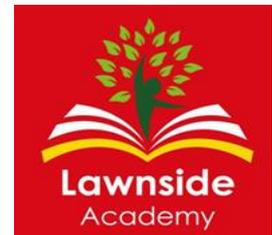


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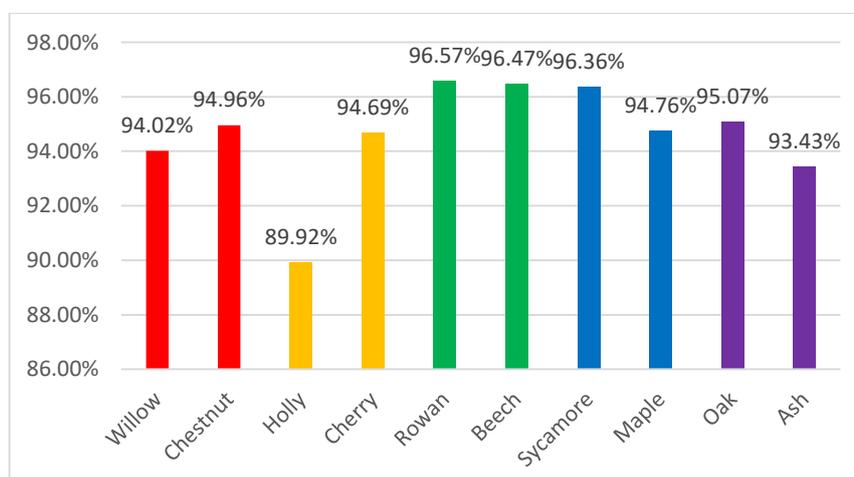
Dear Parents / Carers,

February 2019

February was busy as usual at Lawnside. Safer Internet Day was on the 5th February, Ash class visited Pizza Express, Year 3 enjoyed learning about WWII with a special visitor and Early Years started their new topic with a fabulous fairy-tale dress-up day – well done Early Years, you looked fantastic! Thank you to all parents/carers who attended this month's parent consultation meetings. Teachers value these opportunities to celebrate success, review learning targets and listen to parental views. If you did not manage to arrange an appointment to speak with your child's class teacher, please have a conversation with them and book a convenient date and time for a meeting. For parents/carers of children in Rowan class, I will write to you separately regarding a time for you to meet Miss Wooster following Mrs. Russell's early departure before parent's evening.

Last week we sent out over 50 attendance trigger letters to parents regarding children's attendance in school. One of our school improvement priorities this year is to increase pupil attendance to 96% and reduce the number of children classed by the Department for Education as persistent absentees; children whose attendance falls below 90%. **School records, as at February half-term, showed that our overall attendance is 94.67% with 35 children being classed as persistent absentees.** As a school we have to be seen to be addressing school attendance concerns and, in line with BEST attendance policy and procedures we will continue to monitor children's attendance and write to parents where attendance falls below BEST's and the school's 92% threshold. If you have any concerns regarding your child(ren)'s attendance, please do not hesitate to make an appointment to speak with either me or Mrs. Bell. Other school improvement priorities this year are around improving children's progress and attainment and children's attendance is key to this; the single most important factor in school success is being in school.

The table below shows each class' attendance for February. Well done Rowan, Beech and Sycamore classes for the best attendance this month:



We have had a few incidences this month of parents/carers and younger siblings being in school unsupervised before and after school. Please can we respectfully remind you not to come into school at the beginning and end of the school day without a member of staff. To ensure the safety and well-being of everyone in our school community we need to know who is on the school premises and ensure that no-one is unsupervised. If you have young children, for example, who need to use the toilet, please come round to the front of the school and through reception and Mrs. Webb or Mrs. Brookes will be only too happy to assist you.

At Lawnside we value our strong relationship with parents and carers where everyone respects the caring ethos and values of the school and where school staff are approached for help to resolve any issues in an appropriate manner. In order to support a peaceful and safe school environment, and following a few concerns raised recently, please can I respectfully request that you do not approach someone else's child in order to discuss or chastise them because of the actions of this child towards your own child (such an approach to a child may be seen to be an assault on that child and may have legal consequences). The school will not tolerate the threatening, in any way, of a member of school staff, visitor, fellow parent/carer or pupil and will take appropriate action as necessary. If you have any concerns, please come and speak with us and together we will continue to foster a positive and uplifting environment not only for the children but also all who work and visit our school.

And finally, please can I remind parents/carers about not driving up Lawnside but parking at the bottom of Lawnside and walking up to school at the beginning and end of the school day.

Diary Dates for March	
Thursday 7 March	World Book Day Theatre of Widdershins CHILDREN TO WEAR PYJAMAS TO SCHOOL
Monday 11 March	Science week
Tuesday 26 / Thursday 28 March	PALS Mothers' Day Sales
Thursday 28 March	PGL Parents' Meeting (6pm - 7pm)
Friday 29 March	Early Years' Mothers' Day Assembly (9:10am)

We are saying goodbye to Mrs. Phillips, teaching assistant in Year 2, at the beginning of next month. On behalf of everyone at Lawnside, I would like to wish her, and her family, every happiness as she begins her maternity leave.

Yours sincerely



Cheryl Johnson
Principal

A message from BEST - they have published their determined admission arrangements for September 2020. These can be found on their website - www.bestacademies.org.uk

"The more you **read**
the more **things** you know.
The more that you **learn**
the more **places** you'll go."
-Dr. Seuss