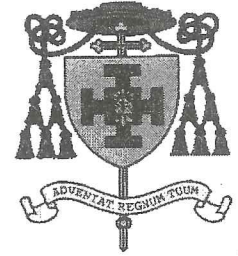


*Fully valuing everyone
in the love of Jesus.*

St Theresa's Catholic Primary School
Kipling Road,
Blacon,
Chester.
CH1 5UU

Telephone: 01244 981070



Diocese of Shrewsbury

Headteacher: Mrs N Kirkman.
12/9/18.

Dear Parents and Carers,

Following a review of absence and attendance data it has been identified that St. Theresa's School has not met the minimum attendance target for last year for all pupils. This is very disappointing as it reflects poorly on the school and also affects the learning and teaching that takes place here.

As you know we are very ambitious for every child to make the best possible progress in their education but after a child is absent the teaching staff in each class have to spend time helping each individual to catch up on learning, which means that valuable learning time is taken away from the other children in the class. The child who has had the holiday is left with a gap in their learning which can never really be filled, so every child in a class is affected by the absence.

Last year St. Theresa's lost 250 days' attendance where children were taken out of school for holidays which were unauthorised.

This letter is written to urge every family at St. Theresa's School not to remove their child / children from school for a holiday this year in term- time. Any holiday taken which is unauthorised will be considered for a Fixed Penalty Fine, if upheld this will incur a charge of £60 per parent per child, this increases if it is not paid by the due date.

There are very few reasons the school can authorise holidays and usually they are only for one or two days for example the wedding of a parent, a funeral, the Passing Out Ceremony for a close family member in the Armed Forces, for example.

The children are required to attend school for 190 days per year. This would be 100% attendance. A minimum attendance percentage target of 96% for all children is set to ensure that every child gets the best chance to benefit from their education. The school rewards all the children whose attendance is above 98% as we recognise that this is exceptional. We also reward classes where the attendance is highest and the whole school when we achieve over 95%.

Please do all you can to ensure that your child is in school every day this year and holidays are taken outside term- time. This affects our OFSTED grading and also the education that we can provide for all the children at St. Theresa's. Thank you.

Yours sincerely,

N. Kirkman