



# Wordsworth Infant School Attendance Newsletter Spring 2013

Dear Parents/Carers

Welcome to our first Attendance Newsletter. As you know, everybody at Wordsworth Infants is committed to ensuring that each of our children gets the best possible start to life. One way we can do this is through ensuring regular school attendance. Evidence shows that children who attend school regularly are more successful, not only in school, but in all areas of life.

We hope that you will continue to support us in improving our school attendance by making sure the children are here everyday and learning. However, we also recognise that last term we had a nasty bout of gastroenteritis and asked you to keep your child at home for 48 hours and that this has had an impact on some children's attendance percentage. Please do not worry about this as we appreciate the impact of the sick bug.

Paul Betteridge  
Headteacher



## Term Time Holidays

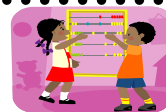
During the last Academic Year 2011/2012, children were out of school for a total of 369 days for term time holidays. Your children only attend school for 190 days out of 365. This leaves 175 days for holidays. Please book your holidays during these 175 days of school holidays. If you do take your child on holiday during term time without authorisation, then you will be at risk of receiving a Fixed Term Penalty Notice.

## Lateness

Did you know that being 15 minutes late each day is the same as missing two weeks of school over the year. Lateness is just as serious as non-attendance and could also lead to a Fixed Penalty Notice. The start of the school day is an important time for children to develop their social skills with their peers, as well as preparing them for their learning. We start teaching at 8.55am and 'late' children miss out on vital skills such as phonics and/or basic number work.

Days Absent By End of Year.	Equal to Absence Percentage	Overall Attendance Percentage by the End of Year
1	0.5%	99.50%
5	2.5%	97.50%
10	5%	95%
20	10%	90%
30	15%	85%

## Did You Know....?



For every day of school missed by a pupil it will reduce their attendance by 0.5%.

Ten whole days of school has been missed if your child has 95% attendance.

Twenty whole days of school has been missed if a pupils attendance is 90%.

By the time a pupil is persistently absent (85% attendance) they have missed 6 weeks or half a term of schooling.

Should you wish to discuss your child's attendance at any time, please make an appointment to speak to Mrs Parsons or Mr Betteridge through the school office.



## Illness

We know that illness is unavoidable and to be expected. However it is very important to inform the school on the **first** day of absence with the reason either by phone (023 8077 6397), by letter or in person at the school office.