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It is going to be a thrilling week in school as we will see the election of our Y3, 4 and 5 school councilors. Mrs Genders will run this event to give the children the experience of voting in our school election, replicating the event. Maybe in years to come when the children are old enough to vote for an MP or County Councilor, they will remember their first experiences of voting at our school. A huge thank you to Mrs Genders, who has organised and coordinated the event and is coming into school specially to ensure its success.

What an exciting week it was last week for 28 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 (or maybe that was just Mr Burrows! But he did achieve a better price for some children); getting up close to goats and learning how goats' cheese is made; sampling snails; learning how chocolate is made in a bespoke chocolate factory and tasting the produce 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 and were both a credit to 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. This is not a residential we have done before and a huge thank you must go to Mrs Myers and Mrs Cooper, who organised and co-ordinated the whole visit – it was a step into the unknown but a very successful step.

Environment Day – Many apologies for our postponement of Environment Day on Sunday. One of the main jobs we wanted to do was paint the picnic tables and wooden seating areas but they were already water logged early Sunday morning. Mrs Sturdey and I took the decision to cancel as the weather was worse than we thought it was going to be and the forecast showed no signs of improvement (although it did in the afternoon!) We were disappointed but we figured a crisp November morning would receive more support than a very wet October one!

Parent Governor – the Governing Body is looking for a parent to join them as a Parent Governor. If you would like any further information about what the role involves, please speak to an existing Parent Governor (Mrs Sarah Sinclair Y3, Mrs Kate Ward Y4, Mr Chris Seller Y4), any other member of the Governing Body or contact the school directly. The closing date for nominations is 12 noon on Friday 21 October. Full information, including a nomination form, is available on the school website under the newsletters tab on the left hand side of the home screen - http://www.dronfield-jun.derbyshire.sch.uk/school_newsletters.php (scroll down and click on the link 'Parent Governor Election Information 7 October 2016'.)

Reminder – there is no craft club after school on Wednesday 19 October due to staff training. Craft club will start again on 2 November for Y3/Y4 children. If your child would like a place, please register with the office. There is a limited number of places available (15) and are allocated on a first come, first served basis.

Travel Smart Week – This week is travel smart week. We will be encouraging the children to walk to school, where possible, or to park further away and walk the remaining distance. We appreciate that this initiative, like many others, requires your support and we thank you in advance for this support.

This week will be the last week for the following clubs: Running club (Tuesday) and Football (Thursday). These clubs will not run after half term as it gets dark too early. The clubs will start again in the Spring.

Shooting Stars – well done to **Cosmo Johnson, Daniel Wing, Poppy Hodder, Scarlett Gisborne, Matthew Stewart, Matthew Thorpe** and **Kizzy Bembridge** who took part in trials for the Shooting Stars 2016/7 squad. They all gave their best performance, which was great to see – well done to all. Congratulations to **Cosmo Johnson** and **Scarlett Gisborne** who were selected for the Shooting Stars 2016/7 squad.

Cross Country Running - There is a Cross Country event at Eckington Secondary School, Dronfield Road, Eckington, S21 4GN, on Thursday 20 October between 4-5pm for children in Y4, Y5 and Y6. Your child will need to wear their school PE kit and have a water bottle. Parents will be required to take and collect their child from the event – you can pick up from school from 3.20pm onwards if you wish.

Gymnastics – Many congratulations to **Libby Wilson** who won three more medals at her latest gymnastic competition. She took gold for the bars, silver for the vault and came second overall for her age group. Well done Libby!

Parking – As you will be aware, we have had a number of complaints recently from residents on Appletree Drive regarding parking. Please can I continue to ask that you be mindful of where you park and consider all our residents living on surrounding roads? This is one opportunity for us, as a school, to show our respect to the local community.

Lost Property – There is an ever growing mountain of lost property in the Den. If your child has lost any items this term, please can I ask that you take a look to see if they are in lost property? We will try to put lost property outside (weather permitting) at the beginning and end of school on a couple of occasions this week. Please be aware that named items will also go to lost property as the cleaning staff do not know which class a child is in. Unfortunately we are unable to store such large amounts of lost property in school, any unclaimed items will be given to charity. If you are not able to get into school, please ask your child to look at lunch time.

Cross Country – Many congratulations to **Cosmo Johnson** who won his first ever South Yorkshire Cross Country race at Norfolk Park this weekend. He worked really hard and led the race from start to finish – it was very muddy and hilly! Well done Cosmo!

Scholastic Book Fair - We will shortly be sending out our new book fair leaflet – we can only take orders online so please go to <http://schools.scholastic.co.uk/dronfield> to browse the latest books and order online. For every £1 you spend on this month's Book Club, our school will earn 20p in Scholastic Rewards. **Please place your order online by October 21st 2016.**

Dinner money for next term will be £72. It will be £68 for those children who are going on the London Residential trip. A school meal costs £2 per day if your child has flexible dining. Cheques should be made payable to Derbyshire County Council – please ensure your child's name and class is written on the back. Any cash should be sent to school in a named envelope or purse – please do not send loose money.

Jumping Clay Club – Jumping Clay is creative, educational, mess free, fun! If your child would like to take part in this club, Christmas themed after school sessions start Thursday 10th November 3.30-4.30pm for 5 weeks at a total cost of £27.50. The club is open to all year groups. For more information, or to book a place, please contact Catherine Slaney 07799 182880. There are limited places which will be allocated on a first come, first served, basis.

School Disco on Thursday 3 November – Our school disco is a “Shine and Sparkle” Disco. Please note that as our hall is small, we can only accommodate two year groups at a time, therefore the 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. On the night, your child will be required to sign in with a member of staff and will be signed out at the end – specific details will be given nearer the time. **If your child would like a hot dog at the disco, please complete the slip below and return to school by Thursday 20 October.**

Book Fair in school from Monday 7 November – we will be holding our annual book fair in school from **Monday 7 November to Friday 14 November**. The fair will be open before and after school – further information regarding times and the actual location of the book fair in school, will be in the next newsletter.

Discovery Club – This will be running on Monday and Wednesday evenings next term. Monday sessions will start on 7th November and the Wednesday sessions will start on 2nd November, each running for 7 weeks. To enrol please go to www.discoverysystem.org.uk and click on After School Clubs. Please note that the sessions are now £6 each, total of £42 for the half term.

School Disco on Thursday 3 November - Last date for ordering hot dogs is Thursday 20 October

Name of child: _____ Class: _____

*I would like my child to have a hot dog at the School Disco, I enclose £1.

*I would like my child to have a vegetarian hot dog at the School Disco, I enclose £1.

*Delete as appropriate.

Any known allergies: _____

Signed: _____ Date: _____