

The Cuckoo



Learning Behaviours –A Guide for Parents

One of the objectives on our School Development Plan is to promote excellent learning behavior across the school. In the academic reports which come to you in the summer term we give children an academic grade to show if they are in line with age-related expectations. We also give them a grade for behavior and attitude towards learning. We wanted to be more explicit about our expectations so that children—and their parents—know what good learning behavior looks like. To this end we launched the focus in assembly and will revisit this theme every half term. Children are rewarded with praise, stickers and House Points so that they know that we value good learning behavior as highly as academic ability. Please see the attached guide for parents to find out more. You can also ask Sarah Riley who is the governor who is monitoring this part of the SIP and who has been in to talk to the children.



Rattle n Roll Dance Sessions!

Following on from the great success of Drumba (which is still running each week until February) we have booked to provide all the classes with dance sessions . These will run between January and February, and are designed to closely follow the artistic and expressive areas of the PE curriculum. Most importantly the children will deepen their understanding of dance and movement whilst developing coordination, creativity and fitness. If you want to know more about Drumba and Rattle n Roll talk to Jennie Walker and Andy Howard who are the governors who are monitoring our provision in PE.



Cyber Bullying Event on Wednesday 31st January at 6pm



E-safety, which covers 'online safety' or 'Internet Safety', is a crucial part of modern education. Obviously we cover e-safety in school, but we recognise that many of our children are active participants in on-line games where they interact with other children whilst at home. Sometimes unpleasant comments are made within these on-line groups and we increasingly have to deal with the upset caused by this when children are in school. We have organised this workshop run by Lorna Naylor (the anti-bullying co-ordinator for NCC) to help you support your child to keep themselves safe when using the Internet and communications technology when away from the school environment.

WE HAVE NOW EXTENDED THE INVITATION FOR THIS WORKSHOP TO ALL PARENTS. Please phone the office if you intend to come.

Attendance in December was 95%

We have put attendance on our School Development Plan in order to improve our attendance data. Obviously there are some genuine factors such as serious illnesses which mean that children cannot attend school. However we wanted to encourage good attendance to avoid days lost for less worthy reasons, such as term-time holidays or feeling too tired due to a late night.

We have issued **Good Attendance** badges and certificates to the 31 children who had 98%-99% attendance. This equates to **less than two days off** during the autumn term.



There were 44 children who were in school all day, every day for the autumn term, and we presented them with **100% attendance** badges and certificates. **The names of these 44 children will be put into a draw on Friday in Golden Book to win a £10 Book Token.**

We hope to be able to reward even more children for excellent attendance in the Spring Term!

Maiya Hussain, Finley Payne, Reuben Russell, Erin Starr, Felix Walker and Elise Wall	Oak
Caleb Coles, Jairus Jolliffe, Fergus Mitchell, Alisi Riley, Riley Sharpe, Madelyn Tongue, Sophie Tucker and Alexandra Waldron	Beech
Maisie-May Fawsitt, Joshua Litchfield, Charlie Payne and Evie-Raye Torr	Chestnut
Zara Butler, Jermaine Dzuda, Archie Gadsby, Zoe Howard, Kara Litchfield, Harley Riddle and Thea Wattley	Willow
Tilly Coles, Samuel Humphreys, Marcus May, Lily Owen, Zachary Smith, Samuel Sparrow, Barnaby Taylor, Christopher Towers and Daniel Whalley	Sycamore
Ramiro Hayden, Joshua Musgrove, Maya Wattley and Chelsea Zimmaestro	Cedar
Henry Higgins, Ben Newstead, Georgia Orioye, Laurel Roberts-Burrell, Kacey Sharp and William Wright	Maple

Friends of Gotham School — Hamper Raffle and Disco



The FOGs raised £1,271 on The Hamper Raffle and Disco!

1. Luxury Hamper was won by Maisie Beck
2. Children's Hamper was won by Mick Tucker
3. Pamper Hamper was won by Lee Gadsby
4. Party Hamper was won by Doreen Regan
5. Christmas Hamper was won by Peter Brown
6. Sweetie Hamper was won by Chris O'Brien
7. Chocolate Hamper was won by Ali Harrison
8. Picture Frame was won by Darren W



Learning Be-



A Guide for Parents

Attainment				Learning behaviour & effort			
Working within a younger year group expectations	Working towards current year group expectations	Working at current year group expectations	Working at a greater depth within current year group expectations	Excellent	Good	Varies	Disappointing

Each year in the annual reports we give your child a grade to reflect their learning behaviour and effort in class. There is a version of this chart above, which shows how we describe your child's academic ability at the end of the current year, and also grades how they have approached the work in class over the year.

This year on our school development plan we have an objective which focuses on learning behaviour across the school, and which recognises and celebrates the effort that children put into their work.

In order to be able to discuss learning behaviour with children we needed to clarify what we mean by "*Learning Behaviour*". What does it actually mean - and what does it look like?

We needed to be sure that all children understand what our expectations of them are, and most importantly we wanted to be explicit to the children that positive effort and application are valued just as highly as academic achievement and progress.

This guide will help you understand the vocabulary we have been using in school to describe different kinds of positive learning behaviour, and it will explain what these learning behaviours might look like in class. You may see this vocabulary reflected in the marking of children's work and see the stickers (as illustrated above) which we are using to reward this kind of effort and application. You may also have heard some of this vocabulary being used in Golden Book Assembly when staff highlight and praise examples of positive learning behaviour.

You can also use this guide at home to have conversations with your child about their day in school!



Learning Behaviour



Different kinds of learners!		What do they do?
Attentive Learners		Pay attention and listen well. Look at the board - or the teacher. Ignore people who are misbehaving.
Brave Learners		Try - even when the work seems tough. Challenge themselves! Say "I will try!" instead of "I can't."
Curious Learners		Ask good questions. Wonder about things - and then find out. Look for answers.
Determined Learners		Don't give up! Try, try, try again! Push themselves! Keep going until their work is done!
Eager Learners		Are ready to learn. Look and listen. Give eye-contact. Look like learners
Organised Learners		Have everything they need. Don't waste time when collecting things. Remember to do their homework and hand it in. Get their homework diary signed.
Proud Learners		Do their best work in every lesson because they want to shine! Never settle for second best behaviour! Always aim high!
Productive Learners		Keep on task and use lesson time well. Do a good amount of work in the time they have. Finish their work on time.
Prompt Learners		Do things the first time they are asked - every time! Do things straight away, without delay!
Reflective Learners		Think about how to improve their work. Learn from their mistakes.