

Dronfield Junior School Newsletter 14 4 December 2017

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It was lovely to stand with the school choir on Friday evening as they sang for the Dronfield Christmas lights switch on. A huge well done to the choir who performed brilliantly. A big thank you to Mr Burrows and Mrs Orford for supporting the choir and particularly to Mrs De Almeida who has worked so hard with the school choir to ensure they sound beautiful.

As I hear the Y4s and Y5s singing and practising their lines, I do marvel at how fortunate we are to have children wanting to showcase their best in a range of situations. If your child is performing over the next fortnight, please do come and support them – may I suggest that it could be the highlight of your Christmas festivities? I know I am looking forward to seeing all our children performing, starting on Tuesday with Miss Rogers and her class playing the clarinet.

Table Tennis – many congratulations to **Matthew S, Josh V, Daniel S** and **Jack A** who represented Dronfield Schools in the Derbyshire Schools Sports Partnership Table Tennis tournament held at Springwell Secondary School last week. The boys reached the finals and scooped second prize against some very tough competition. Well done boys, you played brilliantly; we are very proud of you. Thank you to Miss Rogers for escorting, and supporting, the team.

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, tattoos, glow sticks (2 for 50p) and Santa Hats (£1 each) 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. On the night, your child will be required to sign in with a member of staff and will be signed out at the end. Arrangements for entry and exit are as follows: Y3s to enter via the external Y3 door and Y4s to enter by the Y4 main external door to be signed in; at the end of the disco, please collect Y3s from their classroom by entering and exiting through the Y3 external door; please collect Y4s from their classroom by entering through the Y4 main external door and exiting through the class’ fire door. Y5s to enter through the Y5 external door and sign in, please collect from the classroom by entering through the Y5 external door and exiting through the main exit past Reception. Y6s to enter through Mr Hands’ fire door to sign in, please collect from the classroom, entering through Mr Hands’ Y6 fire door and leaving by either the Y6 external door or the main exit past Reception.

Clarinets – Y4CR will be showcasing their talents on the clarinet on **Tuesday 5 December** 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.

Discovery Club – this will run from 10th January 2018 to 14th February 2018. This is 6 sessions at a cost of £36. Please sign up and pay at http://discoverystem.org.uk/1_41_after-school-stem-clubs.html?open=info-login. Places are limited to 20.

Mini tennis – congratulations to **Edward H**, who played, and won, his first mini tennis competition at Abbeydale Tennis Club. Well done Ted!

Old £1 coins – please note that we no longer accept the old one pound coin but you can still change them at the bank.

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.**

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.

Christmas Party Days – our Christmas party days are taken in year groups. On Christmas party day, your child does not have to wear school uniform and can come in party clothes or any clothes they wish – please, however, be mindful of the cold weather and ensure that your child is dressed appropriately – thank you! Party days are as follows: Y3: Tuesday 12th December; Y4: Thursday 14th December; Y5: Friday 15th December and Y6: Monday 18th December.

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. We cannot guarantee that there will be any spare tickets. We are bound by fire regulations so we cannot exceed numbers. Although it may seem like the Infant hall can hold more people, the hall capacity is calculated on the number of fire exits and how easy the free flow is from these exits. Please ensure everyone entering the hall has a ticket, that does include children. We rely on the Infant School goodwill to use their hall so we need to abide by the fire regulations set down for them so that this arrangement can continue for our benefit.

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 5 Swimming –The lessons restart on **Monday 8 January 2018.**

Current Y5 trip to France October 2018 – all those who have paid a deposit for the France residential in October 2018 have a place.

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

5 December – Sparkle and Shine Disco Y3 & Y4 - 5.30pm-6.45pm and Y5 & Y6 - 7.00pm-8.15pm.
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