

# Newsletter



'Attend, Enjoy, Try Your Best, Achieve and Succeed'

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Friday 8<sup>th</sup> January 2016

Happy New Year to all parents/carers and Friends of Silver Tree, may it be a healthy, successful and prosperous one. Maybe free from the worries of relegation!

## Community Governor Vacancies

There are currently two vacancies for the Governing body. These are community governors as such they are appointed by the full Governing Body. If you know of anyone who maybe suitable/interested then let school know as soon as possible.

These vacancies follow the resignation of two governors. I would like to pay particular tribute to one of these governors. Mrs Pauline Gates has been a governor at Silver Tree and the old Junior School for many years. She has always sought to improve the education and opportunities for the children in the village. Pauline was Vice Chair for the last 5 years. She remains a parish councillor and I am sure that she will continue to be active in village life. On behalf of pupils and staff, both past and present I would like to thank her for all that she has done.

## Parent Survey

I will issue a complete summary of the survey results. However, I must thank to parents for their positive comments. We do not pretend to get it right all the time. We also learn from mistakes and seek to continually improve all aspects of school for your child and you.....

The three comments out of the many which sum up the philosophy of the school

*'My daughter loves going to school! She gets excited with new topics and it is clear this is because of the way she is being taught. She has always felt encouraged and not forced which is probably why she is so eager to achieve her best''*

*'The good range of after school clubs, they are all free, giving all children a chance to join in, even families on a low income'*

*'... the school, teachers and parents are united with strong links to the community. Parents are involved in every way, school encourages lots of events and activities with parents being invited along to share experiences'*

## Community Art Project

School has recently worked with Graham Hopper an artist, to produce new designs for a sculpture within the village. These will replace the silver trees which now stand proudly in the school grounds

## Attendance

Current attendance is currently 96.4%, as a school we are pleased by this. It shows the vast majority of pupils are attending regularly at the expected level or better. However we have a number of pupils who are falling below 90% and this puts them into the persistent absentee category. Attendance at this level has an impact on learning and future achievement. Remember every day and every lesson counts.

Please remember if your child cannot enter through their classroom door in a morning then they are **late** and you need to register your child at the Silver Tree Centre.

## Adoption

As you may be aware schools receive funding for all pupils who have been in the care of the local authority, this includes children who have been adopted. If your child is adopted and you would like to let us know, then please contact Mr Trueman. I am well aware from personal experience, that this is sensitive and potentially difficult situation. However we are encouraged to gather this information.

## After School Clubs

We try to provide a range of FREE after school clubs for the children. Over the last three years the number on offer and the number of children attending have grown considerably. In order for these clubs to be free we rely upon the good will of school staff. Thanks to Mrs Kidd, Mrs Burnside, Ms Caygill, Mrs Richards, Mrs Minchall, Mrs Harvey, Mrs Johnson and Miss Ray who give of their own time to support the children after school.

Other staff also provide clubs during lunch times.

While we never want these clubs to be cancelled at the last minute this will happen from time to time. Just like you they have children, have family commitments and do feel poorly from time to time, as well as covering for colleagues who may be absent-during and after school. As parents please accept cancelations politely and have a backup plan in mind.

### Suggestion-make Silver Tree better

Let us know how we can improve-----

Governors will review all ideas-best suggestion will receive a £25 Sainsbury's voucher

Name of your Child.....

**The Parent calendar for this term was issued on Tuesday 5<sup>th</sup> January 2016, it is now on the website.**

**It may also be in your child's bag if you haven't seen it!**

**Term dates until the end of the school year 2016 are below.**

### Term Dates

**February Half Term – Break up Friday 12<sup>th</sup> February**

**Return Monday 22<sup>nd</sup> February 2016**

**Easter Holiday – Break up Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> March**

**Return Monday 11<sup>th</sup> April 20**

**Bank Holiday - Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> May**

**Return Tuesday 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2016**

**Summer Half Term - Break up Thursday 26<sup>th</sup> May**

**Return Monday 6<sup>th</sup> June 2016**

**Summer Holiday - Break up Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> July 2016**