



Last week was very action-packed, not least because of our 'new look' sponsored walk. The children are continuing to embrace their learning and I have seen some beautiful presentation in books. The Year 5s also demonstrated their willingness to take on a challenge as they took part in a residential to Mount Cook.

I would like to say a big thank you all the Y3 and the Y5 parents who attended the year group meetings 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 – Wow! The Sponsored Walk last Tuesday was amazing. The children had a great time strolling around the grounds to the beat of Mr Burrows' music. We had to organise this in a very short space of time and we all (staff and children) worked effectively to make the event successful (even the weather was kind to us!) Following the event, we would grateful appreciate it if you could pay in your sponsor money through ParentPay. Thank you very much in advance.

Y5 Residential to Mount Cook - Well done to all the Year 5 children who went on our residential trip to Mount Cook last week. They conducted themselves excellently throughout the trip and fully participated in all the activities. 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, Miss Rogers, Mrs Genders, Mrs De Almeida, Miss Duckham, Mrs Bone, Mr Burrows, Mr Seller and Mrs Lunn, 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 and today. Mrs Lunn took loads of photographs and video. We will assemble the photographs and videos from the visit and put them on a DVD. We will let you know when this is available.

Parent Introduction Meetings – these will continue this week, 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 6 meeting is tonight. The Y4 meeting is on Tuesday 19th September.** We greatly value a strong home-school partnership which benefits your child.

Y6 France Trip (10-13 October) – We will be holding a meeting for parents and children going on the residential to France on **Wednesday 20 September** at **6.15pm** in our school hall. **Please note that our meeting has been changed as it clashes with the Y6 transition evening at Dronfield Henry Fanshawe School.** 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 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?

Y6 Open evening at DHFS – Dronfield Henry Fanshawe are holding an Open Evening for Y6 children and their parents at 6pm on **Thursday 21st September**. I would recommend that if you have a Y6 child, this evening is a very worthwhile experience.

Online Safety – we are aware that a number of our children have phones. In school, as part of our online safety lessons, we advise children to only answer calls, and reply to texts, from known numbers. I have reiterated this

advice to our Y4s and will repeat it to other year groups. Please could you follow this up at home? I am aware that a number of children use Whatsapp, where they are more likely to receive contact from unknown numbers.

European Day of Languages Tuesday 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.

Scholastic Book Club – we have handed out book club leaflets today, however, we might not have enough leaflets for each child so please browse their website. We can only accept orders placed online – please go too <http://schools.scholastic.co.uk/dronfield> to browse the latest books and order online. Please place your **order online by September 29th, 2017.**

Y6 residential to Llandudno June 2018 – letters and consent forms were emailed to parents on Friday 15 September. If your child wishes to go, the deposit needs to be paid by Friday 29 September. Please be aware of this deadline as we are unable to accept deposits after this date as we need to confirm final numbers with the hotel by Monday 2 October.

Y3 visit to The Deep Tuesday 3 October – letters giving details about this visit, were emailed home last week, please ensure you have received yours. We ask parents to pay a voluntary contribution of £17 for this visit and would be grateful if you could pay this through ParentPay.

Swimming – Congratulations to **Jessica G** who competed for Dronfield Dolphins at the Robin Hood gala in Ponds Forge Olympic 50m pool. She won 2 silver medals for 100m backstroke and 200m freestyle and gained fourth place for her 50m breaststroke. She achieved personal bests for all these events. Next Saturday she's competing at the Rotherham metro gala at Ponds Forge again, this time in the 25m pool. These are impressive results Jessica, very well done. Good luck next weekend, we're rooting for you!

ParentPay Communication – 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. Please note that you can access copies of emails and texts sent out by DJS in the Communication section of your ParentPay account if for any reason you need to refer back to correspondence.

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

2017

18 September – Introduction meeting for Y6 Parents 6pm

19 September – Introduction meeting for Y4 Parents 6pm

20 September - Parents' and children's meeting regarding the France residential 6.15pm

21 September – School photographs (individuals and family groups).

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
12 December Bags2School Collection
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
19 March – Bags2School Collection
23 March – School closes for Easter Holidays
9 April – School re-opens
w/c 14 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
10 July – Bags2School Collection
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