



Friday, 05 February 2016

Dear Parents,

Chinese New Year



It is Chinese New Year on Monday 8 February and we are putting on a special themed lunch for the children. There will be a choice of sweet and sour chicken (a halal and non-halal version will be available) or vegetable spring rolls, served with either egg noodles or rice and salad. This will be followed by chocolate cake and ice-cream. The hall will be decorated to add to the experience. It would be great to see as many children as possible helping us to mark the Chinese New Year by having a school meal. We are hoping that our children will really enjoy this experience and are planning to put on more special themed meals. If you, or your child, have a good idea for one of these special meals, please let us know.

Attendance

We are really pleased to say that our attendance has continued to improve throughout this year. In 2014, our attendance was in the bottom 10% of schools in the country. This year, our attendance has improved to be in-line with national average. In the last week of January, 96.8% of our children attended school. This improvement has been a real team effort with all parents, children, governors and staff playing their part. Thank you! Our younger children continue to get their weekly 100% attendance reward and on Monday we will be holding a raffle for the older children with 100% attendance. The winner will be taken to select a bike.

Community Award

If your child has made a significant and positive contribution to the local community, please nominate them for the Gulzareen Shehzad memorial award. This could be visiting an elderly relative, going to the local shop for a neighbour or joining a community group that helps out in West Bowling. The School Council and Governing Body will be deciding who to award the very first trophy to in the summer. Please let the Office know if you think your child deserves to be thanked for their work in the community.

Community Support

I wanted to take this opportunity to remind you about the clothing bank and café held in St. Stephen's church hall. The clothing bank has lots of winter clothes and shoes available. If

you know of anyone who would benefit, please ask them to go to the church hall or contact Nahida Bi, our Parental Involvement Worker who will help. The café runs every Thursday and provides a meal that is on a 'pay what you can' basis.

P.E. Kit

Unfortunately, we are no longer working with the supplier who provides our navy blue tracksuit bottoms. We are, however, still selling shorts. If anyone in the community is able to help us source reasonably priced tracksuit bottoms, please contact the Office. We would be very grateful.

Maths

There are a few exciting events happening in maths next week:

- On Thursday 11 February, Year 2 children are inviting all their parents in for a maths morning to look at the kind of work that is being done.
- The Year 1 and 2 addition and subtraction Battle for the Blues will be held on Wednesday 10 February. Please continue to help your child practice their number bonds and see if they can be the holder of the Blue Shield for half term 3.
- The Battle of the Blues multiplication and division facts competition for Years 3 to 6 pupils will take place on Friday 12 February at 2.45pm in the School Hall. You are more than welcome to see who will be the champion of champions this half term and win the chance to wear the prized 'Newby Red' badge.

Holiday

School will close at 3.30pm on Friday 12 February and will re-open at 8.00am for Breakfast Club or 8.55am for the start of school on Monday 22 February.



Next half term the theme throughout school is 'Water and Ice'. Please see our website at www.newbyprimary.co.uk to see the topic that your child or children will be studying and to see some of the highlights of the learning so far this year.

Have a wonderful holiday.
Yours faithfully,

Janice Stephenson
Headteacher