



What an exciting week it was last week for 32 Year 6 children who ventured to France to sample life in a different country (and I went along too!). We had an amazing time: making baguettes and croissants; enjoying a crepe in a French café; haggling in a French market (the children were great at it; I wasn't so good!); getting up close to goats, milking them and fashioning dough made with goats' milk into a goat's head; sampling snails; learning how chocolate is made in a chocolate factory and decorating our own chocolate, and finally, visiting Europe's largest aquarium. The children were taught French words and phrases during the different visits and were encouraged to use them. They were an absolute pleasure to take away, they behaved impeccably, listened well and were both a credit to themselves, the school, and to you, their parents. Well done Y6! We also really appreciated you saying thank you to us on our return. I must extend my grateful thanks to Mr Mason, Mrs Ridgard, Mr Burrows, Mr Gilson and Mrs Cooper, who accompanied the children and ensured their safety and wellbeing. A further thank you must go to Mrs Cooper, who organised and co-ordinated the whole visit – it was, indeed, an amazing trip.

This week is our Emotional Wellbeing Week. Good mental health helps children to: learn and explore the world; feel, express and manage a range of positive and negative emotions; form and maintain good relationships with others; cope with, and manage change and uncertainty, and develop and thrive. Building strong mental health early in life can help children build their self-esteem, learn to settle themselves and engage positively with their education. This, in turn, can lead to improved academic attainment, enhanced future employment opportunities and positive life choices. Whilst we do consider children's emotional wellbeing throughout the year, this week allows us to put the focus on it, exclusively.

Year 6 children have applied for the position of Anti-Stigma Ambassadors, which follows on from the work of last year's Anti-Stigma Ambassadors. Congratulations to **Seth, Jessica G, Miles, Amelia, Jessica B** and **Bethany** who will take up this position.

As a school, we are passionate that our learners are healthy, in mind and body, and happy. In September 2013, as part of the Local Government briefing 12, NICE guidelines stated, "Social and emotional wellbeing creates the foundations for healthy behaviours and educational attainment. It also helps prevent behavioural problems (including substance misuse) and mental health problems. That's why it is important to focus on the social and emotional wellbeing of children."

Last year Mrs Robinson was trained by the NHS as a Mental Health First Aider and she advises in school on this issue as well as training the Anti-Stigma Ambassadors. A big thank you to Mrs Robinson who has coordinated, and worked on activities designed to promote emotional wellbeing this week.

Boys' football – well done to Max, Adam, Oliver, Oscar, Bobby, Harrison, Thomas, Alistair, Seth, George, Finlay and Artie who represented our school at a boys' football taster session after school on Monday at Dronfield Henry Fanshawe. This event was only for Y4-6 (I know there were Y3s keen to go – wait for next year!)

Start A Heart – we are lucky to have the opportunity to be part of Start A Heart day on **Tuesday 16th October**, which has been organised by the East Midlands Ambulance Service. All our Y5s and Y6s will be joining with other selected schools across the East Midlands to provide children with life-saving cardio pulmonary resuscitation (CPR) training. By taking part in this project, we are demonstrating our commitment to the East Midland Ambulance Service's goal of creating a generation of future lifesavers. Our children will be among 10,000 children across East Midlands who will be taking part in the biggest event of its kind. Along with colleagues in other ambulance services, the aim is to train 200,000 youngsters nationally.

School Photographs – If you wish to purchase a school photograph, these must be returned to school by **Friday 19 October**. We are unable to accept photograph orders after this date – please follow the instructions on the order form to purchase your picture online.

Y4 Trip to Perlethorpe Outdoor Education Centre Friday 19 October – an email has been sent to Y4 parents about this trip – please check your email or the communication section of your ParentPay account for more information. Please log into your ParentPay account to pay and provide consent.

School Disco on Tuesday 23 October – Our “Monster Ball” Disco for Y3 & Y4 will be 5.30pm-6.45pm and the disco for Y5 & Y6 will be 7.00pm-8.15pm. Entry is £2 per child, payable on the night. Drinks, sweets, crisps and tattoos will also be available to purchase so please bring some change to spend. Children can come in costume if they so wish, but this is not obligatory. Hot Dogs will be available to pre-order at a cost of £1 each. If your child would like to pre-order a hotdog, please log on to www.schoolinterviews.co.uk and use event code xv9tc, once you have ordered your hot dog **please send £1 to school in a named, sealed envelope before Thursday 18 October**.

Dress Down Day – The last day of term (**Wednesday 24th October**) will be a non-uniform day. If your child would like to come in non-uniform, we ask for a donation of £1, which will go towards the renovation of our adventure playground. Thank you in advance.

Open Evening for Y2 Parents on Tuesday 6 November 6pm-7.30pm – We are holding our annual open evening for children and parents in Y2 on Tuesday 6 November. We do rely on our Y6 pupils to help show people round and would really appreciate their attendance on the evening.

INSET days – Thursday 25th October and Friday 26th October are our INSET days. On Thursday, we are going to be looking at behaviour and undergoing training from Pivotal Education. Its founder, Paul Dix, wrote the book, ‘When Adults Change, Everything Changes’. Last Summer Term, I was able to observe some of this training and I am very much looking forward to implementing the ideas at our school. I will keep you posted. On Friday, we are going to be looking at children’s writing with an English Consultant. We are hoping to look at the assessment of writing and also ways to develop ‘greater depth / exceeding’ writers. Again, I will keep you posted. We are excited to embrace both these initiatives.

Book Fair 5-9 November – the Book Fair will be visiting school again between 5 – 9 November which will contain a great selection of books. Further information will be handed out nearer the time.

Lost Property – one of the children has lost their lunch box. It is turquoise with a purple handle and contained purple stacking lunch boxes inside. If you have taken it home by mistake, we would be grateful if you could return it to the school office. Thank you in advance.

Trim Trail – please can I ask that children do not use the Trim Trail before school? Whilst there are teachers on duty from 9.50am, they do not supervise these areas. Mr Hazeldine checks the Trim Trail each morning and advises us, from this we make a decision as to whether this equipment is to be used during the day, which we communicate to the children during break time. As the weather naturally becomes more inclement, there will be times when this equipment will not be in use. Please can I also remind parents that our Trim Trail is designed for children aged 7+; there are posters in the area that state this – children younger than this, using our equipment, do so at their own risk.

Residential Trips – letters have been emailed regarding residential trips for 2019-2020 School Year for current Y4 pupils to go to Mount Cook (in Y5) and for current Y5 pupils to go to France (in Y6). The deposits are set up as payment items on ParentPay. The deposit for France (£65) needs to be paid by Friday 19 October and the deposit for Mount Cook (£30) needs to be paid by Monday 22 October. For further information, please check your email or the communication section of your ParentPay account.

Gardening Plea – Our school garden always looks brilliant and we are greatly indebted to our small band of parents and grandparents who facilitate this. The team is ably led by Kath Lunn, a very friendly and approachable parent. However, the gardening group is getting ever smaller in number and need more willing volunteers to make it sustainable in the long term. No gardening experience, or knowledge, is needed, just a willingness to get involved. Please come along and give it a go; the gardening group meets on Tuesday morning at 9am. You would be made very welcome.

On another note, we would welcome any donations of: plant pots, hand held tools (such as trowels and forks etc.) and any scrap decking to repair our planters. These donations would greatly assist us in our plans for the school garden.

Careers Convention – Dronfield Henry Fanshawe School are holding a Careers Convention on **Wednesday 21st November** from 6pm until 8pm. An invitation is extended to everyone in the community so please share this information with anyone who would find it useful. The event will host fifty exhibitor stands from universities, colleges, training providers, apprenticeship providers and employers.

Rise Unbroken Fundraiser – Rise Unbroken are a local dance crew that includes 2 of our ex-pupils. They were recently on Britain's Got Talent, reaching the semi-finals. They are holding a fundraiser on Saturday 17th November 2018 at The Forge in Dronfield. Funds raised will be split equally between the British Red Cross (who loaned wheelchairs to the group) and the dance crew (to go towards competition entry costs and new uniforms). Tickets for the fundraiser will cost £5 and are available from the school office. Raffle tickets are also available to purchase from the office at £1 per ticket.

Early Help – Derbyshire County Council are reviewing their Early Help Services and have opened a consultation. As a Derbyshire resident, you are encouraged to have your say and contribute to the consultation. This page gives you an insight into what Derbyshire County Council are proposing <https://www.derbyshire.gov.uk/council/news-events/news-updates/news/have-your-say-about-proposed-changes-to-our-early-help-service.aspx>
This is the link to the online questionnaire <https://www.derbyshire.gov.uk/council/have-your-say/consultation-search/all-consultations/consultation-details/early-help-review.aspx>

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. I would be grateful if you could complete this form and return it via your child's class teacher as soon as possible.

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 2019. **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

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

2018

15 October – Emotional Wellbeing Week
19 October – Y4 Visit to Perlethorpe Education Centre
24 October – Break up for half term
25 October – INSET Day
26 October – INSET Day
31 October – Last date for applications for a Secondary School place
5 November – School re-opens
5-9 November – Travelling Book Fair
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