

Dronfield Junior School Newsletter 13 27 November 2017

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The excitement mounts as we enter December (well, almost) and this month is a truly magical time in school. Please keep abreast of the myriad of activities planned in school during this month.

Year 3 Pirate Day – the Y3s had a great time celebrating pirates last week. They role played brilliantly, I was made to walk the plank and I was terrified! Thank you to all Y3 parents who supported the dressing up, the children looked fantastic; the teachers looked amazing too!

Dronfield Infant School Christmas Fair – A huge thank you to Jorja K, Kizzy B, Lottie H, Alex D, Henry T, Will P, Oliva G, Hannah W, Isabel H, Jasmin H, Harvey G and Josh B who gave up their time to help out on stalls and games at the Infant Christmas Fair last Friday. I appreciate your support for our wider community and I know the Infant School were very appreciative of your great efforts too. A massive thank you to Mrs Genders who coordinated our children's 'help' and supervised on the day.

Clarinets – Y4CR will be showcasing their talents on the clarinet on Tuesday 5 December 2016 at 9.15am. They will have spent 10 weeks learning how to play the clarinet as part of the Wider Opportunities programme which is funded by the school.

Christmas Cracker Event - Dronfield Parish Church is holding it's annual 'Christmas Cracker' Children's Craft Event on **3rd December** at 12.00 till 3.00pm in the Parish Church Hall on Church Street, Dronfield. There will be lots of crafts for children to make with a small charge per craft, parents are welcome to join in or just sit and watch the fun with a cup of coffee/tea and a cake. Any money raised will be donated to the Parish Church for its children's work. If you would like any more information contact Alison on 07766026413.

Bags2School – Our next Bags 2 School collection is **Tuesday 12th December**. If your child hasn't already, he/she will be bringing home a bags2school sack. We would really appreciate it if you could fill the bag with clothes you no longer need. This is a great opportunity to de-clutter the wardrobes before Christmas! School directly benefits from donations, so any clothes donations are valuable to us, please do not feel you have to fill the bag. The bags for the collection should be dropped off on Tuesday morning (12th December), just inside the main school gate. Unfortunately we cannot accept bags before 12th December. **Thank you in advance.**

Music Foundation – this morning we have had a presentation from The Music for Schools Foundation. They offer the children the opportunity to learn a brass instrument. They have showcased woodwind instruments but we already offer subsidised lessons for these instruments through the Music Partnership, so we are inviting parents to look at what they have on offer for brass instruments. Please be aware that if your child already learns an instrument in school, this is offered through the Music Partnership and they have different rates to the Music for Schools Foundation, both in terms of lesson costs and the hiring of the instrument. Your child should have brought more information home this evening, please check your children's bag if he/she has not given it to you. If you would like more information, or any questions answered, The Music for Schools Foundation are holding a meeting for parents and children on **Thursday 30th November at 3.35pm** in Mr Roberts' room.

School Disco on Tuesday 5 December – Our "Shine and Sparkle" 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. There will be a prize for one child from each year group for the best dressed child. 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

4fqk4, once you have ordered your hot dog **please send £1 to school in a named, sealed envelope before Tuesday 28 November.**

Christmas Post box – the school Christmas post box will be operating from Monday 4th December. Please ensure that cards posted have the receiver's full name and class on the front of the envelope.

Christmas Dinner Wednesday 13 December – Our Christmas dinner day will be Wednesday 13 December. To ensure we can cater for the correct numbers, please log on to ParentPay and book your child's meal for Wednesday 13 December. If you have already booked your meals for this term (and this includes Wednesday 13 December) then you do not need to take any further action. If you do not book your child's meal or your child normally brings a packed lunch then please log on to your ParentPay account and follow these instructions to book the meal – select 'make meal bookings' in the blue bar on the home page (underneath your child's name), change the week commencing from the drop down box to W/c 11 December, click 'make or view bookings' in the blue box directly below this, on the next page, select 'Book a Meal' under the date Wednesday 13 December, scroll to the bottom of the page and click confirm bookings and pay for the meal.

On Wednesday 13 December, we will be holding our annual Christmas jumper day – we ask that children come to school in a Christmas jumper or T-shirt or wear Christmas coloured clothes.

Y4 Christmas Concert there will be a performance on Tuesday 12 and Wednesday 13 December in the Infant Hall at 6.30pm. Tickets will be £1 and will be available on Monday 4 December (2 per family). Any remaining tickets will be available from Thursday 7 December on a first come, first served basis.

Year 5 Carol Concert – the Y5s will be performing a Christmas Carol Concert at The Parish Church of St John The Baptist, Dronfield. The first performance will be on Monday 11 December at 6pm and Tuesday 12 December at 2pm. 2 tickets per family will be available from Monday 4 December. Any remaining tickets will be available from Thursday 7 December, on a first come, first served basis.

Year 3 Jumping Clay – the children will be making Christmas themed jumping clay models, which they will bring home, on Wednesday 6 December. If you wish your child to participate in this activity, please pay £2 through your ParentPay account by the end of Thursday 30 November. The £2 charge covers the cost of materials - if this is not paid by Thursday then your child will not be able to make a model and will participate in an alternative activity.

Year 5 Swimming – today, **Monday 27 November** will be the last date this term the Year 5 children go swimming. The lessons restart on **Monday 8 January 2018.**

Current Y5 trip to France October 2018 – a letter was sent out by email last week regarding the France trip next year for current Y5 pupils. A copy of the letter can be found in your ParentPay account in the Communication area. The deposit of £60 is due to be paid by Tuesday 28 November. Places are limited – please contact Mrs Myers or Mrs Cooper in the office if you have any questions.

Parking – As the winter months are now 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.

Dronfield Arts Festival –The Dronfield Heritage Trust are hosting the first Dronfield Arts Festival from 4-8 May 2018. They are looking for performing Arts professionals and organisations to submit their best and boldest ideas to take part in the festival. For more information please visit <http://www.dronfieldartsfestival.co.uk/perform/>

Dates for your Diary

2017

11 December – Y5 Christmas Carols 6pm Parish Church at 6pm
12 December – Y5 Christmas Carols 2pm Parish Church at 2pm
12 December - Bags2School Collection
12 December – Y4 Christmas Show 6.30pm Infant Hall at 6.30pm
13 December – Y4 Christmas Show 6.30pm Infant Hall at 6.30pm
13 December – Christmas Dinner Day/Christmas Jumper Day
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 19 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
3 July – Y2 Parents' Meeting
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