

## From the Headteacher

Welcome back!

I hope you are all well rested and had a lovely Christmas break. Last term was a very busy one, packed with great learning opportunities for our children and this term promises to be even more productive.

Thank you to all of you that attended our Parent Information Meetings this week, it's fantastic to see so many families working with us to support children's learning.

This term, our year 5 children will start their swimming lessons and have already started learning the clarinet. Year 6 have lots of workshops around developing the local area and are learning Guitars. Year 3 will start their recorder lessons and Year 1 will be starting Songsack. We are proud of the music lessons we offer through the Enfield Music Service and it is always a treat to see the assemblies of how much they can achieve in such a short time.

There will be lots more opportunities for you to come into school this term so make sure you watch out for key dates so that you don't miss out!

## BELIEVE AND ACHIEVE

Our vision is to create an inclusive community of aspirational learners, children, families and colleagues, working collaboratively and respectfully within a happy, nurturing environment where all flourish and achieve.

'I have come that you may have life, life in all its fullness'.

1 John 10 vs10

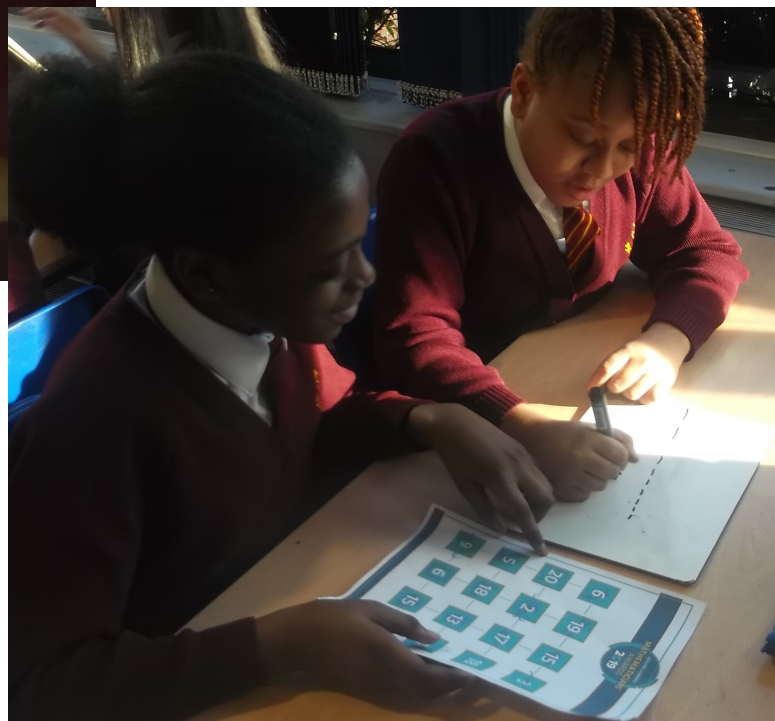
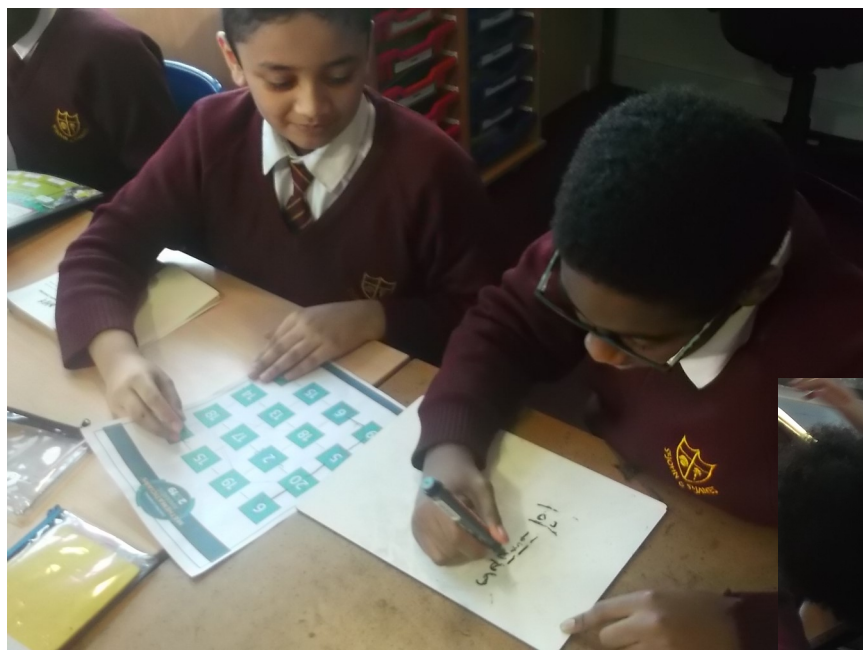


St Mary's Class performed their assembly for the rest of the school and parents on Wednesday. We took a musical trip through history and there were smiles and laughs at some of the iconic tunes they covered. The outfits (pictured above) were very authentic and the dances were great too!

The children are learning about the past, beyond their living memory, so it would help them to speak to aunts and grandparents and friends about their childhood memories. We need to dispel the myth that we were all born before the invention of electricity!

This week Year 5 and 6 were visited by Explore Learning. Every year they run a Maths competition and St John and St James are taking part in Mathematicians' Award 2019. We were able to practise the type of questions we would be asked at the competition stage. 4 children went to the Edmonton Green Centre to compete and did extremely well. However, the contents of the day are top secret until the winners entering the next stage are announced.

We all have our fingers crossed. Keep checking the website to see how we got on!



### Pupil Reflections

In explore learning, we did problem solving. In partners we had to make a bigger number and a smaller number for the word problem. - Auri-sa 5P

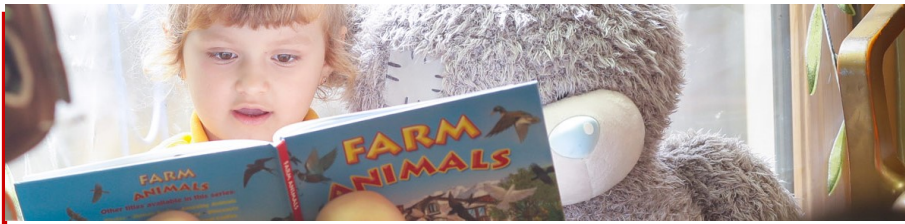
It was hard at first but we tried and we never gave up. - Starlian 5P

We had to make the biggest number possible on the lines and you couldn't cut corners in order to work out the problem. - Victor 5P

**National Number Day 2020** is on Friday 7th February this year, the children will be dressing in some kind of number related outfit, so start thinking and getting creative! We can't wait to see what the children come up with.







## Support Welcome

We work tirelessly to ensure our children make great progress in their learning. However, we would really love more support from parents and families, who are able, with hearing children read and particularly with extra-curricular events. If you or a group of you would like to get involved in supporting us with raising funds, volunteering or any other way of supporting the school please get in contact with us at [office@stjohnandjames.enfield.sch.uk](mailto:office@stjohnandjames.enfield.sch.uk).

**We're a learning community and the best learning happens when we work together!**

### **Friends of St John and St James**

The friend of St John and St James have been doing a fantastic job of putting on events and raising funds to support children's learning and experiences.

Last term they raised nearly £400 at the sleepover, over £350 for the Christmas disco and whilst we broke even at the Christmas Fete, the children had a great time.

Over the last few years your contributions were saved and last term they bought 15 new laptops for the children, they are now working towards another set and we are so very grateful.

The children would like to join us in saying 'Thank you' to everyone who gave their time and to the families who always come out to support us and give so generously.

If you are interested in joining us, please come and speak to me. Any contribution of your precious time or skills ,big or small, makes a difference to our children.



### **Adult Learning**

A new ESOL class started this week. It's not too late to join us we have a few more available spaces. We also provide childcare for school aged children during the course..

Please speak to Mrs Nagle if you are interested.

## Tower Bridge

This week Year 6 received a very exciting delivery, their models from their trip! Last term they visited Tower Bridge and designed a new building for the skyline. They made them on software that architects use and then the staff printed them using a 3D modelling machine. They are really proud of their work and it is proudly on display in the Year 6 corridor.



Last term, we shared the pictures from the children's trip to Tower Bridge. The pictures showed the children using lego and computer generated graphic images of their designs. What a fantastic opportunity to receive your actual models, making learning so much more meaningful.



The children were really impressed with there finished models.



## Year 5 Debating Competition



### Pupil Reflections

'I learned that when you want to share your point or opinion, you need to wait for your turn to speak'.  
– Hailey.

'I learned that if you are not the first speaker you have to do a rebuttal before you say your arguments'. – Starlian.

We are very happy to announce that St John and St James will be taking part in the annual Enfield Inter-schools Debate Competition.

Our debate team includes Evelyn and Nicole from 5T and Starlian and Hailey from 5P.

On Tuesday 14<sup>th</sup> January we attended training to help us understand more about debating.

We learned so much about the structure of a debate as well as the importance of debating and how this can help us in our everyday lives.

Our school debate club will also be learning all about debating and we will be having some fantastic debates in the coming weeks about important issues.

There will be three heats in the competition and we're very excited to try our best and take part in this fantastic opportunity!

At our first heat we will be debating the following: 'This house believes we shouldn't have a monarchy'. We will be working on an opposition and proposition for this debate in debate club so that we feel fully prepared.

Do you know someone who is looking for a Reception place in September 2020?

Our growing school has some Reception places still available for September. Come and have a chat with the school office or arrange a visit.

We also have a few places left in other year groups across the school. If you are interested come and ask at the office.





We had the opportunity to take 6 pupils to watch Enfield Town VS Brightlingsea Regent on Saturday 11<sup>th</sup> January 2020.

The pupils had a great time and were given a tour of the changing rooms and physio office.

Firstly thank you to Ramadan Ismail for reaching out to the school and giving us the free tickets. Thank you to the Manager of Enfield Town Andy Leese for our tour and his hospitality.

Thank you to the Treasury for his warm welcome and the pupils free programs.

The Enfield Town FC staff, players and supporters were so lovely and our pupils had an amazing time. It was a pleasure to see our Sports Coach Jonathan Muleba playing in the match.

If your company or people you know can help us to access more free experiences for our children, we would be really grateful. We are a community and need to explore and enjoy all our community has to offer.

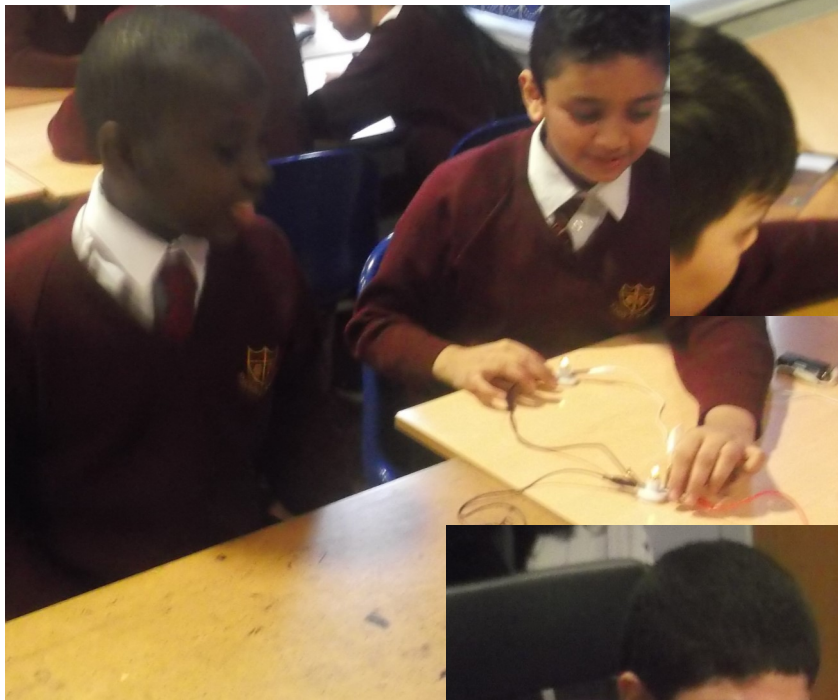
Take a look at the newsletters and website to keep up with all the great things we are doing, it might even spark an idea that you might like to share.

Children need to learn about business, caring in the community, technology and the rule of law, just to name a few and learning these things in a real context makes learning so much more meaningful and memorable.

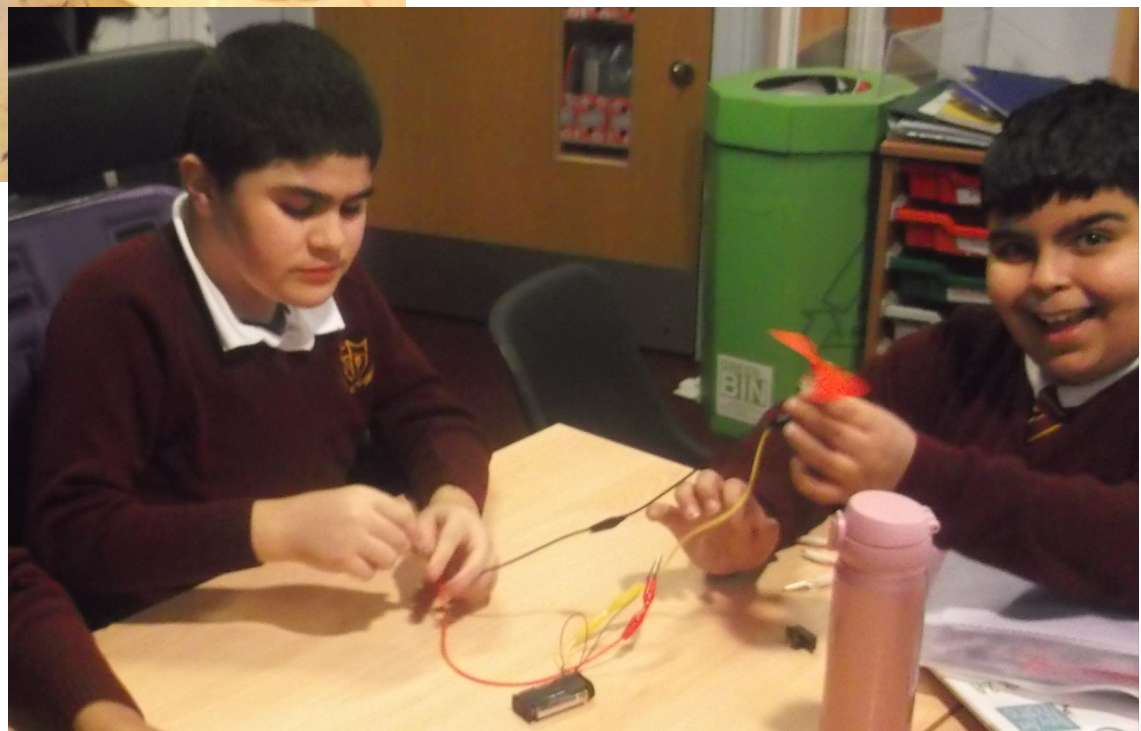




As part of the school's new curriculum , we support children to move their learning on, by building on previous learning. In year 4 the children made simple circuits, understanding how devices in the home and outside carry electricity. We look at electrical safety and how to be responsible with the world's resources. *The pictures show pupils making more complex circuits with additional components. They will then compare the impact of placing these components in parallel or series circuits.*



We are committed to ensuring learning is memorable, inclusive and fun!



During our science lesson this week we needed to make a complete circuit that would work using a buzzer and switch. We even got to try out motors! Once we completed these we drew our diagrams using the correct symbols.



Lining Up  
Cup Winners

KS1 – 1M  
KS2 – 5P

10.01.2020



KS1 – Dimitar, Elpida, Berat, Zlatka, Diamond, Bright, Wyatt & Nia

KS2 – Nesiah, Keziah, Slavka, Ayaz, Sinem, Deniz, Renata, Nicholas, Rayna, Akil, Burchin, Rohat, Taurian, Zeynep, Birtan & Deborah

Lining Up  
Cup Winners

KS1 – 1A  
KS2 – 3D

17.01.2020



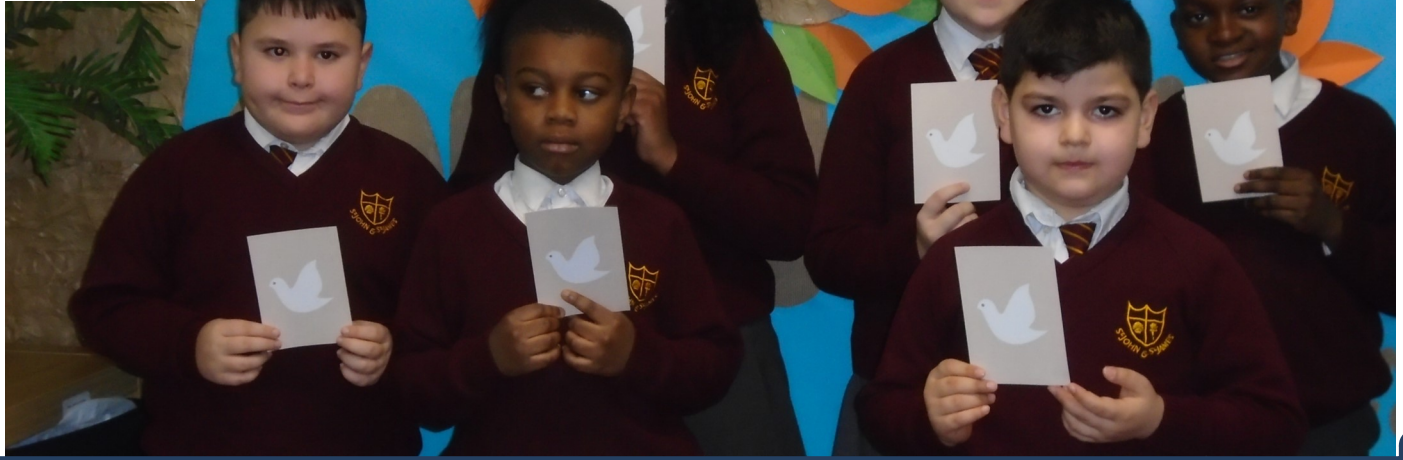
KS1 – Max, Mario, Patrick, Melanie, Skyliza, Christopher, Nabil & Jamieniel

KS2 – Abraham, Kaysia, Krisu, Izaiah, Joel, Tiana, Agyei, Christina, Narin, Rheyon, Emmanuel, Star, Gunay, Esther, Rubino & Christian





FORGIVENESS



### Forgiveness Value Ambassadors

Naomi, Alexandra, Yannis, Alexios, Rhys and Eren

Each half term we focus on a different one of our Christian school values. We began the year, looking at 'respect', respect for ourselves, each other, our school, our rights and our faith.

Last half term we worked on our value of 'Community' and older children made great contributions in the local community, through the Mad, Sad and Glad project, whilst some of our younger children did local studies to better understand the community we live in.

This half term we will continue to work on those values, but we will focus on Forgiveness. We will learn the importance of forgiving ourselves for making mistakes but also forgiving our friends and those around us.

Each week we have lessons around our values and how we live and work harmoniously together. We teach children how to manage conflict, how to express themselves in an appropriate way and different strategies for dealing with frustration and anger.

As always we rely on our partnership with parents and families and our respect for the roles we all play. We are always grateful for your support in addressing unwanted behaviours and working with us to maintain a safe and nurturing learning environment for all of our pupils.

Please talk to your children of the behaviours we all expect to see at school.



## New Age Curling

We have introduced a new element to our PE curriculum, which enables some of our pupils to take a leadership role in PE and become an expert in New Age Kurling.

In our New Age Kurling sessions we have been focusing on force and timing.

Over the sessions we have developed the pupils understanding of how much force to apply to their kurling stones and the timing of when they release their kurling stones to ensure they hit their target.



Some of the children have found counting down before they release their kurling stone is helping them in hitting their target. Others have chosen to lower their centre of gravity before they release to help them hit their target. The success rate was much higher in the second session which shows that the children are all improving. Orcan in-particular has had great success in his kurling by measuring the amount of force he is putting in each push. He therefore has worked out how to get consistency in every push, by applying the same force every time.

In Year 6 we are learning about the Ancient Kingdom of Benin. This Friday we spent our topic lesson building on our mapping skills and debating the importance of different historical events in relation to the continent of Africa. The ancient Kingdom of Benin was in what is now Nigeria. Modern Benin is a country next to Nigeria - don't be confused between the two! Located entirely within what is now Nigeria, the Kingdom of Benin stretched from Lagos in the west to beyond the River Niger in the east, an area that equates to about a fifth of modern-day Nigeria.





### Podcasting

Year 5 have the amazing opportunity to take part in a radio workshop. A small group of children have been given the opportunity to take part. They will be creating their own Podcast with former Choice FM radio DJ Martin J. The workshop will focus on future aspirations and current goals. This topic is in line with the Year 5 PSHE topic 'Dreams and Goals'. This was our first week and it was amazing to see the participants grow in confidence, voice their opinions and future aspirations.

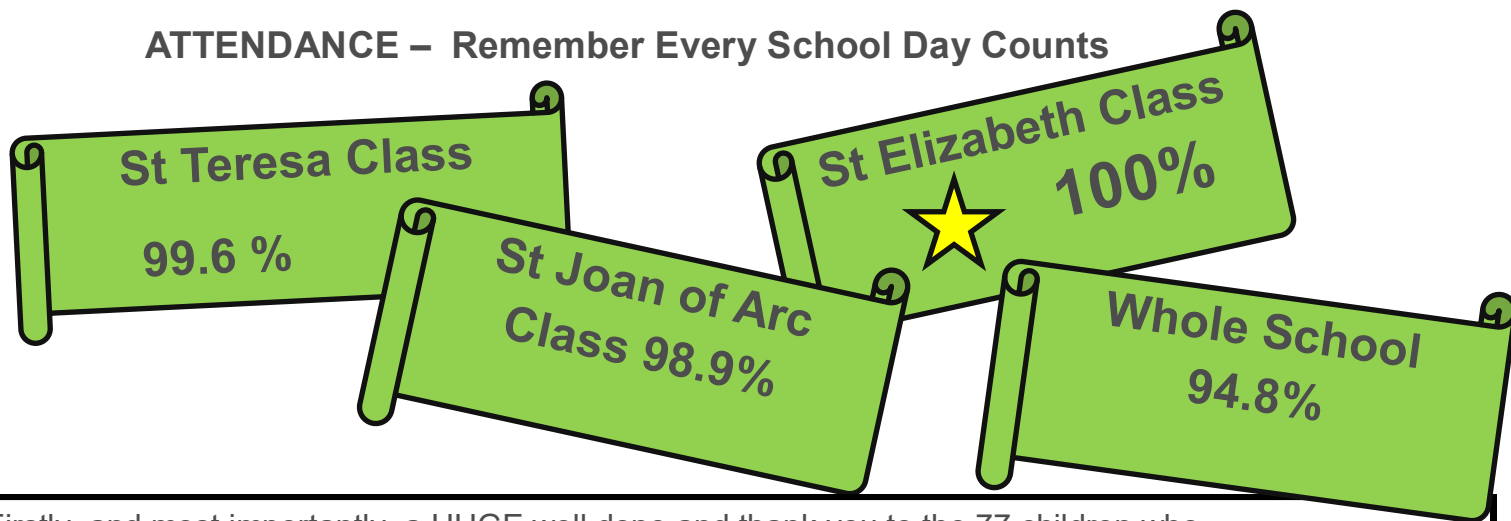


### Lunch Money Reminder

Can we remind parents that Dinner Money should be paid in advance. We have clear guidelines from the Local Authority on our School Debt and this is monitored regularly. It is very costly to have a member of staff spending large amounts of time calling parents about dinner money when the time could be better spent impacting on children's learning.

We wouldn't go to a restaurant and eat a meal and expect to be able to pay the following week!

## ATTENDANCE – Remember Every School Day Counts



Firstly, and most importantly, a HUGE well done and thank you to the 77 children who have 100% attendance for the academic year to date. A fantastic start to the year.

The Department for Education tracks attendance carefully and our aim is to have an attendance figure in excess of the national average of 96.7%. Our attendance figure for the year to date is 94.4%. We must improve on this figure if we are to continue to improve our school and to get the best outcomes for our children. There are still too many families with poor attendance.

| Attendance during one school year | Equals this number of days absent. | Which is approximately this many weeks absent | Which means this number of lessons missed. |
|-----------------------------------|------------------------------------|---|--|
| 95%                               | 9 days                             | 2 weeks                                       | 50 lessons                                 |
| 90%                               | 19 days                            | 4 weeks                                       | 100 lessons                                |
| 85%                               | 29 days                            | 6 weeks                                       | 150 lessons                                |
| 80%                               | 38 days                            | 8 weeks                                       | 200 lessons                                |

Families falling below 90% are referred to the Education Welfare Office in Enfield.

Obviously attendance levels, especially at this time of year, can be affected by illness, particularly tummy bugs. We would therefore encourage all parents to send their children into school wherever possible. However, if they have been ill with sickness and/or diarrhoea, please keep them off school until they have been symptom free for a minimum of 48 hours to prevent the bug spreading throughout the school community as this has a significant, adverse effect on attendance levels of both children and staff.

**Contact Us: We always welcome feedback!**

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