

11th December 2018

NAME: _____ TUTOR GROUP: _____

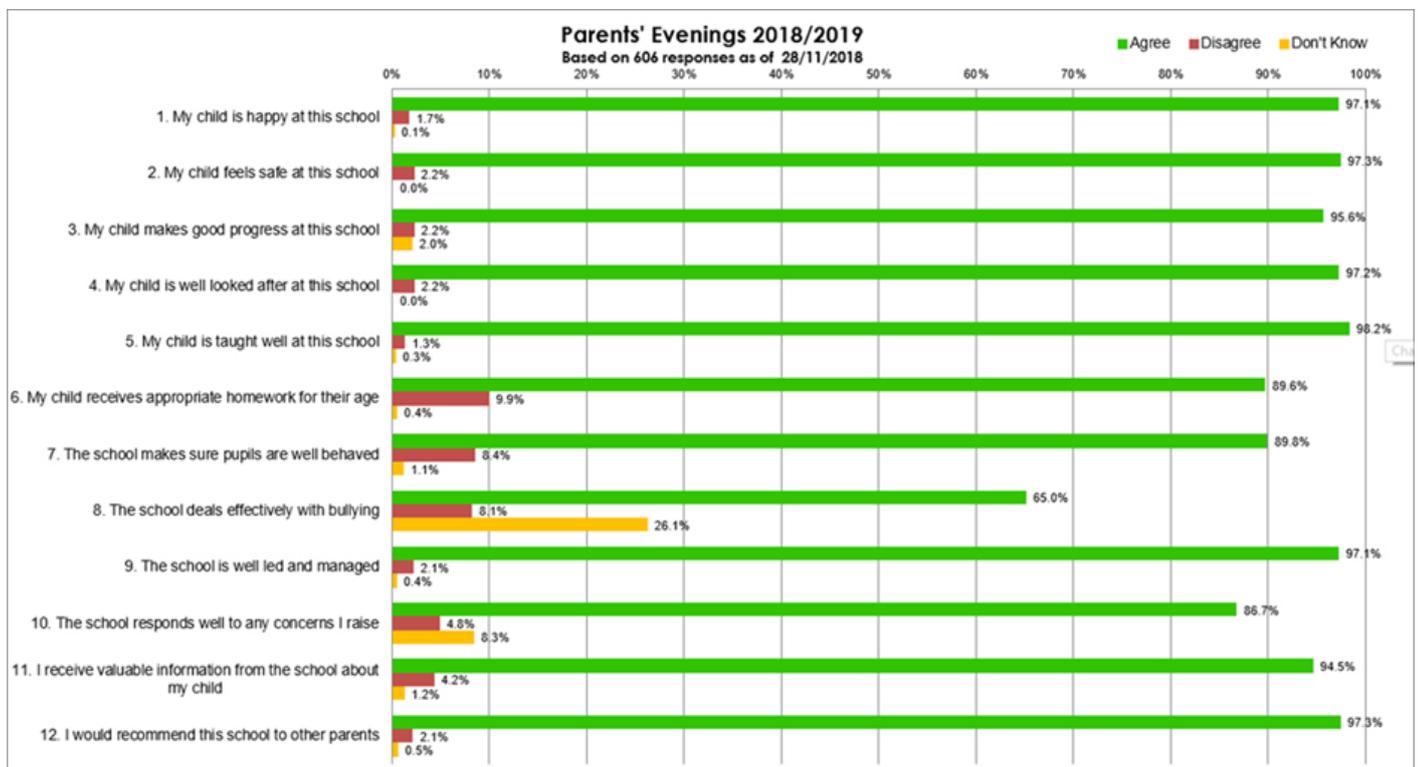
Dear Parent / Carer

As we approach the Christmas holiday, I am writing to ensure that you are aware of arrangements for the end of this and the start of next term. This has been a very successful and enjoyable term with so many highlights, including our dancers performing at Disneyland Paris and Year 11 French students undertaking work experience placements in Paris.

OUR BEST FIGURES SO FAR

The positivity evident around school is echoed by numerous statistics which are our best so far. I am delighted to report that 919 students average at least one positive per day, with only 80 students throughout the entire school averaging more than two negative entries per week. Despite the start of the annual 'bug season' and sickness viruses, it is pleasing to see **attendance figures up 0.74% on the same period last year**. Please support us in ensuring that your child strives to attain 100% attendance going forwards. 986 students currently average over 96% attendance with 437 maintaining a 100% record. If your child is struggling and feeling under the weather, please give them some appropriate medication and send them into school, rather than allowing them to stay at home.

Thank you for your ongoing support exemplified by **record attendance at Parents' Evenings** this term. It has also been heartening seeing **parental feedback improve in every category**:



Stratford upon Avon School

Mr N Wallace – Headteacher

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KINDNESS MATTERS

Our behavioural mantra is summed up by the phrase **Work Hard and Be Kind**. There are plenty of ideas on what creates excellence but I was struck by one I read recently, stating:

Excellence can be obtained if you: Care more than others think is wise; Risk more than others think is safe; Dream more than others think is practical; Expect more than others think is possible.

Caring seems to me to be the heart of what good schools are about. Theodore Roosevelt is credited with saying first that 'people don't care how much you know until they know how much you care.' The centrality of caring has been reflected in the appreciative messages we have received following acts of kindness displayed by our students in the local community. The Tweets with the largest number of 'likes' have been supporting the actions of Alfie Brooks (Year 11) and David Williams (Year 12) in helping elderly ladies when they fell over in town. We have so many wonderful students for whom kindness is part of their DNA.

CHRISTMAS FESTIVITIES

The theme of kindness will be prevalent as we come towards the end of term. **Christmas lunch will be served on Wednesday 12th December**. On **Friday 14th we will be supporting Save the Children by participating in their 'Christmas Jumper Day' (50p** – regular uniform, but with a Christmas Jumper instead of blazer). Please send your child in with tinned or packaged food before the end of term as **tutor groups will be filling Christmas Hampers for the Stratford Foodbank**. The annual staff 'Christmas Truce' football match will be at lunchtime on Monday 17th December. We will be running a **Christmas market for students at lunchtime on Tuesday 18th and Wednesday 19th December** with a range of stalls for everyone to enjoy. Our school show, '**We Will Rock You**' is being performed on **Tuesday 18th, Wednesday 19th and Thursday 20th December at 7pm**. Tickets are available on ParentPay (£5). Year 7 and 8 students will see excerpts on Thursday 20th.

END OF TERM - 1.10pm on Friday 21st December 2018

Students will finish school at 1.10pm on Friday 21st December 2018. This **will be a non-uniform day (£1 in aid of the Warwickshire Wildlife Sanctuary**. This will feature two 60 minute lessons, two 30 minute lessons, a Year Group Assembly, and a short tutor period from 12.50-1.10pm. Food will be available before school, from 11.30-11.50, and at 1.10pm. Buses will run at the normal time so please make alternative arrangements.

START OF TERM – Tuesday 8th January 2019

All students are expected to be in school by 8.45am on Tuesday 8th January 2019. Our regular Week B timetable will commence immediately.

IN THE EVENT OF EXTREME WEATHER

In the unlikely event that it does become necessary to close the school due to extreme weather, notices will be placed on our website www.stratforduponavonschool.com, sent by Twitter and email, and a verbal message placed on the switchboard (ring 01789 268051) by 6.45 a.m. at the latest. We also notify Warwickshire County Council, who place lists of all the county school closures on their website.

Finally, may I thank you for your ongoing support and wish you all a safe and enjoyable holiday period and a Happy New Year. In the meantime, please follow us on Twitter [@StraUponAvonSch](https://twitter.com/StraUponAvonSch) for regular updates.

Yours sincerely



Mr Neil Wallace
Headteacher