

Dear Parents

Chilly starts and unpredictable weather have come at last, please remind your children to wear coats to keep the sniffles at bay.

HEALTH & SAFETY

Parents are reminded that they have responsibility for their children at the start and end of the school day; school staff come out into the playground before school at 8.45am.

All scooters should be stored in the bike shelter by school age children and wheeled through the playground by younger children so that collisions can be avoided.

It is important that the staff car park is kept clear even at the end of the school day and beyond; contractors, deliveries and colleagues from other schools and agencies visit the school after 3.30pm and children are not allowed access to that area. Please do not use the car park for picking up children from after school clubs unless you have a permit.

ATTENDANCE

Governors have agreed amendments to the school's Attendance Policy on the advice of the Torbay Attendance Improvement Officer and in the light of the recent court case on the Isle of Wight.

The policy is available on the school website and copies are stored with absence request forms at the school office. Key points to be aware of are:

- *It is our duty to consistently strive to achieve a goal of 100% attendance for all children.*
- *The routines children develop around attendance and punctuality at school are the same as the expectations of any future*

employer in the world of work. High attainment, confidence with peers and staff, and future aspirations depend on good attendance.

- *Between 09:30am – 10:30am admin staff will text the parents of any pupil whose absence is unexplained and on each consecutive day that the absence remains unexplained. Failure to reply will result in an unauthorised absence*
- *If, at any time, a child has 10 or more unauthorised absences equating to 10% within a 6 months period, the school should attend a legal consultation with the Local Authority to consider legal options available.*

We have made a positive start to the term; please support your child with the fullest attendance possible.

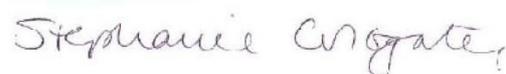
CURRICULUM

Next week is Harvest week at Homelands and we invite children to bring in an item of food for our Harvest collection; this year it will be coordinated by the Salvation Army and some Year 6 helpers, keeping a photographic record of what happens to the donations once they leave school.

AND FINALLY...

Many of you will remember Carl Haywood who was a caretaker at Homelands until ill health forced him to leave 3 years ago. He sadly passed away last week. A big man with a big heart, he could always be relied upon for a cheerful chat and an update on how many days until Christmas!

Yours sincerely



Stephanie Colegate
Headteacher