



Welcome back! I hope you all had an excellent Summer and are ready to face the exciting opportunities we have to offer this year. It was lovely to see so many smiling faces this morning and all children looking smart in their uniforms saying they were looking forward to coming to school, which was great to hear. I would like to extend a warm welcome to all the children for whom it is the first day at our school and also to Mrs Bone, who begins a new job, in Year 5, at our school.

As with all our children, I sincerely hope they will be very happy here, embracing what we have to offer and building their enthusiasm for life-long learning.

Our school newsletters are usually issued on a Monday, please look out for them as they contain a plethora of information about what is happening in school.

Firstly a hark back to last term to say a big thank you to all those children who donated their school shoes for the Variety Club Appeal. We had a huge collection for a worthy cause. My grateful thanks must also go to Mrs Sturdey who organised the appeal.

**ParentPay** – please can you ensure that you are registered for Parent Pay. All money in school is now paid through Parent Pay accounts. We also send our newsletters through ParentPay and our school text messages, therefore, it is vital you have an account so you are kept informed.

**School Uniform** – as I have said, all the children look great in their uniform today. We hope it will stay like this all year. If you need more information regarding our school uniform, please consult the school website [www.dronfield-jun.derbyshire.sch.uk](http://www.dronfield-jun.derbyshire.sch.uk) and click on the policies tab on the left hand side and from there click uniform policy. **Plain black** trainers are allowed as part of school uniform but we do not allow trainers with sporting manufacturers' logo. Smart, flat, black boots can be worn in the Winter.

**Please ensure all clothing is labeled with your child's name.** We had a lot of lost property last year, much of which was left unclaimed, as it was unnamed and therefore we could not return it to its owner.

**Dinner Money** – the dinner money for this term will be £68, except for those year groups on trips. Y3 - £66, Y5 children who are going to Mount Cook - £62, Y6 children who are going to France - £60. Payment for School Meals must be made promptly via ParentPay.

**Flexible Dining** – If your child follows a flexible dining plan, please log in to your ParentPay account to select the days you wish your child to have school meals for next term. To do this, please select 'make meal bookings' (under your child's name) from the home page, select the week from the drop down list and choose the dates you would like your child to have a lunch. Please repeat this for each week available. Please ensure that your child is aware which days they have sandwiches and which days they have school dinners. Please note you will be charged £2 for a meal if they tell their teacher the incorrect information.

Alongside the advance booking facility, we would also like to offer the opportunity for you to book an ad-hoc meal (such as Christmas dinner, theme day or in an emergency) should the need arise. Bookings for ad-hoc meals are made in the same way as detailed above, but, the booking (and any payment needed) must be made by 8am on the day the meal is required.

**Jacket Potatoes** – on Friday the kitchen will offer Jacket Potatoes as an alternative to fish. The potatoes are available with the choice of one topping, either cheese, beans or tuna. If your child would prefer to have a jacket potato, please log in to [www.schoolinterviews.co.uk](http://www.schoolinterviews.co.uk) using event code **4fqk4** to register your child's topping

preference. **This must be done by midday on Thursday 7 September in order for your child to have a jacket potato this Friday.**

**Sponsored Walk** – we are hoping to do our Sponsored Walk on **Monday 11<sup>th</sup> September at 1.15pm**. This event will take place on our school field and parents / carers are welcome to come and watch. This year's sponsored walk has a 'Countries' theme, children can dress in the colours of a country's flag or wear their normal PE Kit. Pupils will be taking part in our sponsored walk to raise money to repair, and update, our school adventure playground. During the Sponsored Walk, the aim is 20 laps although some children do more and occasionally others do less. Please encourage your child to collect sponsorship but only from people they know. This event is weather dependent and we will text you should we need to postpone.

**Contact Details** – we will shortly send out forms for parents to complete with their contact details to enable us to ensure that our records are up-to-date. When you receive your details, please check and amend as appropriate. **It is most important that you fill in the Parental Consent details.** We would appreciate it if you could return these details as soon as possible.

**Class Dojo** – Last academic year, the Y4 team piloted Class Dojo for us and this was very successful so we have to decided to roll it out across the school this academic year. In the coming days, your child's class teacher will give you further details.

**Parent Introduction Meetings** for Years 3, 4, 5 and 6 will take place next week and the week after, at 6pm, in our school hall. The Year Group teachers will introduce themselves to you and talk about what, and how, your child will learn throughout the year. **The Year 5 meeting is on Monday 11<sup>th</sup> September. The Y3 meeting is on Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> September. The Y6 meeting is on Monday 18<sup>th</sup> September. The Y4 meeting is on Tuesday 19<sup>th</sup> September.** We greatly value a strong home-school partnership which benefits your child.

**Summer Reading Challenge** – The 2017 Summer Reading Challenge was Animal Agents Read. If your child took part in this challenge and would like to bring in his/her rewards and certificate for whole school assembly on **Friday, 8 September**, we will be very pleased to celebrate their success.

**School Photographs Thursday 21 September** – Children with pre-school siblings can have photographs taken from 8.30am in the Infant School Hall. Individual/sibling photographs will be taken during the school day. If your child has a sibling in the infant school, please can you let your child's class teacher know if you require them to have their photograph taken together?

**Communication** - if you need to see your child's teacher, he/she is usually available before school at 8.45am and after school at 3.35pm. To ensure safeguarding of all our children, we ask that you come into school to speak to the class teacher via the office. Please be aware that the class teacher will need to be ready to teach his/her class at 9am. Teachers in Lower School (Years 3 and 4) do see their classes onto the yard at home time, so it would be possible to ask to speak to the teacher directly at that time. Thank you for your co-operation.

**Volunteering** - We would welcome any parent/ grandparent/carer to help out in school. Please see your child's class teacher if you would like to help out.

**Attendance** - If your child is ill and cannot attend school please ring the school as soon as possible. All children's attendance is closely monitored and if your child's attendance falls below 95%, the school will look closely at the

reasons and may refer to the Education Welfare Officer. Please can I also remind you that leave of absence requests for holiday during term time will not be authorised.

**Positive behaviour** – we will continue our behaviour system on the yard at break times and lunch times. We operate a card system. A green card will be given to a child/children who have demonstrated cooperative and / or supportive and / or kind play – these are the actions we wish to promote. A green card comes with a reward of five house points that a child / children can add to their house point chart. If children are playing too roughly or being unkind, we will show them a yellow card and they will have a one minute time out to allow them to think about, and correct, their behaviour before returning to playing. Should this continue when they re-commence playing, then they will be shown a red card which will be a five minute time out and the final opportunity to think about, and correct, their behaviour. We do not expect to be showing too many yellow cards and even fewer red cards, we will be focusing on the positive. If you have any questions, please see your child's class teacher.

**Arrival at school** - Children should not arrive before 8.45am as teachers are not on duty until 8.50am. If your child arrives late and the doors leading to the playground are closed, please bring your child to the main entrance and sign in at the Office. If you need to collect your child for appointments within the school day, please come to the main entrance and sign your child out.

**Jewellery** – The only jewellery we allow, are stud earrings and watches. Bracelets, including Charity bracelets, are not allowed.

**Medicines** - If your child needs to take medicine at school, please complete an indemnity form. All medicines, except inhalers, are kept in the staffroom. You can collect an indemnity form from Mrs Myers or Mrs Cooper in the office.

**Healthy snacks at break times** - For many years the school has operated a healthy eating policy. At morning and afternoon break times, children are allowed to bring in a healthy snack, such as: fruit, raisins, cheese strings, cereal bars (although not ones smothered in chocolate). **Please do not allow your child to bring crisps, chocolate bars or sweets for consumption at break times.**

Children who have packed lunches are, of course, allowed crisps and chocolate bars, but these must be eaten during the lunch hour and not during morning or afternoon break times. **All children are encouraged to bring in a water bottle (named) and take it home each night to be refilled for the following day.** We ask that water bottles be filled with **still water** rather than juice, cordial, flavoured or sparkling, water, please.

**School Lane** - For the safety of our children, please do not drop off or pick up outside the school gates. We operate a drop off zone in a morning outside the bungalows on School Lane. We also operate a voluntary one-way system going down School Lane during the morning and after school rush hour times. Anyone parked on white zigzag lines is liable for a fine. The traffic officers are out regularly at the request of the schools. Please can I ask that you park carefully for the safety of our children and considerately to the residents in our vicinity?

**Y6 France Trip (10-13 October)** – We will be holding a meeting for parents and children going on the residential to France on **Thursday 21 September** at 6pm in our school hall. Please bring your child's passport and E111 (EHIC) card to the meeting. You will be given a copy of the itinerary, but you may want to make notes. We expect the meeting to last about 40 minutes.

**Cool Milk** – if your child would like to have milk at breaktime, please register at [www.coolmilk.com](http://www.coolmilk.com) and make your payment online. The milk is delivered daily and is available for your child to collect from the school office at morning break time. It is your child's responsibility to collect the milk.

**Dates for your Diary (There will be many more dates to add!)**

**2017**

11 September – Introduction meeting for Y5 Parents 6pm  
12 September – Introduction meeting for Y3 Parents 6pm  
13 September – Y5 residential to Mount Cook departs  
15 September - Y5 residential to Mount Cook returns  
18 September – Introduction meeting for Y6 Parents 6pm  
19 September – Introduction meeting for Y4 Parents 6pm  
21 September – School photographs (individuals and family groups). Parents' and children's meeting regarding the France residential  
w/c 2 October – Parent Consultations Week  
4 October – No Pens Day Wednesday  
10 October – Y6 France residential to depart  
13 October – Y6 France residential to return  
20 October – Break up for half term  
30 October – INSET Day  
31 October – School re-opens  
6 November – Open evening for Y2 parents 6-7.30pm  
9 November – Y6 residential London Trip departs  
10 November - Y6 residential London returns  
19 December – School closes for Christmas Holiday

**2018**

2 January – INSET day  
3 January – INSET day  
4 January – School starts  
6 February – Safer Internet Day  
16 February – School closes for half term  
26 February – School re-opens  
1 March – World Book Day  
w/c 5 March – Parent Consultation week  
23 March – School closes for Easter Holidays  
9 April – School re-opens  
w/c 7 May – SATs Week  
23 May – Provisional sports days at English Institute of Sport (EIS) to be confirmed in December 2017  
25 May – School closes for half term  
4 June – INSET day  
5 June – School re-opens  
20 July – School closes for summer holiday

**All our newsletters are available to view and download from our website – [www.dronfield-jun.derbyshire.sch.uk](http://www.dronfield-jun.derbyshire.sch.uk)**