9 January 2020

Dear Parents

Nursery Attendance

School attendance is monitored carefully throughout the whole school from Nursery to Year 2 and good habits formed now will follow your children throughout their school career.

Within Early Years the children’s personal, social and emotional development is most important. Regular attendance will ensure that all the children have the greatest opportunity to develop these very important early skills and become lifelong learners.

Of course from time to time it will be necessary to keep your children home due to sickness. When this is the case please contact the school as soon as you know your child will be absent; you can do so by either of the following methods:

absence@mgis.org.uk
0121 779 5667 (option 1)

We are pleased to report that since September, 7 children in Nursery have managed to achieve 100% attendance. Well done to them, and very well done to their parents as achieving full attendance at school is impressive - particularly for children at this age.

Unfortunately, there are a larger number of Nursery children who have low school attendance with several unauthorised absences. Children should only be kept at home if they are unwell or for ‘exceptional circumstances’ which have been discussed with the school; any other absence will be marked as unauthorised. We would also ask that wherever possible, general medical appointments are made outside of Nursery hours.

Absences that are for holidays, visiting family, and difficulties with arranging childcare are classed as unauthorised. The school is obliged to monitor the attendance of all children and when necessary parents will be asked to a meeting to discuss their child’s absence.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Overall attendance – Autumn Term</th>
<th>Number of unauthorised absences – Autumn Term</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Morning Nursery</td>
<td>93.3%</td>
<td>38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Afternoon Nursery</td>
<td>86.9%</td>
<td>109</td>
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I am sure I can rely on your support in ensuring your child attends regularly and if you feel I can be of any help please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely

Beverley Elliott
Headteacher