

# Headlines

Morgan's Vale and Woodfalls CE Primary School Newsletter  
January 2016

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Sorry, lots of 'dos' and don'ts' in this edition, sometimes they're necessary to keep the School running smoothly. Please catch me at the beginning / end of the day if you have any questions or you can email me at [head@mvwacademy.co.uk](mailto:head@mvwacademy.co.uk)

## **Breakfast & Afterschool Club**

Please can you send reply slips in for Breakfast and After School Club requirements as soon as possible. You can collect a letter from the School Office if you have misplaced yours or have not received one for some reason.

## **Safeguarding**

Our children know that all authorised visitors to the School will be wearing a bright yellow visitor's badge in the School building or on the School site. This reassures them that they are safe at all times whilst in School.

I know that our parents enjoy that they are able to come into the School building with their child first thing in the morning if they choose.

However there are occasions when we find adults in the School building when we are not expecting them. The School day starts with Registration at 8.55am, so we are expecting children to be in the classroom by this time and therefore adults dropping children off should be clear of the classroom and corridor area by 9am. Can I take this opportunity to remind you that every Thursday free coffee, tea and cake is provided in the Community Room at St Birinus Church for parents from dropping off time onwards.

If you need to come to the school for any reason after 9am – please come to the School Office entrance even if the doors to the KS1 and KS2 entrances are open – there are signs on the door to remind you. Children know that they should not open to any un-badged visitors.

I know that if you are dropping a forgotten packed lunch, coat or similar off for your child you may want to be helpful by taking it down to the pegs or classroom yourself - Please do not - items should be left in the office.

If you are waiting for your child to finish school and you have a younger child with you who needs the toilet (or yourself!) you are welcome to use the disabled toilet near the School Office and not the children's toilets.

If your child needs to re-enter the building at the end of the day to retrieve a forgotten item, please just send your child back in or speak to a member of staff on the door. We often have children changing for after school clubs and having unknown adults in the building can worry them as well as creating extra 'traffic' at a time when we are focussing on making sure each child is safely reunited with their adult at the end of the day.

## **Attendance**

The School has a target attendance for the year of 96%. At this time of the year there are all kinds of winter bugs about and Chicken Pox seems to have gone through a large proportion of our children. Deciding whether to send your child to school if they are feeling a little unwell is always a tricky decision that has to be made soon after

they have awoken and often in a short amount of time.

We would tend to encourage parents to err on the side of bringing children in to school if you are unsure – unless there is a clear risk of infecting other children (for example if they have had a bout of diarrhoea and vomiting).

Some children's attendance has slipped towards 90 or even 85% and we will be writing individually to parents to inform you of this and the risk this presents to your child's academic progress. Letters will be sent to parents of children whose attendance was below 95% for the whole of last year **and** is below 95% so far this year.

## **Home Learning (Homework)**

We are in the process of reviewing our Home Learning Policy and are seeking the views of staff, children and soon parents! There will be a letter and short questionnaire coming out soon to collect your views and ideas, which we will hope to work into a policy which is good balance.

## **Diary Dates**

### **MVW Academy AGM**

Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> January 6.30pm in the School Hall – all welcome.

### **Last Day of Term 3**

Friday 12<sup>th</sup> February

### **First Day of Term 4**

Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> February

### **Blessing of New Classroom**

Friday 26<sup>th</sup> February

We are very pleased that the Archdeacon of Sarum, The Ven Alan Jeans, will be joining us for our Friday Collective Worship and will bless our new classroom – more details to follow.