



Last week, we saw some fabulous speaking and listening skills on Wednesday as part of our No Pens Day Wednesday. It revealed some budding Members of Parliament honing their debating skills! Thank you for supporting our parent consultation evenings, I hope you found your meeting formative, which in turn, has helped to strengthen the home-school partnership.

**Box in a Box** – as I said last week, there were some excellent creations. I hope you enjoyed discussing this with your child. I can now share the winners with you; there were:

- Year 3 First Prize: Lola B  
High Commended: Holly H and Bobby L
- Year 4 First Prize: Georgia P  
High Commended: Mirri G, Presley L and Lucas SR
- Year 5 First Prize: Charlotte S  
High Commended: Matilda W and Matthew H
- Year 6 First Prize: Matthew T  
High Commended: Rhianna T and Ella B-J

Thank you to all who took part. Mrs Walker and Mrs Crookes (our Midday Meals Supervisors) said they had a difficult task choosing the winners. I didn't envy them.

**STEM certificate** – Congratulations to all the teaching staff. As a school, we have been awarded a certificate for our "commitment to increasing our pupils' awareness of the range of possibilities opened up by studying Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths (STEM) subjects" and to "mark the school's commitment to working with STEM ambassadors." The letter with the certificate states, "Evidence shows that engaging with STEM Ambassadors can help young people achieve their potential in STEM subjects as well as inspiring them to explore STEM subjects. Well done to all the staff and in particular, Miss Spencer, Mr Hands and Mr Roberts who take a lead on these subjects.

**Jujitsu** – last Monday, or today, your child will have experienced learning about the art of jujitsu. If this has inspired an interest, please look out for a leaflet which gives more details of classes that take place at school on Monday evenings. If for any reason, you don't receive a leaflet, please see Mrs Myers or Mrs Cooper in the office.

**School Office** – please be aware whilst we are on the France residential (Tuesday – Friday, (inclusive)), there will only be Mrs Myers in the office so if she is dealing with parents in Reception, she will not be able to get to answer the phone. Please leave a message and Mrs Myers will get back to you, or phone back later. Thank you in advance.

**Cycling** – Congratulations to **Evan W**, who competed in the 87th Monsal Head Hill climb on Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> October. This is one of the most prestigious hill climbs in the country with many professional riders taking part. Evan was the fifth rider on the course and was cheered on by the enthusiastic crowd, there were 192 riders in total. Evan managed the climb in 3 minutes 24 seconds which is only 12 seconds slower than his dad's best! Wow Evan, what a tremendous achievement!

**Llandudno June 2018** - I can confirm that there has been enough interest in the Llandudno residential to be able to run two trips. Therefore, everyone who has paid a deposit is able to go. As there are two visits, over the coming weeks, we will ask your child to name three other children whom they would like to be with and we will endeavour to allocate a space with **one** of the named children. It will not be possible for you, or your child, to choose which trip they go on. Spaces will be allocated by the school. This has now been reassigned to your

Parentpay account. The next payment of £57.50 is due by 16 February 2018 but you may wish to pay in smaller instalments if you prefer.

**Homework** – please ensure you know when your child’s year group sends out homework. We would greatly appreciate your support with homework. Homework is usually an opportunity for your child to practise what they have been taught in school that week. Please see your child’s class teacher if you wish to discuss homework. It is an expectation that all children complete their homework. I believe building good habits regarding homework at primary school age provides an excellent foundation for tackling homework at Secondary School.

**PE Kit** – please can you ensure your child has their full PE kit in school on the days they do PE. As the weather starts to get colder, they will need trainers, jogging bottoms and a sweatshirt. Classes will go out for PE in all but severe weather conditions.

**Head Lice** – please can you ensure that you check your child’s hair regularly and treat if required.

**Secondary School** – please can I remind all Y6 parents that they need to make an application to Derbyshire Council for a Secondary School place in September 2017. **The closing date for applications is 31 October.** You can do this online at [https://www.derbyshire.gov.uk/education/schools/school\\_places/default.asp](https://www.derbyshire.gov.uk/education/schools/school_places/default.asp)

**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? Thank you!

## **Dates for your Diary**

### **2017**

Our Inset Days for the academic year 2017-2018 are:

Monday 4<sup>th</sup> September 2017, Monday 30<sup>th</sup> October 2017, Tuesday 2<sup>nd</sup> January 2018, Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> January 2018 and Monday 4<sup>th</sup> June 2018.

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 ‘Buckinghamshire’ residential departs

10 November - Y6 ‘Buckinghamshire’ residential 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](http://www.dronfield-jun.derbyshire.sch.uk)**