

Stars of the week

Stars of the Week for last week were:

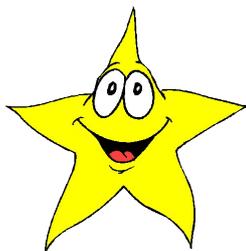
Jensson Meen	Tiana Carroll
Mason Loveridge	Rafael Carvalho
Danny Novell	Harrison Hendry
Willow Smith	Pedro Silva
Charlie Berry	
Mitchell Hendry	Kerri Griffiths
Angel Grimwood	Billy Pik

The classes with the best attendance last week was **Kestrels** with **7** absences and **97.3%** attendance. Well done to Kestrels. Whole school attendance was **94.6%** which is **'SATISFACTORY'**.

Teampoints

Last week's results were:

1st: Blue
2nd: Green
3rd: Yellow
4th: Red



Congratulations to **Blue** team for being this week's winners. **Red** team are still in the overall lead for this term but only by one point!

Parents' Forum

We held this half term's parents forum last Monday, which was attended by one parent. We moved the time of the meeting from morning to afternoon to try and get more parents involved but this hasn't worked. The survey results showed that parents would like more communication with school. The parents' forum is an great opportunity to make your views known. The next meeting will be at on Monday 10th December at 2.30pm. All parents are welcome.

Christmas Performances

Some parents have enquired about Christmas performances (and it's only October!) so I'd like to give you a brief summary of what we have planned. More detailed information will be sent out later in the term.

It's a Glade tradition for the Reception class put on a nativity for their class assembly and this year will be no exception. Parents of Wrens are invited to school on Friday 14th December for the Wrens nativity.

The KS2 performing arts club are busy preparing their pantomime which will be performed to parents on Thursday 13th December in the evening. The whole of KS2 will be involved as each class will be performing in the chorus. KS1 will be putting on a performance in the Spring.

We are also looking into holding another carol service, but the size of the school is proving to be a problem. We are much bigger than in previous years and will not fit into our local churches. We are looking for a venue where we can hold our carol service and invite parents to participate.

Finally, don't forget the whole school visit to the panto on 5th December, and remember to get your permission forms and money back to school ASAP.

Glade Expansion

As you may know, our intake number was cut to 30, two years ago, leading to a drop in available school places in Brandon. We are now in talks with Suffolk County Council on expanding the school and building an extension. This is by no means guaranteed and there is a lot of work to do, but I hope to have further news in the Spring.

Communication

One of the issues that came out of the parent survey last week is that some parents are unhappy with the level of communication between home and school. This is one issue that I am keen to improve. We have taken a number of steps over the last year to improve the level of communication, but it is clear that there is some way to go. Below is a list of what we currently do to keep you informed of school events and information.

Weekly newsletter

This is emailed to all parents who are registered on ParentMail every Monday. A paper copy is sent home with all children on Monday afternoon. The newsletter has current information and upcoming events and dates.

ParentMail

This is another way that we can send letters home to you. Letters are emailed to you if you are registered on ParentMail. All parents have been sent a code to allow them to register. We have repeated the code letters twice for those parents who have not registered. If you are on ParentMail, letters are emailed to you and short notices can be sent as text messages. There is no charge to you to use the service.

Paper copy letter

Sometimes we send home paper copies of letters. This is often if a letter has come directly from a class teacher rather than from the office, or if there is a section to be returned. We do this so that parents without a printer are not disadvantaged. We also send home half termly topic webs and termly school reports.

School website

Our school website has fallen behind a little over the last few months, but we are in contact with our website hosts to revamp it and include more up-to-date information. The software used is quite difficult to use, meaning that it can take a long time to get information on-line. However, it is a useful source of information and also has links to other sources, such as school uniform ordering and school admissions.

Outside noticeboards

Current information is put up on the outside noticeboard next to the main entrance and also on the 'A-frame' board near the playground entrance. Not everything is put on here, mainly reminders for things that have already been advertised.

Facebook

We are one of only a few schools to have an active Facebook page and this is a useful way of getting information to parents quickly. It also allows for immediate feedback from parents. We have received some complaints from parents who have said that they are not on Facebook and so are missing out on information. However, if you look at the list above, you can see that most information is sent out in multiple ways. Facebook is mainly used as a reminder.

Parents' Forum

The forum meets half termly and is an informal way of speaking with parents to get their views and opinions. It is also a key way of finding out how parents feel we are doing and what could be improved. We advertise the forum dates in advance in the newsletters and via Facebook. The recent meeting, last week, was attended by one parent.

We strive to be approachable and listen to parents. There is always a great deal happening at Glade, and with over 200 pupils and 25 staff, sometimes some information may not get out with quite enough notice. However, all of the staff feel that we are doing a great deal to keep you informed of what we are doing. If you have any suggestions as to how we can improve home school communication, please do not hesitate to contact me.


Mr A Smith, Headteacher