

Monthly Head Teacher Newsletter

Dear Families,

Thank you all for your continued support this term particularly with ensuring your children are dressed in the correct school uniform, which will be a continued focus into T6.

It been a busy term with lots going on: Y6 have completed their SATs, some children from Y5 and 6 went to on a camping trip, YR are visiting the aquarium and the whole school are taking part in a science week this week.

We welcome to the school community **Ms Blair** who will be teaching y2 until the end of the academic year.

We are also saying a 'best wishes' and a 'see you soon' to Mrs Thomas who is beginning her maternity leave.

Polite Requests

- ASC fees must be paid by the end of term (no further sessions will be made available until fees are cleared)
- Unless they are in Breakfast Club, children must not be on school site before 8.30am.
- Please write names into school uniform particularly jumpers and PE kits – biro on a tag does the trick!
- Help is needed for the Summer Fayre. All contributions big or small are welcome. See **Nicky Phillips** on the gate if you can man a stall, bake a cake, help set up, make some signs, contribute raffle items etc



Key Dates

May

25th 1.30pm Sports Day – see email

26th @ 3.15pm Science Week Exhibition in hall for parents

26th Cake donations needed for jubilee street party

27th Queen's Platinum Jubilee Street Party

30th Half Term Begins

June

6th Term Begins

6th Phonics Screening check week Y1

8th Class Photographs

13th Arts Week

16th 9am New Reception Parent Meeting

16th Sponsored Walk Day 1

17th Sponsored Walk Day 2

21st Y6 swimming

21st 6pm Standards Governors

22nd OPAL family afternoon

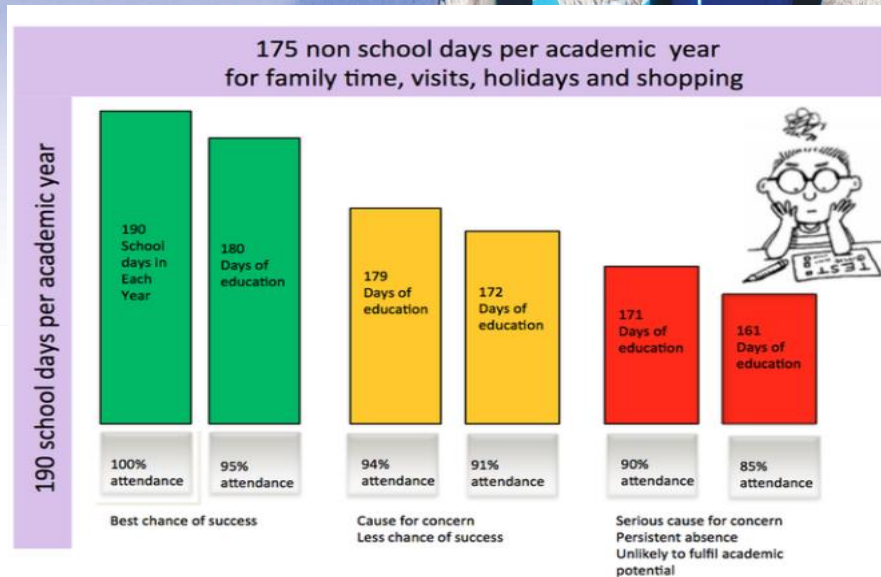
27th Philosophers Week

29th Move up Day

28th Summer Fayre

Attendance

Our school target for attendance is 96%. At the moment, we are well below that at 93.4%. This is of considerable concern as children's achievement is directly linked to good attendance.



If a child is a persistently absent with attendance below 90% (this equates to 28 days off in a school year for whatever reason), research has confirmed that they are unlikely to fulfil their academic potential. Similarly, lateness can have a very significant impact on a child's learning. Skills work starts at 8:45am and is a key time to consolidate core skills such as times tables, spellings and sentence construction. If a child arrives after 9:30 they are marked as absent for the morning session – an unauthorised absence.

Every Minute Counts

Lateness = Lost Learning (the figures below are calculated over a school year)

- 5 minutes late each day = 3 days lost!
- 10 minutes late each day = 6.5 days lost!
- 15 minutes late each day = 10 days lost!
- 20 minutes late each day = 13 days lost!
- 30 minutes late each day = 19 days lost!

It is parent/carer's legal responsibility to ensure their child attends school regularly if they are statutory school age. **Please be aware that persistent absence may lead to a fixed penalty notice being issued.** This can be issued if there are more than 8 unauthorised absences in a 10 week period.

Education research is very clear that good attendance is essential to pupil's achieving well at school and is a good indicator for success in later life. We are striving to reach our whole school target of 96% attendance and can offer support and advice to improve your child's attendance. If you would like our support, please contact the schools office on 01179030088.

OPAL Family Fun Afternoon – 22nd June

Save the date! On Wednesday 22nd June, we will be holding an OPAL Family Fun afternoon to share with families information about our OPAL project and also have lots of fun!

OPAL stands for Outdoor Play and Learning and we have been developing more opportunities for play in our break and lunchtimes through the project. We managed to get grant funding to buy new storage (arriving the week before) so we will be able to resource more ambitious and creative play. After a brief presentation, we would love you to join us in an hour of play with the children which might be building dens, making a spaceship from shopping crates, chasing bubbles or designing an obstacle course. The children have the best ideas so we will be following their lead!

1:45 – 2:00pm: A brief presentation for parents and carers in the school hall

2-3pm: An invitation to join us for an hour of play on the school site

ELSA

Our ELSA, Nicky Phillips, is a specialist teaching assistant with a wealth of experience of working with children. Our ELSA is trained and supervised by the Education Psychologist. She is warm and caring and wants every child to feel happy in school and reach their full potential educationally. Her aim is to remove barriers to learning and to have happy children in school and at home. Our ELSA will help children learn to understand their emotions and respect the feelings of those around them. At Sea Mills Primary we provide space and time for pupils to think about their personal circumstances and how they can manage them.

If you feel you or your child or you need any additional support then please speak to any of the staff team.

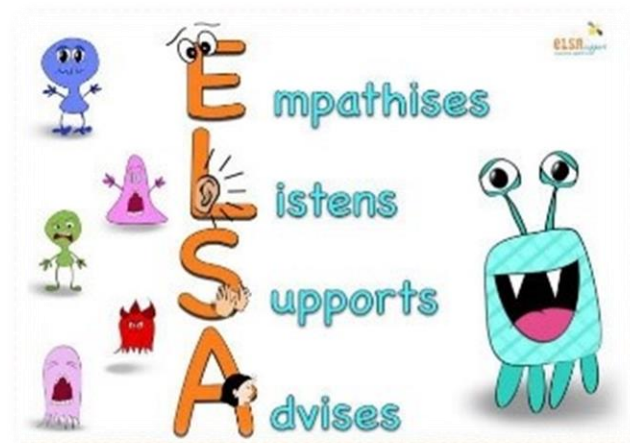
ELSA have published some really useful advice leaflets for parents on how to support children when they are struggling with their emotions – anger, grief and separation anxiety. Great practical tips and sensible advice – worth taking a look!

[Leaflet Anger PDF to print](#)

[Leaflet emotions PDF to print](#)

[Leaflet Grief PDF to print](#)

[Leaflet Separation Anxiety PDF](#)



Sea Mills Primary

Queen's Platinum Jubilee Street Party



Friday 27th May

Families can collect children from classrooms from 1.45pm via outside classroom doors. Gates will be open and supervised.

(Collected children will be in your care)

Let us enjoy the street party as a community!

Street Party officially begins at 2pm and ends at 3pm

Cake donations are required on Thursday 26th May

There will be hot and cold drinks available as well as lots of cake and music!

Hengrove Family Fun Day

This year, Hengrove Park is celebrating its 20th anniversary and will be marking the occasion with a family fun day on:

Wednesday 1 June, 11am to 3:30pm.

At the family fun day there will be an entertainment stage hosting:

- puppet shows
- bubble artists
- party games
- magic shows

There will also be:

- a storytelling corner in the amphitheater
- a face painting truck by the park entrance

Children are encouraged to wear fancy dress for the family fun day. There will be a prize for the best costume.

The day is free to attend.