



Barrow Street
Salford
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Phone: 0161 832 6637

Headteacher: Miss J Kinch
Rector: Revd. G Robinson
Deputy Headteacher: Ms B Jackson
Website: www.stphilipssalford.co.uk

Friday 2nd February, 2018

Dear Parents/Guardians,

We had a fantastic start to the school year with our attendance at one point hitting 98.6%. However, since returning from the Christmas break, it has dropped dramatically to 95.42% which is significantly below our target of 96.6%.

We are aware that the main reason for this dip is the outbreak of flu across the country and we fully appreciate that children will get ill from time to time. Please only keep them off for as long as is actually necessary. At times children are having a week off when in fact they only required a few days recovery time.

We have also seen rise in the number of holidays being taken or the number of request to take holidays during school time.

School understands that holidays in term time are cheaper than during the school holidays and we fully appreciate the frustration that this causes. However, we cannot authorise holidays that are taken during the school term due to the impact that it has on the pupil's overall education. The law states that parents do not have the automatic right to take their children out of school but that school **may grant requests of no more than 10 days in total in any one year**, agreed in advance, and **only in exceptional circumstances**. As a result of taking a holiday in term time, a fine will be issued unless the reason for the trip is deemed to come under the category of "exceptional circumstances".

May we also remind you of the impact of taking time off school on the rewards for the children.

To achieve a badge this term:

Gold badge	= 100%	0 days absence
Silver badge	= 99%	½ day absence
Silver badge	= 98%	1 day absence
Bronze badge	= 97%	1½ days absence
Bronze badge	= 96%	2 days absence

If you have any questions regarding the issue of attendance then do not hesitate to contact the school and we will be more than happy to speak to you.

Kind regards

Mr.Steadman and Miss.Kinch
(Family Liaison Officer) (Headteacher)