13 January 2023

Dear Parents/ Carers

We hope you are well and excited about the term ahead for your child.

We are writing with concern about attendance in Reception. We cannot overstate how important attending Reception is. Every day we learn a new sound in Phonics, practise reading/writing and develop understanding of number and operations in maths. In our recent assessments, it was evident that children with lower attendance had missed learning key sounds and concepts. We have capacity to support them to catch up, to a limited extent. However, the current ongoing low level of attendance for some children is stretching this capacity, especially as they are often absent from this catch up session. This will certainly impact upon their progress and their confidence in class.

Whilst we appreciate that, at this time of year, coughs and colds are rife, we would like to assure you that you can bring calpol to school, if required. Children with a mild cough or snotty nose are fine in class. If you complete a form with the school office, we can administer infant paracetamol and monitor your child throughout the day- if they are not 100%. We would like to work with you and support your child to be in school, as often as possible. Reception is such an important foundation for the rest of their school lives.

We will always call you if they are sick or become worse. Their well-being is, and always will be, our number one priority.

Thank you, as always, for your continued support

The Reception Team