

QI Newsletter

Issue 5 | January 2023

Dear Parents/Carers,

At last we reach the end of January and look forward to some signs of spring around the corner. However, this also means we are nearly halfway through the academic year! To keep you informed on your child's progress so far this year, you will have recently received your child's Interim Report and will receive another at the end of the Summer Term. We are pleased that over 80% of our parents have booked a **Parents' Evening Consultation for 7, 8 & 9th February**. Please do get in touch if you would like to arrange an appointment, but missed the deadline - we would still welcome the chance to talk with you. We really value the close partnership between school and parents and see the positive impact this has on our children. We are always happy to answer any questions, discuss any concerns or listen to any worries, so please do get in touch with us rather than ever think 'the school can't do anything' as we will always try, and if we can't help we may know someone who can! 😊

Mrs Allen

New Information

Attendance – an Attendance Certificate for the Autumn Term 2022, was included with your child's recent Interim Report. We usually share an annual Attendance Certificate with Parents/Carers at the end of the academic year but we feel that it would be beneficial to send them home termly.



As you know, from previous school communications, we regularly monitor attendance and punctuality at QI. The Local Authority and the Department for Education (DfE) collect attendance data and use it to provide regional and national statistics.

You may be interested to know that our whole school attendance for the Autumn Term 2022 was 95%, which is good overall but lower than it has been in many years. We thank all those Parent's and Carer's who ensure their child has good and punctual attendance which enables them to be included in every learning opportunity available to them.

A total of 1,296.5 days were lost due to absence; 959.5 days due to illness/medical and 337 days for holiday related absences/parents keeping their child off school without a valid reason.

Post COVID, we have seen an increase in the number of children who are regularly absent and we will continue to identify barriers and offer our support to those parents to improve punctuality and attendance.

Ofsted Quote: 'Successful schools 'don't tolerate' persistent absence'

Holidays – as we look ahead to the Spring & Summer terms, when holiday absences peak, we want to politely remind Parents/Carers that we are obliged to adhere to the Hampshire County Council's Code of Conduct for Issuing Penalty Notices for holidays of 10 sessions (5 days) or more – all HCC maintained schools must follow this protocol – not just QI!



We get no satisfaction from issuing Penalty Notices - they are time consuming to produce and can cause angst when parents feel aggrieved at receiving them. HCC use the income generated from the fines to take legal action against repeat offenders, the school never receives this money.

Did you know that a Penalty Notice is intended as a 'one off deterrent' – this means that you should only ever receive one in your child's entire educational journey from Year F to Year 11 and any subsequent holiday is very likely to result in legal proceedings.

On occasions, parents report their child as sick directly before or after a holiday, which can be a tactic to avoid a Penalty Notice. For the school to authenticate the sickness absence, we require evidence in the form of prescribed medication or holiday information as verification.

We are in the process of updating our School Attendance Policy and will share this with all parents, through the website, before Easter.



Parents Car Park – in response to parents' feedback concerning the risk to pedestrians from the overhang of vehicles when accessing the parking bays, we are installing galvanised 'steel' posts at the end of each of the bays to act as a barrier to stop this from happening. This installation will take place during the February half term, so please be aware of this if you use the car park and drive a vehicle without rear-parking sensors!

We regularly receive complaints from members of our school community who witness dangerous, careless and sometimes just blatant selfish motoring behaviour. Here are some of the complaints we receive – 'driving with speed into the car park', 'leaving a vehicle stationary in an area that clearly blocks access to parking bays', 'parking in the disabled bays when able bodied', 'parking in front of the driveways of neighbouring houses, up on pavements and even blocking the road'. It really is tiresome to keep appealing

to the better nature of those drivers who drive without care, consideration or respect – for the benefit of everyone, we all need to be considerate citizens and a positive role model to our children!



We encourage our community to report any traffic related incidents, around the neighbouring area, to the Traffic and Parking Department at Havant Borough Council on 023 9244 6019 and, after 1st April 2023, to Hampshire County Council on 0300 555 1375.

Staff Car Park – may we take this opportunity to remind parents that the staff car park is exclusively for staff use only. Parents must not access the staff car park at any time - this includes before and after school activities. Thank you for your co-operation.

Staff Training - on 3rd January, Hampshire Constabulary delivered training to all staff on Domestic Abuse. Further information is available through the Hampshire Police website - <https://www.hampshire.police.uk/advice/advice-and-information/daa/domestic-abuse/>

Many staff were not aware of Claire's Law - also known as the Domestic Violence Disclosure Scheme - which gives any member of the public the right to ask the police if someone may pose a risk to them or someone they know – details of this scheme can be accessed through the Hampshire Police website - <https://www.hampshire.police.uk/advice/advice-and-information/daa/domestic-abuse/alpha2/request-information-under-clares-law/>

Families who are affected by domestic abuse can receive support from the Stop Domestic Abuse Service (SDAS) run by Hampshire County Council – <https://stopdomesticabuse.uk/about2> - referrals can be submitted by a Parent/Carer or by an authorised member of staff - please get in touch with us if you would like our help.



Curricular Enrichment Events

On 6th January, as a post-Christmas treat, all our children enjoyed a surprise 'Cinderella' panto experience run by Stage-ed – it was filled with laughs, boos and lots of songs that helped tell the story and some of our children even joined in as props! We would like to thank our PTA for funding this fun event.

The following sporting events were attended as part of the Havant and Waterlooville School Sports Partnership:

- Dodgeball Festival for 12 children in Years 3 and 4 – out of 12 teams that took part, Year 4 came 3rd and Year 3 came 5th.
- Sports Hall Athletics for 12 children in Years 5 and 6 – we achieved 3rd place out of 10 teams.



As always, our thanks go to Mr Murray and Mrs Jarrom for organising these events. Well done to all those children who participated for their efforts and for being such great ambassadors of QI.

Updates and Feedback

Staff Updates - we pass on our congratulations to Mr Caldwell who got married just before Christmas. After the February half term, Miss Roe and Mrs Rayner will be starting their maternity leave and we look forward to hearing news of the safe arrival of their babies – we are grateful to Mrs Marples and Mrs Kirk for taking over as full time class teachers of 3R and 4R respectively, until the end of this academic year. ♥



Feedback - as you know, we welcome feedback all year round so please continue to share your comments, suggestions or questions with us via our 'Feedback Form' located on the 'Contact Us' page of our website.

Future Dates for the Diary

Please check the website calendar for Year Group specific events - <https://www.queensinclosure.hants.sch.uk/calendar/?calid=1&pid=9&viewid=1>

Spring Term 2022	
7 February	NEW Safer Internet Day - https://saferinternet.org.uk/safer-internet-day/safer-internet-day-2023
13 – 17 February	Half Term
13 th March	School closed for INSET (Staff Training)