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**WELLINGTON STREET, STOCKTON ON TEES**

**TS18 1QX, TEL: 01642 860055**

**Head Teacher: Mrs S Skillcorn**

31st January 2019

Dear Mum, Dad / Carer

**Sporting Success**

Our Y6 basketballers competed in the next round of the Basketball finals. They displayed excellent dribbling skills, sheer determination and finished each game with amazing shooting skills too, winning 3 out of their 4 games. After a three-way draw, it came down to the number of baskets. With a huge total of 22 baskets, Mill Lane won the league and we are thrilled that they are now through to the Tees Valley finals next month.

**Extending the Curriculum**

Children enjoy the opportunity to attend many clubs and activities including, Art & Craft, Glee club, Lego, ICT, Samba, Netball, Basketball, Movement and Athletics. Year 6 had a visit from PC Barret to discuss Anti-Social Behaviour - what it is and how it can be dealt with. PC Barret brought in some police uniforms for the children to carry out role play activities and to 'make arrests'. This was fun way to learn an invaluable lesson.

**Attendance**

Children returned to school refreshed after the holidays ready for the spring term. Congratulations to **70** children who achieved 100% attendance in the autumn term. They each received a certificate and a selection box. We continue to reward 100% weekly attendance and remind parents that it is your parental responsibility to ensure that children arrive at school on time at **8:45am**.

Attendance

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Year Group | Attendance |
| Nursery | 91.6% |
| Reception | 94.8% |
| Y1 | 95.8% |
| Y2 | 95.9% |
| Y3 | 97.7% |
| Y4 | 94.5% |
| Y5 | 95.7% |
| Y6 | 97.7% |
| Total | 95.6% |

**Parental and Community Links**

Thank you to parents who came to all of our events last month to see the amazing work your children are involved in.

**Internet Safety**

At home, children often play games online where there are potential dangers of connecting with people they do not know. Please ensure that parental controls are in place on any device that children are using. If you would like support with this, please speak to Mr Abbott. Please remind children that abusive language or swearing is monitored. Please make sure that apps are age appropriate. Minimum age for Instagram and Facebook, like many other apps, is **13** years old. The CEOP Jigsaw video helps to highlight the risks. This can be found at

**Passwords**

Children’s safety is paramount at Mill lane. Please make sure that your list of adults allowed to collect your child is kept up to date and that those adults know your password. Please also make sure that telephone contact numbers are kept up to date so that we are able to contact you in the event of an emergency.

**Meeting & Greeting your Children**

For security reasons, please remember that mobile phones use is **NOT** permitted on the playground. We now have CCTV and any parent seen using their telephone, for whatever reason, may be banned from the premises.

**Residentials**

This year Y5 & Y6 have the amazing opportunity to go to Disneyland Paris and Y3 & 4 have the amazing opportunity to go to London on residential trips.We are hoping to repeat these every 2 years.Schoolis heavily subsidizing these visits so we are organising lots of fund-raising activities starting with Mrs Skillcorn completing the Boxing Day Dip and Mrs Fletcher doing a sponsored slim to raise money for Mill Lane Primary School fund. We have a clothes sale and a Bingo evening planned too.

**Tooth Brushing**

Every child who attends Mill Lane has the opportunity to brush their teeth at school each day as part of the Tooth Brushing Scheme.  Every child has been given a tooth brush and tooth paste and our Dental Nurse is very pleased to see how all of our children are now brushing their teeth independently.  Children should brush their teeth after breakfast and just before bedtime each day as well to help to reduce tooth decay.

**Dates for your Diary**

*Friday 15th February* School closes for the school holidays

*Monday 25th February* Children return to school.

*Thursday 5th April* School closes for the Easter holidays

*Tuesday 23rd April* Children return to school

*Monday 6th May* Bank holiday

*Friday 24th May* School closes for half term holiday

*Monday 3rd June* Children return to school

*Friday 19th July* School closes for summer holidays

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely

Mrs Skillcorn

Head Teacher