

## Attendance Newsletter

It is lovely to see the children return to school. I recently asked Y6 pupils why they came to school and they gave me a range of reasons: such as to get a good education, to socialise and have fun and more surprisingly perhaps the children told me they came to school to be independent when they were older and get a good job so they could fulfil their ambitions. Which is quite deep thinking for 10 and 11 year olds!

The Y6 children are correct, a good education offers the best life chances. That is why it is crucial that children attend school every day possible.

Aim High-St Anthony's School aims to achieve attendance above 96%

St Anthony's has an attendance reward system in school where the best class attendance in each key stage is awarded £10 to put in their class piggy bank each week. Classes with 100% attendance over a week get £20. The children choose how the money is spent each term.

We do not want very unwell children in school and understand there will be occasions when a child is too unwell to attend school. However, School will not authorise absence for colds, headaches and general aches and pains. Many parents support their children by administering over the counter medicine which allows them to attend. School staff will contact parents if a child becomes too unwell to be in school. Please ensure appointments are made outside the school day where possible. If this is not possible then ensure your child attends school before and after the appointment where possible.

Individual interventions such as reading, spelling or phonics start as early as 8:55am. Lessons begin promptly just after 9am so please ensure your child is in school on time so they do not miss out or disrupt the learning of others.

Leave of absence requests must be completed and holidays in term time are usually unauthorised following government guidance.

If you need any information or advice with regard to whether an absence will be authorised or wish to discuss any concerns with regard to your child's attendance, please contact me at school.

Thank you for supporting your children to think big and be ambitious for their futures.

Miss Watkins –Attendance Lead.