



**Effort Cups for this week**

|                    |                     |                     |              |                  |                    |                  |                     |   |                 |
|--------------------|---------------------|---------------------|--------------|------------------|--------------------|------------------|---------------------|---|-----------------|
| <b>Dragonflies</b> | <b>Caterpillars</b> | <b>Wiggly Worms</b> | <b>Ants</b>  | <b>Ladybirds</b> | <b>Butterflies</b> | <b>Busy Bees</b> | <b>Grasshoppers</b> | <b>Seals</b>  | <b>Starfish</b> |
| Mai K              | Lydia T             | Ruby W              | Maria N      | Archie W         | Amelia G           | Sophie N         | Evie S              | Cezara A  | Alfie C         |
| <b>Octopuses</b>   | <b>Seahorses</b>    | <b>Dolphins</b>     | <b>Lions</b> | <b>Leopards</b>  | <b>Pumas</b>       | <b>Jaguars</b>   | <b>Tigers</b>       |  |                 |
| Muslum A           | Liam M              | Shay W              | Jake D       | Kai W-B          | Faith Y            | Amy C            | Jack B              |   |                 |

**This Week's Attendance Data**

|                     |                    |                     |                  |                  |   |                     |   |
|---------------------|--------------------|---------------------|------------------|------------------|---|---------------------|---|
| <b>Caterpillars</b> | <b>Dragonflies</b> | <b>Wiggly Worms</b> | <b>Ants</b>      | <b>Ladybirds</b> | <b>Busy Bees</b>  | <b>Grasshoppers</b> | <b>Butterflies</b>  |
| <b>97.7</b>         | <b>97.8</b>        | <b>93.5</b>         | <b>95.2</b>      | <b>92.7</b>      | <b>97.5</b>   | <b>99.2</b>         | <b>97.0</b>   |
| <b>Octopus</b>      | <b>Seals</b>       | <b>Starfish</b>     | <b>Seahorses</b> | <b>Dolphins</b>  | <i>Well done to Lions and Tigers for 100% attendance.</i> |                     |  |
| <b>95.2</b>         | <b>98.3</b>        | <b>96.3</b>         | <b>90.2</b>      | <b>96.4</b>      |   |                     |   |
| <b>Lions</b>        | <b>Leopards</b>    | <b>Pumas</b>        | <b>Jaguars</b>   | <b>Tigers</b>    | <b>Whole school</b><br><b>96.4</b>                        |                     |   |
| <b>100%</b>         | <b>96.0</b>        | <b>93.8</b>         | <b>97.9</b>      | <b>100%</b>      |   |                     |   |

|                   |                     |                     |                |
|-------------------|---------------------|---------------------|----------------|
|                   | <b>Week to date</b> | <b>Year to date</b> | <b>Target</b>  |
| Whole school data | 96.32%              | 96.32%              | 96.7% or more! |

We are pleased that our attendance is higher at this point last year at 96.32%, but we are disappointed that we are not reaching our target of 96.7%. We will be contacting parents of children where absence is falling below the 95% attendance threshold to offer support to raise attendance levels to 96% or more. The government continue to reiterate that in order to raise standards in education and ensure that all pupils can fulfil their potential pupils need to attend school regularly to benefit from their education. Missing out on lessons leaves children vulnerable to falling behind. Children with poor attendance tend to achieve less in both primary and secondary school and holidays or leave within term time will not be allowed, except in exceptional circumstances. If attendance falls below 90%, penalty notices may be issued and this is not just if a holiday has been taken.

We are therefore delighted that 160 children have achieved a **100%** attendance certificate (as opposed to 137 at this point last year). Well done to all those children.

Look out for details of our attendance raffle that will be introduced to the children in an assembly very soon. There are some great prizes to be had for good attendance.

A Happy New Year to you all.

Firstly, please can I say a huge thank you on behalf of myself and all the staff for all the lovely gifts that we received for Christmas - it was most kind of you. I hope that you had a lovely Christmas break and it was great to see so many smiling faces at the gate on Tuesday morning, keen to be back and continuing their learning.

Over the last term, we have been focussing on our new school value of 'Perseverance' and by the end of term, it really felt like this value was embedded in school. Linked to this, we've worked hard on changing mindsets to develop a 'can do' attitude and to build resilience in the children, both in their work and in social situations. This resilience and self confidence has been really evident this week, with the Early Years children all coming into school independently from the gate - we are very proud of them all! Across the school, during our termly pupil progress meetings this week, teachers are reporting that children are far more willing to use a range of strategies when faced with challenges or new concepts within their work. It has also been wonderful to talk about all of the great progress that has taken place across the school in the last two terms. Thank you especially to those parents who have been supporting their children's attendance at early morning interventions, and we have seen a huge impact in progress and achievement for those children who have been attending these sessions. However, this is at a significant financial cost to the school so if your child is attending these interventions, it is important that they do arrive on time and attend all of the sessions that have been offered to you. If you have any problems with this, please do speak to your child's class teacher.

This term, our whole school theme will be linked to generosity, although we will still be working on the Growth Mind-sets and resilience training with the children. If anyone would be generous enough to give some time to support within a classroom, either your child's or another class, please do approach us via the school office and we will undertake the various checks to enable you to help us. Just having an extra person to give some support to children who need, for example, a little extra reading support, is of great help to a class teacher.

In a time of coughs and colds, it's important to remember that children should be in school unless they are very unwell and that we can and will administer any medication, including antibiotics or Calpol that you bring into school. Please be reassured that if you make the decision to send your child in and we feel that they are not well enough to be here, we will contact you to collect them.

A couple of dates for the diary:

On Wednesday January 25th at 6.30pm, we will be holding an evening for parents of children in Key Stage One to explain the procedure for the end of year statutory assessments that your child will be undertaking. In Year 1 this will be the phonics screening and in Year 2, the SATs tests in reading, writing, maths and Spelling, punctuation and grammar. We will talk you through the process, have examples of past papers for you to look at and we will also talk you through some of the questions so that you can see the expectation for the end of the year. We will also give you some strategies for supporting your child at home. We are hoping that as many parents as possible from Year 1 and 2 can attend this evening, so please look out for the letter that will be sent separately with further details.

Finally, on Friday 3rd February we welcome you to a sharing learning afternoon from 2 - 2.45pm.

Once again, Happy New Year and may it be a healthy and successful new year for everyone within our Reculver family.



**PTFA News**

We would like to say a big 'thank you' for your support with all of our fundraising activities since September. The Christmas fair, discos, advent raffle and sponsored bounce have raised a massive £4462.55 towards our £6k target towards the trim trail and outdoor gym. We couldn't have raised that much without your support so thank you! We hope you all had a very Merry Christmas and wish you a Happy New Year.

Our next fundraising events will be Enterprise week followed by the PTFA Mother's Day Shop and the Easter Discos, please see the dates below.

| Diary Dates         |  |
|---------------------|--|
| <b>Term 3</b>       |  |
| 25/01/17            | Phonics and KS1 SATS evening 6.30 pm       |
| 03/02/17            | Sharing Learning Afternoon 2.00 pm—2.45 pm |
| 06/02/17—10/02/17   | Enterprise Week                            |
| 10/02/17            | Last day of term                           |
| <b>Term 4</b>       |  |
| 20/02/17—24/02/17   | Book Week—more information to follow       |
| 15/03/17 & 16/03/17 | Parent Consultations 3.30 pm—7.00 pm       |
| 23/03/17            | PTFA Mother's Day Shop                     |
| 29/03/17            | PTFA Easter Discos                         |
|                     | Years R + 1 3.15 pm—4.45 pm                |
|                     | Years 5 + 6 5.30 pm—7.00 pm                |
| 30/03/17            | PTFA Easter Discos                         |
|                     | Years 2, 3 + 4 3.15 pm—4.45 pm             |
| 31/03/17            | Last day of term                           |

### EARLY YEARS:

Welcome to term 3 where our theme is Jet, set, go! It has been wonderful to hear about all of the lovely things you have all gotten up to over the Christmas break!

This week we have been using the story 'We're Going on a Bear Hunt' to introduce positional language within maths.

We have been making our own little bears, bear feet, caves and multimedia maps. We have been learning about how to write a sentence this week and the children have been writing about the presents they had from Santa. Next week we will be going on a walk around the local environment, which links into our 'houses' topic. The children always really enjoy this experience so please can you return your permission slips ASAP, many thanks.

### YEAR 1:

Year 1 were excited to find a letter from the North Pole on Tuesday. Anyu from the Arctic had written as part of his school project. We have been busy studying the features of letters and replying to his questions. We would like to know how many friends he has and what his teachers are like. We've been seeing double in Maths, doubling numbers up to 20. We have practised different techniques and become efficient at recalling the doubles. Learning to use stopwatches in Science was fun and we are considering variables we could change on a paper spinner.

### YEAR 2:

Year 2 have started a new topic 'Blown Away'. In English we have been writing some of our own weather poems and tried to make them rhyme. We have been looking at different clouds and have started to learn the names of the different types. We enjoyed cloud spotting and recreating some cloud formations using cotton wool. As mentioned at the beginning of the Year during 'Meet the teacher sessions', in Year 2 the home learning changes in January. Your child will be sent either a piece of Maths or a reading comprehension to be completed. Please support your child as much as you can as these will help prepare them for their SATs in May. The weekly maths challenge will continue to be sent so you can see what the children have been learning that week in maths. Thank you for your continued support.

### YEAR 3/4:

A warm welcome back to all our keen learners! There are a few children who have not brought in their PE kits. A gentle reminder, please could PE kits be in school at all times and earnings must not worn on a PE day, unless children can remove these themselves. PE lessons will continue to take place in the winter months, so please could all children be provided with a warm tracksuit and trainers, thank you. Our new topics this term will be, Sound in Science and Iceland in Geography. We are looking forward to exploring these topics and finding out about a country very different to ours. This week in English we started reading Fantastic Mr Fox and in mathematics we have seen the return of the four operations and the revision of the formal written methods. We wish all the children and parents a happy and successful New Year.

### YEAR 5:

The children have settled in well to their learning, showing a very mature approach after a lovely Christmas break. English the children have been demonstrating some fantastic understanding of figurative language, using similes, metaphors and personification in their writing. In Maths, Mr Depradines' class have been working on their understanding of the properties of 3D shapes and brushing up on their knowledge of the nets of 3D shapes, while Mrs Papageorghiou's children have been interpreting timetables and showing their knowledge of negative numbers. We've been particularly impressed with their learning in Art, where they've been working on their understanding of perspective. They have produced some super pictures of beach huts as part of a Coastal Alliance schools project. Well done children, you have made a very positive start to the term.

### YEAR 6:

This week our Year 6 children have been extremely busy being archaeologists from the 1920s, journeying down the steps of time to explore the tomb of Tutankhamun. They had the opportunity to uncover a range of artefacts and get their hands dirty looking at Ancient Egyptian diets! They also were able to step into the sandals of an Egyptian and perform a real-life mummification...

This week English homework has been set via the Spellodrome website. (Children have their logins which are the same as their Mathletics passwords). These tasks need to be completed by Tuesday. If you have any problems accessing the website, please let us know. This week you will have received a letter about our trip to the Houses of Parliament. In order to plan for this event, we need to know whether you are prepared to pay the cost of the trip for your child. In the event of insufficient funds received for this event, the trip will not to be able to take place. Please return the parent commitment to pay slip by Wednesday 11th January. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us.

We have been looking at the Christian festival of Epiphany this week in worship. The children have had the opportunity to consider the importance of their visit and the significance of the gifts they brought.

*What can I give him, poor as I am?*

*If I were a shepherd, I  
would bring a lamb;*

*If I were a Wise Man, I  
would do my part;*

*Yet what I can I give him:*