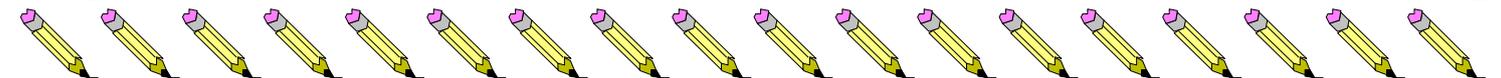




## January Newsletter



Dear Parents/Carers,

The children have settled really well into their second term of the year. Pupil Progress Meetings inform me that nearly all our children are making good or outstanding progress and this is due to the hard work that the children and staff have put in since September.

All children (apart from Reception) have set their targets for this ½ term and you will have received a paper copy. Please read them through with your child and ensure that s/he knows what his/her targets are and what s/he has to do to achieve them.

Staff have been busy planning exciting days for the children during this term. Each class has a Music Day each term and a Science Day each ½ term which enables the subjects to be taught in a more fun, stimulating way with lots of practical activities.

The work of the School Council continues with the arrangements of forthcoming fund-raising events and a trip to Ashton Town Hall to meet the Mayor and visit the Mayor's Parlour. There the children will learn about the process of democracy, elections and the work of the Council, enabling them to see the similarities and differences in their own roles at school.

Year 6 now only have 13 working weeks until their SATs tests. School is laying on extra 'booster group' sessions to ensure that their skills are consolidated. We ask that parents of Year 6 children ensure that homework is completed and that children read for at least 20 minutes each evening to improve reading skills.

### **Good Attendance and Punctuality is crucial for your child's success.**

Most children attend school every day and arrive at school on time. Thank you to all parents/carers who ensure that this happens. These children make good or outstanding progress because they do not miss any lessons, or introductions to lessons.

100% attendance means that your child will have made good or outstanding progress.

95% attendance means that your child will have missed 50 lessons (missed 5% of education)

90% attendance means that your child will have missed 100 lessons (missed 10% of education)

85% attendance means that your child will have missed 150 lessons (missed 15% of education)

80% attendance means that your child will have missed 200 lessons (missed 1/5 of education)

75% attendance means that your child will have missed 250 lessons (missed ¼ of education)

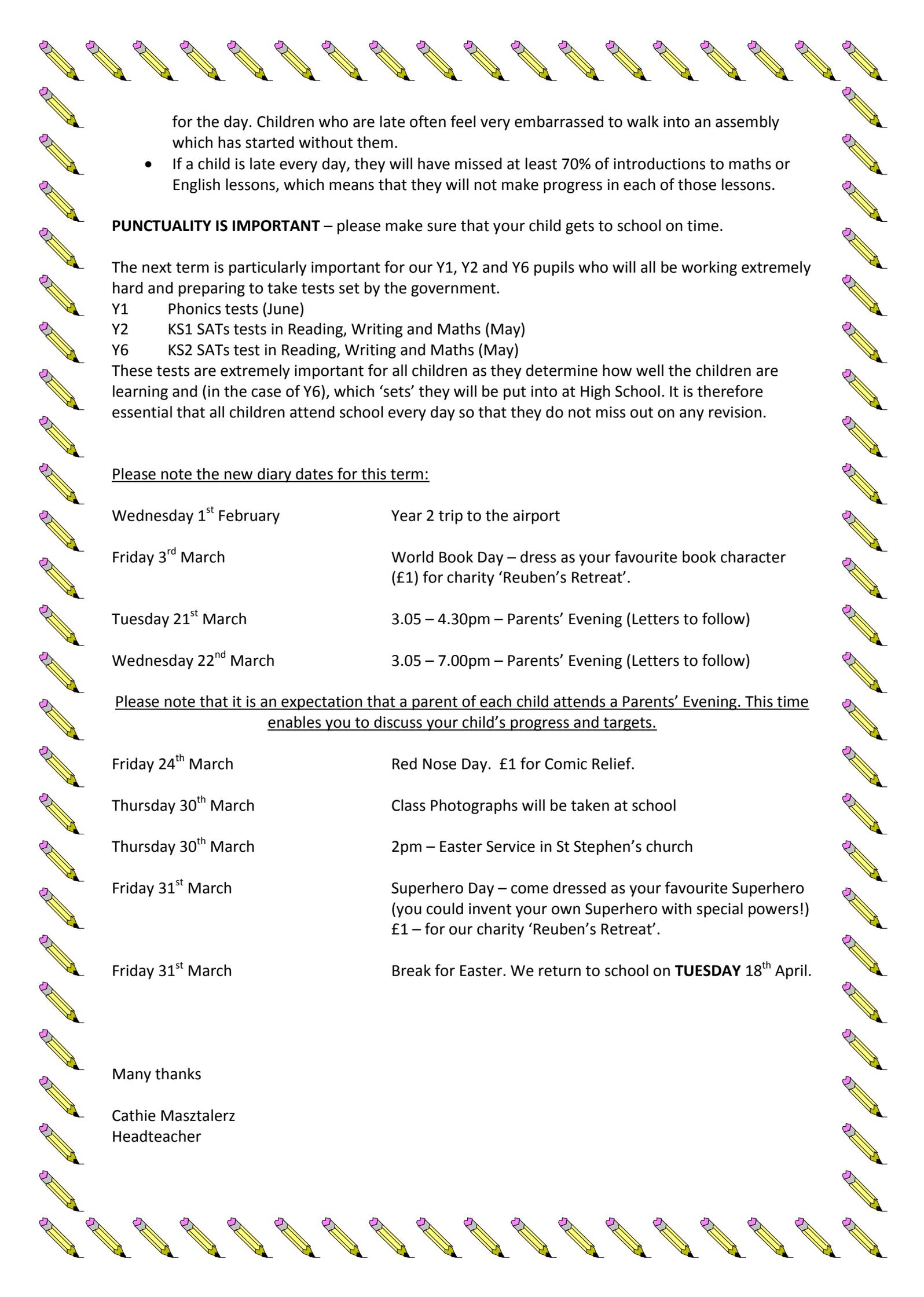
If your child is absent from school, you must ring school before 9.30 and tell Mrs Bancroft the reason for absence. If your child is absent for more than 5 days, a medical note is required giving the reason for absence. For children with persistent absence, a medical note will be required on the first day of any absence.

### **LESSONS START AT 9AM. CHILDREN SHOULD BE IN SCHOOL BETWEEN 8.50 AND 8.55AM.**

Most children arrive at school in plenty of time to settle and start lessons well. Thank you to all those parents/carers who ensure that this happens. These children will make good or outstanding progress.

It is very important that your child arrives on time for school. Children who arrive late will:

- miss the beginning of lessons (always maths or English) and so will not understand what they have to do, therefore they will not make progress in that lesson **or**
- miss the beginning of an assembly. These are times when the tone of the day is set, the whole school community thinks and reflects quietly and children get any messages needed



for the day. Children who are late often feel very embarrassed to walk into an assembly which has started without them.

- If a child is late every day, they will have missed at least 70% of introductions to maths or English lessons, which means that they will not make progress in each of those lessons.

**PUNCTUALITY IS IMPORTANT** – please make sure that your child gets to school on time.

The next term is particularly important for our Y1, Y2 and Y6 pupils who will all be working extremely hard and preparing to take tests set by the government.

Y1 Phonics tests (June)

Y2 KS1 SATs tests in Reading, Writing and Maths (May)

Y6 KS2 SATs test in Reading, Writing and Maths (May)

These tests are extremely important for all children as they determine how well the children are learning and (in the case of Y6), which 'sets' they will be put into at High School. It is therefore essential that all children attend school every day so that they do not miss out on any revision.

Please note the new diary dates for this term:

Wednesday 1<sup>st</sup> February

Year 2 trip to the airport

Friday 3<sup>rd</sup> March

World Book Day – dress as your favourite book character (£1) for charity 'Reuben's Retreat'.

Tuesday 21<sup>st</sup> March

3.05 – 4.30pm – Parents' Evening (Letters to follow)

Wednesday 22<sup>nd</sup> March

3.05 – 7.00pm – Parents' Evening (Letters to follow)

Please note that it is an expectation that a parent of each child attends a Parents' Evening. This time enables you to discuss your child's progress and targets.

Friday 24<sup>th</sup> March

Red Nose Day. £1 for Comic Relief.

Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> March

Class Photographs will be taken at school

Thursday 30<sup>th</sup> March

2pm – Easter Service in St Stephen's church

Friday 31<sup>st</sup> March

Superhero Day – come dressed as your favourite Superhero (you could invent your own Superhero with special powers!) £1 – for our charity 'Reuben's Retreat'.

Friday 31<sup>st</sup> March

Break for Easter. We return to school on **TUESDAY** 18<sup>th</sup> April.

Many thanks

Cathie Masztalerz  
Headteacher