

Our Vision:
**EXCELLENCE
IN ALL WE DO**



Our Mission:
**TO GROW,
LOVE AND LEARN
FOLLOWING JESUS**

24th May 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

As always, thank you hugely for your support over the past half term. I can not quite believe that we are so close to the end of this academic year. It is lovely to see the progress that all our children have made. Well done to our Team 6 who had their SATs last week and absolutely gave it their best. Our youngest children in Nursery have been thoroughly enjoying their new sand pit!

It is with mixed feelings that I let you know that Miss Carey and Mrs Morgan will be leaving us in the summer. Miss Carey is moving to sunnier shores as she has secured a job in Dubai. Mrs Morgan has a long commute to work and has understandably decided to work closer to home. We will miss them so much as they have contributed so much to the life of St Bernard's.

Our school attendance is currently 91.5% - unfortunately we are not reaching our attendance target of 96%+. As you are aware, improving attendance is a key priority for the school. We are a public school and therefore we have to align to government guidelines. I remind you that:

Local Authorities have the power to prosecute parents who:

- *Fail to ensure their child's regular attendance at school (section 444, Education Act (EA) 1996)*
- *Knowingly allow their child to be absent from school without authorisation (section 444(1A), EA 1996)*

Please remember that any family holidays planned for the summer term time will not be authorised and could result in fixed penalty notices being served by Cheshire West and Chester LA. All parents **must** complete a **holiday request form** and outline any exceptional circumstances why they need to take their child out of school. As stated above, if you do not inform us of your intention to keep your child off school then the LA has the power to prosecute.

The school has a legal duty to publish its absence figures to parents and to promote excellent attendance. Equally, parents have a duty to make sure that their children attend school.

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Over the last half term we have dealt with many issues with social media and use of mobile phones. Can I please remind parents that you must be 13 years old to register to use WhatsApp and Primary School children are not mature enough to cope with all the issues that the use of phones/social media brings. Please do not allow your child to access this app and monitor the use of their phone generally. As parents, it is up to us to monitor the use of our child's phone and ensure that they do not spend excessive time on it. Unfortunately, I know that some children are still accessing their phones in the early hours of the morning.

Hopefully you have all received the key dates for next half term. We have lots planned! I hope that you all have a fabulous week off with your families. Let's hope the sun shines! A reminder that we return to school on **Tuesday 4th June**.

Thank you so much for your continued support.
Julie Le Feuvre

Head of School

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