

Lawnside Lower School
Lawnside
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www.lawnsideacademy.org.uk

October 2018

Dear Parents / Carers,

October 2018

You will see at the top of this letter our new website address; www.lawnsideacademy.org.uk. Please have a browse of our new website; it is still very much a work in progress but if there is anything in particular that you would like included, please do not hesitate to let us know.

Thank you very much to everyone who supported our Macmillan coffee afternoons this month, and to the staff who organised these. We raised £357.55... Very well done everyone.



We held our annual Harvest Assembly this month and each class / year group either sang a harvest song or recited a harvest poem. Thank you very much for your very kind harvest donations – these were taken to Biggleswade Baptist Church and will be distributed by them to support local families who have little or no food.

After half-term we have our Grandparents' Afternoons in the diary which we are all very much looking forward to. A couple of envelopes have been sent into school without the child's name on and school staff are unsure who they belong to. If you are not sure whether you wrote your child's name on the envelopes, please telephone either Mrs. Webb or Mrs. Brookes and hopefully we will be able to match these envelopes to the correct children. I am aware of a few worries from parents where, for whatever reason, children do not have grandparents who they can invite for this afternoon. If this is the case then please extend this invitation to anyone special to the children – aunts, uncles, family friends, neighbours or even yourselves as parents. We would love to see any adult here to share the afternoon – the invitations should be with you shortly.

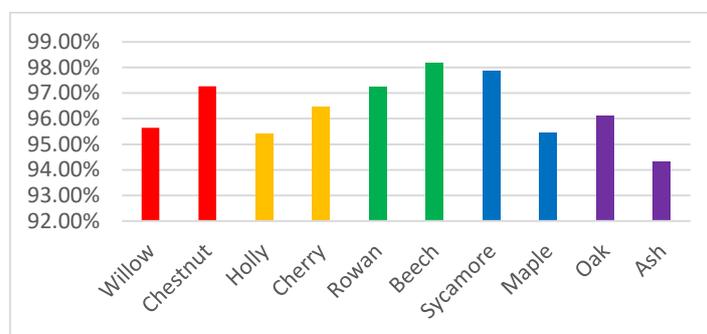
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We held our autumn term parents' evenings this month also. Teachers value these opportunities to celebrate success, review learning targets and listen to parental views. If you were unable to make a parents' evening appointment, please speak with your child(ren)'s class teacher and make a suitable appointment date and time.

Our whole school attendance target is 96%. The graph below shows each class' attendance for this half-term. We have a meeting with our Education Welfare Officer at the beginning of November and we will be looking closely at individual pupil's attendance:



And finally, I have spoken with a number of parents regarding how the children are lining up before school in the morning and coming into class and how difficult it is for some parents to see that their children have safely entered the school. We have reviewed our practice as a whole staff and after the half-term holiday we will be making a minor change to hopefully improve the situation. **We will now have 2 bells in the morning; the first bell for the children to line up as normal and then a second bell for parents to then move back behind all of the lines so that parents with children in more than one class can see their children enter the school.** Teachers will then escort their class into the school as normal and hopefully all parents will be assured that you have seen your children enter the school.

One other polite reminder please; at the end of the school day when you are picking up your children, please may I remind you to stand back away from the classes / school building so that the teachers can direct their children to you safely. Many thanks for your understanding and support with this. We will be informing the children of the changes in assembly too.

With my very best wishes for an enjoyable half-term holiday and we will see you all back in school on **Tuesday 30th October.**

Yours sincerely

Cheryl Johnson
Head Teacher