

Dronfield Junior School Newsletter 18 16 January 2017

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What an amazing week in school! Years 4, 5 and 6 hook days, Young Voices, DARE assembly and table tennis Zone Finals – it was a truly memorable week. The Y6s delved into the world of James Bond and his gadgets as well as sampling caviar! The Y5s waved tearful goodbyes to their parents as they were evacuated! They all looked great, as did the Y5 staff. The Y4 staff organised snow (just in the morning!) for their Icy Kingdoms day! They too looked great, as did the Y4 staff. The Y6s showcased to their parents what they had learned over the last 10 weeks as part of the DARE programme. The children used a range of genres, drama, music, art and computing to demonstrate the life-long learning they had experienced – well done!

Young Voices – very well done to the 89 children who performed in the Young Voices concert at Sheffield Arena on Thursday night. It was a joy to see you sing. The concert was excellent and Mrs De Almeida said you all behaved beautifully. There were 5230 children singing in the Young Voices concert this year! My grateful thanks go to Mrs Weston, Mrs Orford, Mr Burrows, Mrs Ryder, Miss Robbins and Mr and Mrs Ward, for supervising the children. A very special thank you to Mrs De Almeida who taught the children the songs and the dance moves – I know they made you very proud!

Table Tennis – yesterday was nail biting as our boys' and girls' table tennis teams battled it out in the Zone Finals in Bradford. The competition was really tough and all our players: **Daniel Wing, Matthew Stewart, Jack Aitken, Josh Vandrill, Freya Hammett, Isobel Ryder, Jai Kang and Poppy Hodder** gave it their all. They all played with great enthusiasm, flair and exhibited true sportsman-like qualities. And the results ... the boys' team didn't get through to the next stage (despite their fantastic play); the girls' team came 2nd and will play in the Regional Runners Up Final in Blackburn on 4th March - congratulations to you all in both teams; we are very proud of you. Huge thanks to Miss Rogers for coordinating, and supporting this event. Thanks also to the parents who ferried their children to and from Bradford as well as cheering on the sidelines.

Congratulations - Joe Grantham (Y6) competed in the first North East Derbyshire Junior Fencing Series of 2017 on Friday 6 January and did really well! He reached the finals and finished 2nd place against some very stiff competition! Joe has only been fencing since September and was competing against boys who have been fencing for two years. It was his first ever fencing competition so it's a fantastic achievement!

Congratulations - Rory Gadsden (Y6) has received the cubs 'Chief Scout's Silver Award' – the highest award a cub can achieve. He has gained the award through lots of badge work and is the first cub from Dronfield 5th Hilltop pack to receive the award for over 2.5 years.

Pick up from clubs – please can I ask you to pick your child up promptly from his / her after-school club. We fully appreciate that occasionally there are reasons why you might not be able to pick up on time and we are happy to help in these instances provided you have contacted us before 4.30pm. Thank you, in advance, for your support with this.

Year 3 Hook Day – on **30 January**, the Y3s will experience their hook day. Having travelled back in time this term to the Stone Age, they are currently moving forward in history from that point and will reach The Romans on 30 January! If your child would like to dress up in Roman costume to enhance the experience, we would be grateful. The teachers will be dressing up too! During the day, the children will be involved in lots of Roman-themed activities and will bring home a clay pot they have designed and made. We ask if you could kindly support us with these activities by giving a £1 donation. Thank you in advance.

Y6 Parents' SATs Meeting, Tuesday 24 January at 6pm – We will be holding our annual meeting for Year 6 parents **only** about the SAT papers the children will be sitting in May and how you can help at home. We will be making recommendations of books you may like to purchase to support your work with your child at home. You will be able to purchase these from us at a reduced cost of £10 (usually £16.50). There will be an order form available on the night and payment will be required at the time of ordering.

Scholastic Book Club – leaflets will be sent out this week for the book club. **The last date for ordering is Tuesday 24 January.** We can only accept orders online at <http://schools.scholastic.co.uk/dronfield>

Newsletters – from Monday 20th February we will no longer be sending out paper copiers of our newsletters. The newsletter will be emailed to parents or available to view on our website. If you do not already receive the newsletter by email, please ensure the office has your up to date email address by Thursday 9 February 2017.

Residential Trips –

Mount Cook 2017 (current Y4) – there is a remaining balance £115 for this trip which needs to be paid by Monday 26 June.

France 2017 (current Y5) – payment cards were sent home last week for the children going on this visit with details of forthcoming payments.

Llandudno (current Y6) – all the children who have requested a place on this trip have been successful. The second deposit of £25 is due to be paid by Friday 27 January, with the next installment of £57.50 to be paid by 17 March.

We are happy to accept interim payments for residential visits if you prefer to pay in smaller installments. Cheques for all visits are payable to ‘DJS Journeys’.

School Disco on Wednesday 1 February – Our school disco is a “Rainbow” 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 Wednesday 25 January 2017.**

2017 - Dates for this term (and beyond)

7 February – Safer Internet Day

9 February - School closes for half term

10 February – INSET Day

20 February – School re-opens

2 March – World Book Day

w/c 6 March – Parent Consultation week

7 April – School closes for Easter Holidays

24 April – School re-opens

25 April – Class Photographs

8 May - KS2 SATs week

24 May – Sports Day

All our newsletters are available to view and download from our website – www.dronfield-jun.derbyshire.sch.uk

School Disco on Wednesday 1 February - Last date for ordering hot dogs is Wednesday 25 January 2017

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: _____