



## Term 2A Newsletter Friday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2024

Assalamu Alaikum,

Dear Parent/Carer,

Happy New Year, it is fantastic to have the children back in school.

We would like to take the opportunity to send a reminder about our attendance expectations and our policies and procedures in relation to children's absence. School attendance is important as recent research shows children with the highest rates of attendance achieve the highest attainment at the end of key stage 2. Missing school for even a day means a child is less likely to achieve good grades, which can have a damaging effect on their life chances. At Fig Tree we encourage all children to strive for 100% attendance: every day and every lesson counts.

Our aim is to work with parents to ensure that all our children receive the most from their education and reach their full potential. This letter is to remind all parents/carers regarding the law that requires them to ensure that their child attends school regularly. Statutory guidance from Department for Education regarding attendance clearly states that a child should NOT miss school apart from in exceptional circumstances and schools must continue to take steps to reduce absence to support children's attainment. Dental and medical appointments should be made outside of school hours where possible.

If your child is unable to attend school for any reason, for safeguarding purposes, it is the duty of the parent to notify the school via phone or email [office@figtreeprimary.co.uk](mailto:office@figtreeprimary.co.uk) before 9.30am to inform us.

When absence first becomes a concern, Fig Tree will send an attendance letter to parents / carers. If absence continues, we will invite you in for a meeting with the school to put an action plan in place to improve attendance.

If there are any issues preventing attendance, please communicate with us.

**Overall, the whole school attendance for term 1 is 92%, this is 4% below the national expected standard.**

We have had an exceptional amount of holiday requests during term time. We understand that the cost of flights is excessively high during holiday periods however we do ask parents to refrain from booking holidays during term time as this affects children's learning considerably.

We will seek advice from the local authority and begin to issue a fine for those parents taking holidays during term time.

Well done to all the children with 100% attendance over the first term. awards were presented during bronze assembly. Thank you to all families for supporting their children with good attendance allowing them to make the best of all learning opportunities!

**Please note: Attendance certificates are awarded for attendance and punctuality.**

### Winter fair

Alhamdulillah, we raised an astounding **£1170.87 from the Winter Fair**, all proceeds will go towards new resources for the school including new playground equipment. Thank you to everyone that attended the event!

### Uniform

Please make sure your child attends school in full uniform including plain black shoes. Thank you to the majority of parents and children who abide by the school uniform policy and who always attend in the correct uniform.

### School Dinner Payment

We kindly request parents to pay for their child's dinner money in advance **every Monday** morning. Please also confirm what days your child will be having lunch. All payment must be made using the drop box located in the reception area.

**The cost of a school meal is £2.10.**

### Milk Money

Please pay **£6 every half term** for your child to drink milk in school. All payment must be made using the drop box located in the reception area.

### PE Lessons

The table below provides information about PE lesson days in each year group. Please make sure you send your child with appropriate PE kit on his/her PE day:

Year Groups	PE Lesson Day
Year 1 and 2	Monday
Year 3 and 4	Tuesday
Year 5 and 6	Thursday

### Theme of the week Term 2A

The aim of the weekly themes is to promote development of knowledge and skills which provide an experiential dimension for spiritual and moral areas of the curriculum.

Week	Theme
<b>Week 1</b> 01.01.2024	Theme 28 Jihad - The struggle through Life
<b>Week 2</b> 08.01.2024	Theme 14 Being generous to everyone
<b>Week 3</b> 15.01.2024	Theme 10 Rush to do good work
<b>Week 4</b> 22.01.2024	Theme 23 Treating others well
<b>Week 5</b> 29.02.2024	Theme 12 Be ever hopeful to Allah's Kindness
<b>Week 6</b> 05.02.2024	Theme 22 Virtues of praying regularly

### Body changes

We are planning to deliver the body changes workshop to children in Years 4-6 in week 3 and 4 this half term. The session will focus on external changes that will happen to the body as well as internal changes, emotional changes associated with puberty and the Fiqh of personal hygiene. This will be done within a safe, controlled environment, where we will ensure children feel comfortable. It is important to prepare children for the emotional changes of puberty before they experience them, which is the reason for the Year 4's to take part. The session will take place separately for the girls and boys in order to maintain Islamic etiquettes of Haya. If you would like more information, please contact the school office.

### After School Clubs

After School Club	Day and Timing
<b>Football Club</b> (Mr Khan)	Monday 3pm-4pm <b>KS2 ONLY</b>
<b>SAT's Club</b> (Mr Hussain)	Tuesday 3pm-4pm ( <b>Compulsory for the Year 6 children ONLY</b> )
<b>IT Club</b> (Miss Rafah)	Wednesday 3pm-3:30pm
<b>Art and craft Club</b> (Miss Rafiq)	Thursday 3pm-3:30pm

Please email the school office, if you would like your child to participate in any after school clubs.

**Without parental consent your child will not be able to take part.**

**All clubs will commence from Week 2, Term 2A.**

### Reading morning

We will continue with reading morning this half term for the Year 1/2 parents every other Friday from 8:30am-8:45am. Please find dates below:

- **Friday 12<sup>th</sup> January 2024**
- **Friday 26<sup>th</sup> January 2024**
- **Friday 9<sup>th</sup> February 2024**

We look forward to welcoming parents.

**Together we can develop the love for reading!**

### Coffee Morning

Coffee morning dates for this half term are as follows:

- **Friday 19<sup>th</sup> January 2024**
- **Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> January 2024**

We have changed the time to 2:30pm, this is in the hope that more parents can attend!

### Dates for your diary

First day of term 2A	Thursday 4 <sup>th</sup> Jan 2024
Martin Luther King Day	Monday 15 <sup>th</sup> January 2024
Body changes workshop 1	Monday 15 <sup>th</sup> January 2024
Body changes workshop 2	Monday 22 <sup>nd</sup> January 2024
National handwriting day	Tuesday 23 <sup>rd</sup> January 2024
Parent Workshop	Tuesday 24 <sup>th</sup> January 2023 at 2:15pm
Holocaust Day	Friday 27 <sup>th</sup> January 2023
National Storytelling week	Monday 29 <sup>th</sup> January 2023
Safer Internet Day	Tuesday 6 <sup>th</sup> February 2024
Layla Tul Miraj	Saturday 8 <sup>th</sup> February 2024
End of Term 2A	Friday 9 <sup>th</sup> February 2024
Chinese New Year	Saturday 10 <sup>th</sup> February 2024
First day of Term 2B	Monday 19 <sup>th</sup> Feb 2024

### Non-uniform day

Friday 9<sup>th</sup> February 2024 will be non-uniform day to mark the last day of the half term!

Wasalam,

Fig Tree Primary Team