



Last week showed me what a privilege it is to be part of our school. Our Y2 Open Evening was very successful thanks to the tremendous support of the children who helped. This included showing prospective parents and Y2 children around, helping in classrooms with fun activities and showcasing musical talents. The children were a credit to the school – I had a number of prospective parents who feedback excellent comments about our children; I felt very proud. Thank you also to the staff who organised, and supported, the activities and to parents/carers who brought their children back to help. It was a real team effort and showcased our school at its best.

There were a number of highlights to last week: I spent some time in each class, talking to the children about their learning and I listened to the children perform during ‘musical lunchtime’ (both are favourite parts of my job). Moreover, I was invited to Y4 to see their fantastic homework – there were many creative approaches to the task given. Thank you to Y4 parents, we do appreciate the time and effort this takes.

The Y6s who went to London last week had a great time. I am told ‘Wicked’ was incredible. Well done to all the children involved, you were great ambassadors of our school. My grateful thanks to Mr Roberts, Mr Mason, Miss Hughes, Mrs Cooper, Mrs Bull and Mrs Bell for looking after the children.

**Friendship Week** - This week is our **Friendship Week** in school to coordinate with National Anti-Bullying Week. The school will be focusing work on ‘friendships’ and how to resolve conflicts in friendship. Our Friendship Ambassadors have been busy designing posters for the event (look out for them around school) and thinking about activities children can be involved in.

**Book Fair** – our book fair was very successful and we really appreciate you supporting this event by buying books. The money raised will go to replenishing our book stock. A huge thank you to Mrs Lunn who took responsibility for organising, coordinating, ordering and selling books and then counting the proceeds.

**Remembrance Sunday** – the Remembrance parade assembled outside our school and it was lovely to see so many of our children as part of that parade representing their uniformed organisation. Thank you to **Eleanor Lowry, Alfie Kirk and Ben Lunn**, from the School Council, who represented our school, carrying and laying a wreath at the cenotaph on behalf of all of us. Thank you also to Mrs Genders who organised this and supported the children, and to Mrs Myers for the beautiful wreath. Mrs Nuttall and her knitting club knitted poppies, which were lovely; we sold them in school and they were very sought after! Their efforts raised £196 which is tremendous! Very well done and thank you to Mrs Nuttall and her knitting team.

**Children in Need** - On **Friday 18 November**, we will once again be supporting Children in Need. The Charity Group has decided they would like children to come to school wearing pyjamas. Please ensure your child is dressed appropriately for the weather. We will collect £1 donations for this non-uniform day, with all proceeds going to Children in Need and their worthy projects.

**Table Tennis** – many congratulations to **Daniel Wing, Matthew Stewart, Josh Vandrill and Jack Aitken** who represented our school in the North East Derbyshire Schools Sports Partnership Table Tennis tournament held at Dronfield Henry Fanshawe School last week. The boys scooped first prize and were named 2016/17 Table Tennis champions. Look for their splendid trophy sitting on the windowsill of my office. Well done boys, we are very proud of you. We wish the girls luck in their tournament after school today. Thank you to Miss Rogers for escorting, and supporting, both teams.

**PE/Swimming** – PE and swimming are important parts of the curriculum and contribute to your child’s health and wellbeing. Research has shown that the benefits of sports have a knock on effect on children’s confidence and achievement. We encourage all children to have their PE / swimming kit in school so they can reap these benefits. There are, however, occasionally, instances where a child can be in school but is unable to take part in PE / swimming, often due to a physical injury, if this is the case, the class teacher will require a letter from a parent / carer stating why their child is unable to participate.

**Riding for the Disabled** – to support this charity we have offered to take orders for a uniquely designed mug (artwork by Magda Schulz) containing a small selection of chocolates. The mug is £8 and all profits go towards supporting Sheffield RDA. A sample mug is available to view in the office and payment is required at the time of ordering (cash only please).

**Year 5 visit to France 2017** – if your child wishes to take part in the visit to France in October 2017, the deposit of £50 needs to be returned to school with the consent form by Thursday 24 November.

**Beavers** – Congratulations to **Seth Rogers** who has been awarded Beaver Scout of the Year. He has earned this for his commitment to his Lodge Leader role and for being supportive to others. Well done Seth, what a tremendous achievement.

**Running** - Congratulations to **Cosmo and Maxim Johnson** who have had a brilliant weekend at the South Yorkshire Indoor Athletics Open Series. Cosmo won the 800m with a new personal best of 2.20 and jumped 4.12m in the long jump coming third. Maxim's debut performance in the U11s was also impressive with 8<sup>th</sup> place in the 600m race and a personal best too! Congratulations boys – they are excellent achievements.

**Dancing** – Congratulations to **Lottie Dyson** who took 2<sup>nd</sup> place in the Coalville Choreography Festival with her song and dance routine. Well done Lottie – a great achievement!

**Bike riding** – **Lauren Ferguson, Ellie and Aimee Lester** were presented with a certificate last Friday for cycling 10 miles to raise money for Weston Park Cancer Charity. They raised over £445 for the worthy cause. Congratulations girls, both for the cycling and for the money raised, a great achievement – well done.

James Ellis and Josh Hancox completed their charity bike ride at the weekend. They cycled 17 miles on the Monsal Trail. They raised money for Help for Heroes and Cancer Research, you can still sponsor them via their Just Giving page ([www.Justgiving.com/teams/JamesJosh](http://www.Justgiving.com/teams/JamesJosh)).

**E-mail** – we are trialing email communication from 1<sup>st</sup> November for a month, however, this will NOT replace texts or our paper newsletter. If you have previously provided us with your email address, you will begin to receive general emails from us as well. Thank you to those parents who have opted to join the email trial. There is still an opportunity to join this, if you want to receive emails from us, please ensure you have given your email address to the office. Thank you.

**Parking** – As the winter months come upon us, I trust 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 are still a large number of sandwich boxes in lost property. If you are missing a lunch box, please check that it is not in lost property in the Den. If you are not able to get into school, please ask your child to look at lunch time.

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)