

# Learning Together to Make a Positive Difference

Newsletter No. 5 December 2017

Miss A. Said



## FOS Christmas Festivities



**Christmas Fayre: HUGE THANKS** to our FOS for hosting a great Christmas Fayre. There was a huge turnout and it was so lovely to see all our families enjoy the different stalls. The choir and Flash Mob dance was a

highlight and not forgetting Father Christmas' visit. We are hugely grateful to all our families and friends of the school who supported the event including Ian Boulton, councillor for Staple Hill Ward. We hope to bring news of how much was raised next week.

**Elves Workshop:** This was a resounding success, so much so it was extended to accommodate high demand. The children and FOS were busier than Santa's little elves and created personalised Christmas tree decorations. Of course, the best part of these exquisite gifts is the love and goodwill that come with them. Not one was the same and yet all were beautifully hand-made and priceless.

*Thank you FOS for your tireless efforts and for all that you do for our children. We all had a really great time. It is always a pleasure working with you.*

Our overall attendance stands at 96.22%, just above the most recent National Average of 96.1%. Well done on maintaining this figure. Let's try and keep the good work up and maybe even increase this, next term. Thank you to our Parents and Carers who are always making sure their children are in school and ready to learn.

### Lateness:

**The persistent lateness of some of our pupils is having a detrimental impact on other learners and those arriving late. Your child is at risk of not meeting their potential or age-related expectations if they are persistently late. Please make sure your child arrives at school on time. Some of the reasons we are being given for lateness are avoidable with preparation and forward-thinking.** It is a parent's responsibility to ensure their children arrive at school on time. Lateness can disrupt the learning of others and can result in a pupil feeling greater stress and achieving poorer outcomes. Research shows a close link between attendance at school and a child's achievement. Being late adds up to a loss of learning. All time out of school affects learning and achievement for pupils. If a pupil arrives after registration has closed the absence will be recorded as unauthorised for that session. If this persists legal action, in the form of a Penalty Notice or Prosecution under Section 444(1) of the Education Act 1996 may follow.

For Parents/Carers struggling with getting their child to school on time, please contact us and we can work together to address any barriers. This week we had 12% of our pupils arrive late for school, not including those authorised for medical appointments. That's 36 children arriving late. As a school, we are working very hard to accelerate learning for our children so even arriving at 9 am when the school day starts at 8:50 am means a delay to the start of the lesson. It would be great if we could work on reducing this number from next week. I know we can do it!

Minutes late per day	Equivalent of missing
5 Minutes	3.4 school days a year
10 Minutes	6.9 school days a year
15 Minutes	10.3 school days a year
20 Minutes	13.8 school days a year
30 Minutes	20.7 school days a year

## Staple Hill Football Team Storm to Victory

On Friday the 24th of November, we participated in our 2<sup>nd</sup> tournament. Firstly (at approximately 2:45 pm) our first match was against Bromley Heath Yellows. The first match was a success for us with a 3-0 win to Staple Hill Primary School. The first and second outstanding goals were executed by Theo. Going into the second half of this amazing game, the Yellows unluckily scored an own goal, which left the match at a 3-0 win for us.

After our excellent start, our 2<sup>nd</sup> match was against Frenchay, which left us 3-0 again. The first fantastic goal was scored by Murat, who had led us to a 1-0 advantage. Not long after, a second brilliant goal was scored by Zinedine; leaving us 2-0 up in the first victorious half. A few minutes into the second half, a skillful goal was scored by our confident captain Devarro. Incredibly, our teamwork led to us winning 3-0 again and also took us to a pressurizing final.

After two comfortable wins, the final match wasn't as easy as we thought. At the start of the deciding match, we were extremely under pressure as we tried to score a goal to give us the advantage. Unluckily, we were beaten to the first goal as they played as a great team and pushed passed our defense twice leaving us with a 0-2 disadvantage.



## Making a Positive Difference

There will be no Tea with the Headteacher or Positive Difference Assembly next Friday due to Christmas parties. We will resume on Friday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2018.



### Special Request:

If you have any unwanted tea cups and saucers [they don't have to match], we are collecting them for our 'Tea with the Headteacher'. If you can donate any you no longer need then please leave at the main office. Thank you to parents who have already donated some tea cups and saucers. Our children used them for the first time today.

*Match Report continued*

At half time, after a strong team talk, we decided we weren't giving up on winning the tournament and showed great character, pushing ourselves to the limit. Amazingly, Devarro scored a magnificent goal, leaving us to score one more goal to tie it up. As we were one goal down, Devarro scored a terrific 2<sup>nd</sup> goal that put us level as seconds passed. Luckily for us, Zinedine grabbed us the crucial goal to make it 3-2. However, soon after they kicked off, they scored a great goal that couldn't be stopped by our goalkeeper.

As the last intense seconds went by, we could feel a goal as our team pushed up the field. All of a sudden, Harry scored a phenomenal goal to lead us to victory to lift the well-earned cup.

At the end, the trophy was presented to our hard-working captain and everyone on the team was filled with elation. Finally, we had won a golden cup for the school cabinet this year; all because of the collaborative team.

*Reported by Devarro & Amari*

**And what a team you are! Fantastic positivity and collaboration all the way. Keep it up!**

## RED X DANCE

Thank you so much to Red X Dance who choreographed our Flash Mob dance at the Christmas Fayre. It was no mean feat and the children absolutely loved it. We have sent out leaflets today, in case children are interested in joining them, in the future.

To gain the full effect, maybe we could stage a full flash mob outside on the playground, in the New Year. I know it won't be a 'surprise' but at least you would see how amazing your children are at dancing and having fun. You would be very proud of them.

**We'll keep you posted!**

## DATES FOR YOUR DIARY

**12<sup>th</sup> & 13<sup>th</sup> Dec** KS1 & Reception Christmas Performance

**13<sup>th</sup> Dec** Christmas Dinner Day & Christmas Jumper Day

**14<sup>th</sup> Dec** Carol Service at Staple Hill Methodist Church

**18<sup>th</sup> Dec** SCHOOL CLOSED FOR INSET

**2<sup>nd</sup> Jan** SCHOOL CLOSED FOR INSET

**3<sup>rd</sup> Jan** Children Back to School