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"A good school at the heart of the community"

Newsletter for April 14th 2016

Dear parents, carers, families and friends,

Very exciting news over the Easter break – the school received an SEN and Disability Champion award! A large part of this related to a survey of children’s thoughts about our safeguarding practice, so we were really pleased ☺



It’s been a great return to school this week, with lots of lovely weather to enjoy at playtimes. Yesterday, the Discoverers class went over to Ibstock Junior School to take part in a planned climbing wall afternoon with Ibstock Juniors and Dovebank. It was a great opportunity for the schools to share resources and the children had a fantastic time! It was brilliant to see them face the challenge of the wall stretching up above them – special mention to Callum and Max for real resilience and getting well-deserved cheers as they climbed higher than they thought possible.



This is a useful resource for parents in strengthening online safety for their children at home:

<http://www.internetmatters.org/hub/expert-opinion/child-online-safety-addressing-top-parental-concerns/#inappropriate>

Well worth taking a look. If you would like any further support or advice, we’ll do our best to help.

Child online safety: Addressing top parental concerns

By Internet Matters on 19th January, 2016

Prevention is always better the cure however, if you’re child has been affected by an e-safety issue, it is important to know what steps you can take to limit the potential effects it can have on them.

To help, we’ve compiled a list of e-safety concerns that you may have about your child’s online safety and steps you can take to help them deal with it. We’ve also provided helpful links to organisations that can offer more help.

Best wishes – Ms Harrison and the staff of Heather Primary School





Adventurous Brainbuilders 😊

If you follow us on Twitter, you'll already have seen this picture of some of the fantastic Easter homework from the Adventurers class – well done, Adventurer families for working so well together to produce some amazing pieces of work!

The impact of absence

This (slightly busy) graph shows the impact on attendance for children in Year 6 classes in 2013/14 – you can see the blue bar, showing children reaching age-related expectations, go down further and further as they have more absences from school. The red bar shows the number of children exceeding age-related expectations decreasing in an equally dramatic way.

Missed school days make a huge difference to what our children can achieve.

Figure 1: Percentage of pupils in state-funded mainstream schools achieving stated levels at the end of KS2 in 2013/14 academic year by overall absence rate across KS2

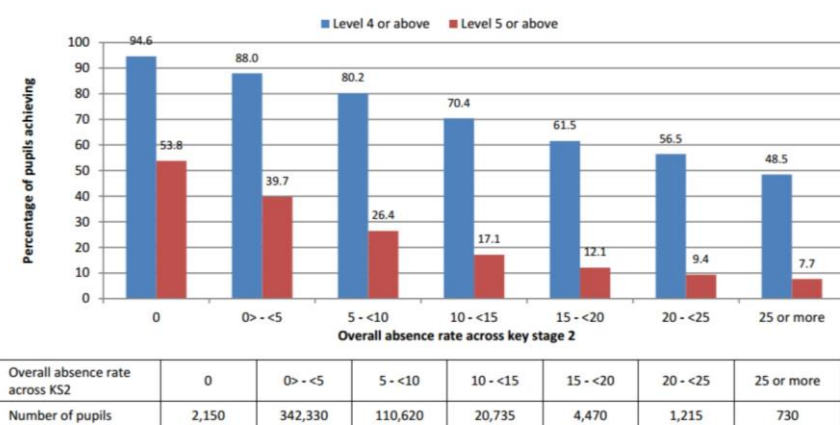


Figure 1 shows that pupils with no absence are 1.3 times more likely to achieve level 4 or above, and 3.1 times more likely to achieve level 5 or above, than pupils that missed 10-15 per cent of all sessions.

Sharing assembly dates for the Summer term

15 th April	Adventurers
22 nd April	Explorers
29 th April	Sports
6 th May	Pioneers
13 th May	Discoverers
20 th May	Voyagers
27 th May	Adventurers
10 th /17 th June	Explorers (depends on Sports Day and the weather!)
24 th June	Sports
1 st July	Pioneers
8 th July	Discoverers sharing and presentation of the last certificates of the year for children not in Year 6
15 th July	Leavers Assembly - starting at 2.30pm