

Canterbury Cross Newsletter



Dates for your Diary:-

13 th March	Reception Ash End Farm
26 th - 29 th March	Book Fair 3.40- 4.10
29 th March	School closes for half term
16 th April	School re-opens
3 rd May	School closed – Local elections
4 th May	Teacher Training Day – school closed
7 th May	School closed – Bank holiday
25 th May	School closes for half term

All children will be given a £1 voucher which they may use at the book fair.

Attendance

If your child is absent, please telephone the school office before 9.45 am to inform us as to why your child is absent. Please do not inform teachers or teaching assistants of your child's absence.

If you do not ring the office, a call will be sent out from the office via Truancy Call. You will then be asked to leave a message. Please make sure you leave a clear message.

If we do not receive a reason for your child's absence the absence will be unauthorised.

Frequent absence can add up to a considerable amount of lost learning and can seriously disadvantage your child in adult life. If your child's level of absence is of serious concern you will receive another letter advising you about improving attendance. After this, any further unauthorised absence may result in the school and the Local Authority taking legal action which could include a fine or prosecution.

Extended Holidays

In line with Government requirements and Birmingham City Council policies, we are unable to authorise absence unless it falls within the exceptional circumstance criteria. An example of which would be an immediate family member falling ill and the tickets being booked that day, for an immediate departure.

Last year our school suffered from a number of extended holidays in the summer term, pulling our school attendance down to a level that OFSTED deem unacceptable. The children missed vital work to prepare them for the following year and the school will fail to receive the "Outstanding" OFSTED label that we are striving for, due the attendance level– which is out of our control. As we have stated in our newsletter every week, we will be following the Fixed Penalty Notice procedure to the letter without exception.

Prosecution of parents/carers, Education Act 1996 Section 444

At Victoria Law Court in January 2018, the first case against a parent at Canterbury Cross Primary School was heard. After hearing the circumstances of the case the Magistrates imposed a fine of £95, costs of £110 and a victim surcharge of £30; a total of £235.

This was for 1 parent for 1 child

Medical Appointments

If your child has an appointment at the Doctor's or Hospital, please provide a letter to the school office. If we do not receive a letter or card then the absence will be unauthorised.

E-Safety

Discuss What Devices Connect to the Internet

Take the time to discuss what devices are capable of connecting to the Internet and how the connection is established. Nowadays, even household appliances and television sets can connect to the Internet which makes it all that much more important to discuss this with children. Children use a wide variety of different gadgets both inside of school and at home. Knowing which ones connect to the Internet will prevent them from inadvertently revealing personal information on a device they are unaware is connected. The same advice rings true for open wireless connections. Educate yourself on the difference between a secure wireless connection and ones that are left open. For example, if your child can freely connect to the neighbour's Wi-Fi connection, it is important to show them how to connect to your secured home wireless network connection instead. Any connection that does not require a password is unsecured.

Dinner Money

School dinner money is £9.00 per week Monday to Thursday. If your child is in Friday Club and they wish to have a hot meal then the total for the week £11.25. Children must stay on their agreement till the end of the month.

Rights Respecting School's Award

In March we are looking at **Article 31**. Every child has the right to relax, play and take part in a wide range of cultural and artistic activities.

Mr Din's Monthly Homework

We are changing Mr Din's homework to a monthly prize. This month's homework is to design a new toy - it can be drawn and labelled or make a 3D model of your new toy.

Nursery September 2018

Parents of children born between **01/09/14 – 31/08/15** please apply for nursery now. Applications are available from the school office.