



Last week was very action-packed, not least because of the Y5 residential to Mount Cook. The Year 5s demonstrated their willingness to take on a challenge as they took part in fencing, zip wire, climbing, Jacob's Ladder, Dancemania and many other exciting activities.

Back at school last week, the children were continuing to embrace their learning and I have seen some beautiful presentation in books and folders. I would like to say a big thank you all the Y3 parents who attended the year group meeting last week. We hope to continue to develop a collaborative working partnership with you for the benefit of your child and appreciate your supportive comments.

Sponsored Walk – We will be pleased to receive all sponsor money via ParentPay. If every child was able to collect £10 in sponsor money, we would raise £3700. We estimate that a new Adventure Playground will cost in the region of £20000, we are looking at other ways of raising money so that we can reach our target quickly. Thank you in advance. The payment item is now available on ParentPay – however, when setting this up, we are required to set a minimum payment (£1) and a maximum payment (£50) to create the item. Please ensure that you 'Choose Payment Amount' when making your payment to ensure you only pay your desired amount.

Y5 Residential to Mount Cook - Well done to all the Year 5 children who went on our residential trip to Mount Cook last week. A number of the Mount Cook staff commented on how polite the children were, which made me very proud. My grateful thanks go to Mrs Ridgard, Mrs Genders, Mrs Mowforth, Miss Grogan, Mr Burrows, Mrs Walker and Mrs Hughes, who helped supervise the children on the trip. An extra thank you goes to Mrs Cooper who did all of the organising behind the scenes. And finally, we would like to say that we really appreciated all the parents and children who took time to say thank you to us before departing on Friday night. We took photographs throughout the two days and we will put them on a DVD. We will let you know when this is available.

Y6 France Trip (9-12 October) – We will be holding a meeting for parents and children going on the residential to France on **Tuesday 25th 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.

School Photographs Wednesday 26th 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?

Y6 Open evening at DHFS – Dronfield Henry Fanshawe are holding an Open Evening for Y6 children and their parents at 6pm on **Thursday 20th September**. I would recommend that if you have a Y6 child, this evening is a very worthwhile experience.

European Day of Languages Wednesday 26 September – we would like to celebrate this in school by inviting any children who speak a language other than English at home (European or otherwise) or who have family members who do, to teach their class one or two simple words. They could even volunteer to take the register, and get their classmates to say 'hello/good morning' in the language. Any children who are confident and willing to have a go should let their class teacher know a day or two beforehand.

Y3 visit to The Deep Tuesday 2 October – information regarding this trip has been emailed to Parents of Y3 children. We ask parents to pay a voluntary contribution of £17 for this visit and would be grateful if you could pay this through ParentPay.

Photography/Video Consent – near the end of last term, we asked you to complete a form to provide consent for taking photos/video in school. If you completed one of these forms, we assume, unless you notify us otherwise, that the permissions you provided remain the same. A copy of the form will be given out to all new Y3 children and to anyone who did not complete one last year later this week. I would be grateful if you could complete this form and return it via your child's class teacher as soon as possible.

Christmas Card Competition – Lee Rowley (MP) has invited children in North East Derbyshire to design his Christmas card, which he has said will be 'sent to several hundred people'. If your child would like to enter the competition, he/she will need to use a piece of A4 paper to draw a picture as the front of a Christmas card. I would advise using felt tips rather than pencil crayons as they 'print' better. The design needs to be 2D. Please put your child's name and age, as well as, 'Dronfield Junior School' on the back of the design, and hand into Mrs Myers or Mrs Cooper in the school office. The closing date for entries is **Friday, 21st September**.

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.

Hallowes Crossing Patrol – There is a vacancy at the crossing patrol near the Fire Station. The Council are advertising for Crossing Patrol at this location but to date they have not been successful. If they can't find someone to fill the vacancy, they will not be able to provide crossing cover at this site. If you know anyone who may be interested, the contact details are on the advert at the site and the working times are 8.30am-9.05am and 3.10pm-3.50pm.

Violin Lessons – we have a new violin teacher who has started with us. If your child is interested in having violin lessons, please leave your child's name and your contact details with Mrs Myers/Mrs Cooper in the office.

Dinner Money – this has increased to £2.10 per day. Payment for School Meals must be made promptly via ParentPay, please.

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 £2.10 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.

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

2018

25 September - Parents' and children's meeting regarding the France residential 6pm
26 September – School photographs (individuals and family groups).
w/c 1 October – Parent Consultations Week
2 October – Y3 Visit to The Deep
3 October – No Pens Day Wednesday
9 October – Y6 France residential to depart
12 October – Y6 France residential to return
19 October – Y4 Visit to Perlethorpe Education Centre
24 October – Break up for half term
25 October – INSET Day
26 October – INSET Day
5 November – School re-opens
6 November – Open evening for Y2 parents 6-7.30pm
8 November – Y6 residential London Trip departs
9 November - Y6 residential London returns
12 November – Friendship Week
30 November – Y5 Hindu Temple visit
12 December Bags2School Collection
19 December – Christmas dinner
21 December – School closes for Christmas

2019

7 January – School starts
5 February – Safer Internet Day
15 February – School closes for half term
25 February – School re-opens
7 March – World Book Day
8 March – Y4 Hindu Temple visit
w/c 25 March – Parent Consultation week
3 April – Bags2School Collection
12 April – School closes for Easter Holidays
29 April – School re-opens
w/c 13 May – SATs Week
22 May – Provisional sports days at English Institute of Sport (EIS) to be confirmed in December 2018
24 May – School closes for half term
3 June – INSET day
4 June – School re-opens
9 July – Bags2School Collection
12 July – Last day at DJS for Y6 children transferring to DHFS
19 July – School closes for summer holiday

All our newsletters are available to view and download from our website – www.dronfield-jun.derbyshire.sch.uk