



Thursday 11th January 2018

Dear Parents/Carers

Happy New Year 2018!

It was lovely to welcome children and families back to the new school term. I hope that you have had an opportunity to spend time with your family and friends over the Christmas holidays. For those amongst you who have suffered the awful virus and cold, I wish you a speedy recovery.

Whole School Action - Emotional literacy

For your information: as a school we are introducing a new character called "The Colour Monster".

This is a very visual, quirky monster that displays a range of colours that are associated with different emotions. Our intention is to improve our ability to listen to our children's emotional needs; for children to have the means and vocabulary to talk about how they feel and to build up their emotional vocabulary (which we call in the trade emotional literacy). You will find the colour monster appearing in the school entrance for your reference this term. Every class is using the tool kit in an age appropriate way. Please don't panic if your child starts to talk about feeling cross and red, or happy and yellow. The Colour Monster can be found in a children's story book by Anna Llena. We have adapted the colours and story to suit our pupils.



Which colour monster are you feeling?

Yellow- happy

Green – calm

Blue – sad

Purple – scared

Orange - worried

Red – angry

White – all mixed up / confused



School Uniform

Please remember to send your child in the correct school uniform. This includes black shoes or boots in the cold weather. Trainers are not acceptable. Any hair accessories must be kept to a sensible size and be green or black in keeping with the school uniform. Long hair must be tied back. Always send your child to school in a water proof coat at this time of year as the glorious blue sky changes very quickly. Thank you for your cooperation.



Attendance celebrations

Term Two Overall Winners

Attendance - Yr 4 96%

Punctuality - Yr 2 Scots Pine

Attendance Term 2		
Class name / yr. group	Attendance	Absence and rating.
Hazel – EYFS	93.4	Keep Trying
Horse Chestnuts – Yr 1	94.4	Nearly there
Scots Pine – Yr 2	94.9	Nearly there
Sycamore – Yr 3	91.8	Keep Trying
Willow – Yr 4	96.7	On target – Super 
Silver Birch –Yr 5	95.0	Nearly there
Oak – Yr 6	94.1	Nearly there
Attendance Term 2 –All Pupils	94.3%	Target 96%

Class data for 100% attendance in term 2

CLASS	NUMBER OF PUPILS / PERCENTAGE
Yr 6 – Oak	9/29 = 31%
Yr 5 – Silver Birch	10/30 = 33%
Yr 4 – Willow	15/31 = 48%
Yr 3 – Sycamore	10/27 = 37%
Yr 2 – Scots Pine	13/27 = 48%
Yr 1 – Horse Chestnut	12/30 = 40%
EYFS – Hazel	13/30 = 43%

Pupils will receive their 100 % attendance certificates this week as part of our praise assembly. Well done to all who achieved this.

Attendance data up to the end of Term 2 – this has trailed off and decreased unfortunately due to the nasty bout of colds and vomiting viruses that struck both staff and pupils in December.

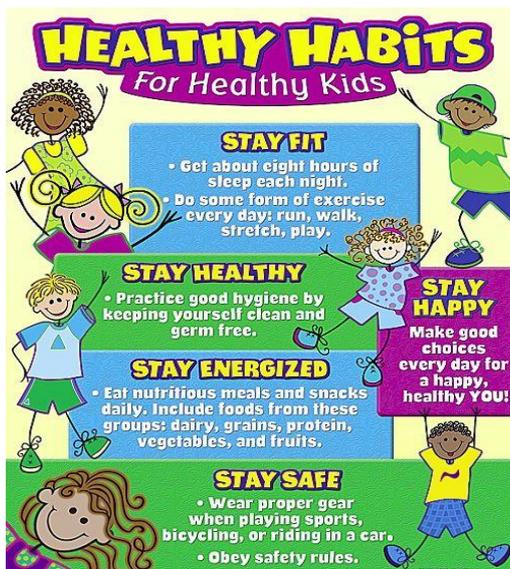
	Term 1	Term 2
Attendance	97.5%	94.3%
Absence	2.5%	5.7%
% age of pupils late	14.8%	27.94%
Percent of pupil regularly late (4 or more sessions)	4.43%	5.39%
Percent of pupils with attendance below 90%	4.9%	16.2%

Remember there are ways to combat the common cold and uphold a healthy immune system that can resist some of the germs that seem to be so persistent these days. Eating fruit and vegetables every day helps enormously. Also drinking plenty of water, and getting a good amount of rest and sleep.



This works alongside taking some fresh air and exercise, such as walking the dog, going to the park for a run around, swimming, or taking part in any sporting activities .All these life style choices help to keep away “the dreaded lurgy”!! So go on, make it a New Year’s resolution. Laughing is also said to be a very good tonic for good health so get the joke book out!! Mr Knight always has a good joke up his sleeve! Remember to look after yourselves!

Thank you to all our families who are trying so hard to support the school in reaching our target of 97% attendance over the year. It is important that we all work together, helping children maximise the best chance for a consistent and fair opportunity at their one chance of education.



Deal Alliance of Schools - collaborative work

As you are aware, all the schools in Deal work closely together on various projects and activities. This has resulted in not only children from different schools working together, but also staff. We are currently involved in a very exciting project which will impact on the whole of the town and the many visitors that come here.

The Deal Town Time Trail focusses on the rich history of our town. Groups of our children have been helping to create history trails around Deal, to enable visitors and residents to understand and experience our heritage. This is a project that has been supported by Royal Marines Heritage and has received lottery funding.

All the children's work will be on show at the launch of the project, which will be in April, to which everyone will be invited. More details will follow in due course.

Term 3 2018 dates and events

DATE	EVENT	INFORMATION
12-01-18, and every Friday afternoon during Term 3.	Tennis lessons for Year 6	Held at the Indoor Tennis Centre Deal.
12-01-18 & 16-01-18	Science, Technology, Engineering & Maths – STEM workshops.	Timetabled across two days for every child and class to take part enriching and extending pupils experiences and opportunities.
15-01-18	Yr 1 & 2 football competition	Mr Earl to send out further information.



16-01-18	Visit from local tennis coach Deal Indoor Tennis centre	Whole school assembly
17-01-18	Kent Fire Safety Talks	Safety presentations to whole school
25-01-18	Tennis competition against Seven Oaks primary School.	Mrs Hodgson to send out further information
06-02-18	Safer Internet Day – Ks1 presentation to parents 9:15am KS2 presentation to parents 2:30pm	National event theme “Create, Connect & Share Respect: A better internet starts with You!”
Friday 09.02.18	End of term 3	School closed for 1 week holiday.
Monday 19.02.18	Term 4 starts	All children return to school for lessons.

A moment for reflection:

Dear Lord.

As we start in a new year, let us give thanks for all we hold dear: our health, our family and our friends.

Let us release our grudges, our anger and our pains, for these are nothing but binding chains. Let us live each day in the most loving ways, the God-conscious way. Let us serve all who are in need, regardless of their race, colour or creed. Let us not forget the example Jesus showed to us with the way he lived. Help us all to work to show the love the way Jesus did for us.

Let us not forget how fortunate we are living in the warmth and comfort of our own homes. We pray for all the possible opportunities that may come in 2018. May we remember to praise and thank you for all the good and amazing things that happen this year. However we also pray for you to shower us with love, mercy and grace in the hard times that happen in 2018 also.

*May our year be filled with peace, prosperity and love. May God's blessings come upon us and bestow upon each of us a bright, healthy and peaceful new year.
Amen.*

I am sure we will face many new challenges throughout the year ahead. However I am sure that we will also experience laughter, excitement, fun and amazement - and a great sense of pride in all our achievements and events at Deal Parochial School. Remember we are here to listen and support families and work together to overcome any barriers and challenges that inevitably arise from time to time.

Thank you for your continued support.
Warmest wishes at this chilly time of year.

Justine Brown
Head Teacher.

