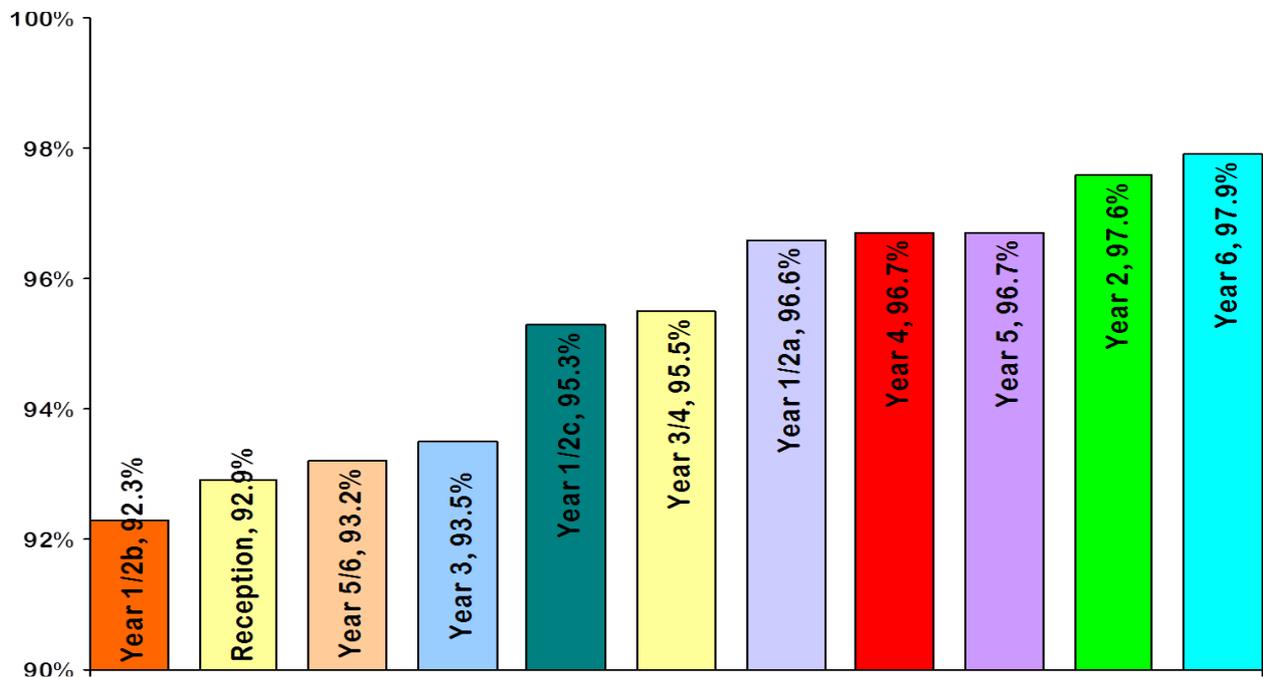
If you have a child or know of children who want to attend Carr Hill, in our nursery especially, parents/carers are well advised to make that application early. Generally we have two nursery start dates, for children who are aged 3 either on 1<sup>st</sup> September or 1<sup>st</sup> January.

### Attendance – Summer Half Term 2015

The whole school percentage attendance for this half term, from 20<sup>th</sup> April until Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> May, is 95.3%, a good effort but one that we need to improve on this next half term before the school year ends. Here is the attendance data, class by class. Congratulations to Miss Rickerby's Class who has the highest percentage attendance this half term, at 97.9%.

The class with the highest attendance since the start of the school year is Mrs Mills Class with a fantastic 97.9%.

42 Children still have 100% attendance so far this school year 😊



### SCHOOL TERM DATES 2014/2015

#### Summer Term

Monday 20<sup>th</sup> April until Friday 17<sup>th</sup> July 2015

(Bank holiday – 4<sup>th</sup> May 2015)

(Half term 25<sup>th</sup> – 29<sup>th</sup> May 2015)

Occasional Day – Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2015

Staff Training Day – Friday 17<sup>th</sup> July 2015