



We are going to look at internet safety this week, building the pupils' understanding of staying safe in the online world. We will be appointing an online safety ambassador from each Y3 class to join our existing online safety ambassadors. Over the last year our existing online safety ambassadors have been involved in generating policy and discussing how to present online safety advice and activities to their classes. Mr Garrett, one of our School Governors, is our online safety Governor. He meets periodically with the online safety ambassadors and Mr Mason, our Computing Coordinator, to report back to the full Governing Body.

Last Tuesday, Mrs De Almeida organised a 'Musical Lunchtime' which gave children who play a musical instrument, or sing, an opportunity to showcase their talent. I look forward to these lunchtimes and this one did not disappoint. It was lovely to see so many children present. I would like to say a huge congratulations to all those who took part, I really enjoyed listening to you and I certainly left the room with a huge smile on my face! A big thank you to: Mrs De Almeida for organising, and coordinating this; to Mr Roberts for playing a guitar, to accompany a singing duet and to Mr Burrows for sorting all the backing tracks for the musicians.

Online Safety Evening – Dronfield Partnership of Schools is offering an evening for all parents/carers of pre-secondary age pupils who attend schools within the Partnership of Dronfield Schools. The event will be delivered by members of the Dronfield and Eckington Multi-Agency Team. The event will be held **tonight, Monday 5th February** (6pm – 7pm) at Henry Fanshawe School. If you have not booked your place, there are still places available, so please just turn up – you won't be turned away!

Congratulations - A fantastic well done to the Y6s who represented our school at a Derbyshire athletics event held at Dronfield Henry Fanshawe School last Monday after school. We were one of only two teams that qualified for the next stage in the competition. Our team consisted of: **Jorja K, Lauren F, Leo W, Tom R, Harrison P, Will P, Isabel L-S, Lily K, Hannah W, Matthew T, Emma W, Lottie H, Kizzy B, Lucas R, and Harvey G.** My huge congratulations to you all, you represented our school really well and I am very proud of what you achieved. Thank you to Miss Rogers who coordinated, and escorted, our team.

Well done to Maxim J who recently won two silver medals in the U11 boys 800m and Shot Put at the Sheffield Festival of Athletics.

Safer Internet Day – this will take place on **Tuesday 6th February**. During this day, pupils will be looking at keeping safe online and be involved in various activities around this. The activities will be discussed with our Online Safety Ambassadors, who will have a key input into what we do and the opportunity to mold the activities which they think will be relevant for different year groups. Safer Internet Day is coordinated in the UK by the UK Safer Internet Centre the celebration sees hundreds of organisations get involved to help promote the safe, responsible and positive use of digital technology for children and young people. The theme for this year's Safer Internet Day is 'Create, Connect and Share Respect: a better internet starts with you', offering the opportunity for us to inspire a conversation about using technology responsibly, respectfully, critically and creatively.

TTRockstars – you will know that we have relaunched TTRockstars with Mr Roberts driving its profile in school. It is a Government requirement that children know their multiplication tables by the end of Year 4. In September 2017, the DfE announced that schools will be expected to administer multiplication tests to their Year 4 pupils from 2019-2020, these checks are aimed 'to aid children's fluency in mathematics.' TTRockstars is a great way to support your child learning their multiplication tables, whatever their age. Your child will have his/her account on this website and a unique log on. We are running different competitions linked to TTRockstars and we have purchased year group trophies to recognise, and celebrate, the children's successes. One of our noticeboards in the main hall is now dedicated to TTRockstars, again to reward, and celebrate success. The first competition was 'Fastest Rock

Speed' and trophies were awarded to **Harrison P, Ruben D, James S, and Rafael D**. Congratulations to you all. Rafael, a Year 3 pupil, is the fastest in the school – he even beat Mr Roberts! Please see your child's class teacher if you need any further information.

Excite to Write – we are holding an Excite to Write afternoon in school on Friday 9th February – this is an opportunity for children to write, just for the joy of writing. We will have a whole school theme and the children will be able to write in whatever genre and style that 'excites' them. They will be able to illustrate their writing too, if they want to. The children will be able to use writing implements if they wish. If your child would like to bring in any stationery, for example: gel pens, felt tips, coloured paper, pre-illustrated paper etc that would be most welcome.

Lost coat – one of our Year 3 children has lost his coat. It has been missing now for a number of weeks and we have searched the whole school on numerous occasions looking for it, without success. I can only think that someone has accidentally taken it home and has forgotten about it. Please can I ask you to have a look at home for a black Nike puffer jacket with the name 'Harrison R' inside it. We would be very grateful for its return. If you find you have it at home, please could you hand it in to reception – we will just be happy to see it again. Many thanks in advance.

Newsletters – the school newsletter is one of the main means of communication with you about what's happened in school and future events. In line with school's ECO status (School's Green Flag award), we try to be as paperless as possible, whilst still keeping you informed. Emailing letters is also a more effective measure of ensuring that communication reaches all our parents and we are very grateful to the number of parents who have shared this with us.

Dinner money – please can I ask that you keep your dinner money account up-to-date on ParentPay? If you have any difficulties, please see Mrs Myers or Mrs Cooper in the office. Our dinner money policy is on the school website under the 'policies' tab.

Traffic – last week, I asked parents and carers driving on School Lane and roads surrounding the school to take extra care when pulling into the kerb where pedestrians are walking on the pavements. Please could I also ask that you make good use of the zebra crossing – using this models great road safety for all our children. I understand that if you are coming down School Lane, it is tempting to cross before the zebra crossing, but using the zebra crossing may instill good lifelong road habits for your child(ren). I would like to think that our Year 6 children, who walk to school on their own, will then continue to use the zebra crossing as a matter of routine.

I do appreciate, and recognise, that with over 600 children trying to get into the Infant and Junior School, there **are** huge numbers of parents who are responsible drivers, parking considerately and thoughtfully, and using the drop-off zone effectively and on behalf of all our children, I thank you.

School Disco on Tuesday 13 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 log on to www.schoolinterviews.co.uk and order the hotdog using event code xv9tc by 12 noon on Wednesday 7 February. Once you have made your booking, please send £1 to school in a named sealed envelope by Friday 9 February. If payment is not received, your child will not receive their hotdog at the disco.** We ask you to sign up for a hot dog so that we have a consistent record of children who want a hot dog which is much more fool proof than bits of paper, which can be lost or remain the child's bag because he/she forgets to hand it in.

Attendance – the school is working closely with the Multi-Agency team regarding attendance. We are aiming for at least 95% attendance for every child to give them the best chance of reaching their full potential. Research has shown that if a child's attendance is lower than 90%, they have less chance of success and find it harder to make progress. With this in mind, we will keep you informed of your child's attendance if it drops below 95% so you are aware of this and we can work together to support you, if needed, thereby giving your child the very best opportunity to achieve maximum success.

Alongside this, is a need for your child to be punctual. The Multi-Agency team are also monitoring those coming to school after 9am. A good, punctual start to the day is essential for children and is an important habit to learn whilst they are young. This is a life skill employers look for in candidates for jobs as they get older. If you need any support with attendance, please contact me via the office.

Internal gate – Please be aware that I have instructed Mr Hazeldine not to unlock the internal gate (ie the gate between the Infant and Junior School) until the end of a class' outside PE lesson. In respect of this, it will vary when the internal gate is actually unlocked, but as a rough guide, if you can see a class finishing their PE lesson outside, the internal gate will be locked, once the children are all inside, it will be opened.

School Car Park / Main Entrance – Unfortunately due to the design of our building, the school car park and the main pedestrian access into school are one and the same. This poses obvious problems which we try hard to limit. Wherever possible, we advise visitors not to enter the car park between 8.40 – 9.10am and 3.20pm – 3.40pm and no deliveries take place between these times. However, we do occasionally have small numbers of children, who are out of school, at events, and they need to be back in school for 3.30pm – in this case a vehicle, transporting these children, would have to enter the school car park to drop the children off and see them safely inside.

Year 3 – we are aware of the congestion in the Year 3 cloakrooms with 90 children trying to hang their coats, and bags, up in a small space. The Year 3 team have thought carefully about how this could be managed in a different way. With this mind, we are going to pilot something slightly different for the Year 3s. At 8.55am, the Year 3 door will be put on the latch so children can enter school via this door from this time. They will hang up their coats, and bags, and go to the classroom where a task will be waiting for them. We do stress that **only the children** should enter through the Year 3 door as we are looking at a method to reduce the congestion. This was discussed with the children last week. By giving the children five minutes to come into school, we are hoping this will reduce congestion in the Year 3 cloakroom and also make for a calmer, speedier start to school days.

Cliffe Park – Cliffe Park in Dronfield is undergoing a facelift. The Town Council are planning some great changes to the park which will enhance it for all. They have set a competition for children who attend the schools in Dronfield. Children have been asked to draw a picture entitled 'Memories of the park', which should include the words '**Welcome to Cliffe Park**'. The winning entries will form a border around a new bespoke Welcome sign which will be erected at the entrance to the park. This is a great opportunity to have your artwork displayed and be part of 'history'. If you would like to take part, your picture needs to be on a sheet on A4 paper and should be bold and colourful. The closing date for entries is **Monday 26th February**. Please give your entry to Mrs Myers or Mrs Cooper in the school office. All winners will receive a small prize, see their picture on the park's Welcome sign and be invited to the grand opening ceremony when the park re-opens.

Change4Life – please can I draw your attention to the Change4Life website <https://www.nhs.uk/change4life>. This is a great website which includes an app you can download so you can see how much salt, sugar and saturated fat is in familiar family favourites; it also shows simple swaps to help you cut back on the sugar in your food and drink. If you join Change4Life, you can be one of the first to order a Change4Life snack pack, with money off vouchers for healthier snacks and stickers for your children.

Active children – we want all our children to be active at break times and lunch times. We encourage all children to go outside to benefit from the fresh air and be active but some are less keen than others and loiter in the cloakroom. Please can you support our ‘get moving’ message? Research shows that physical activity can help school aged children in lots of ways including: improving self-confidence, behaviour and social skills; improving attention levels and performance at school; developing co-ordination, strengthening muscles and bones, improving mood and making them feel good, helping develop better sleep patterns as well as improving health and fitness.

Footballs – we have bought some new footballs for the bottom yard but as you can appreciate our school funds for footballs is finite so we try to divide the money between each term rather than spending it to keep replacing balls, which would run the risk of potentially of having no money for balls at an early point in the school year. Some parents have suggested that we have a donation ‘pot’ for footballs, which I would like to try, therefore there will be a sealed container on the counter in Reception if you would kindly like to donate to supplement the football fund. Thank you in advance.

A big thank you to the Roe family who have donated a bag of footballs for the children to use.

Thinking of starting your own business? – Following a meeting of Dronfield 2gether last week, I was made aware of support for those thinking of starting their own business. This support is free to access as part of Clowne Enterprise and will ‘provide one-to-one coaching support, at your pace, to fit in with your life.’ They can help ‘to make your business idea a success and support you to remove any barriers.’ There is a flyer on our parents’ notice board. If you cannot get into school, please contact us and we will give you further details. On a similar theme, please can I draw your attention to a free event called ‘Business Start-Up Day’ with the amazing micro biz champion Tony Robinson OBE at Loundsley Green Community Centre, Cuttholme Road, Chesterfield, S40 4QU on **Saturday 24 February** (10.30am – 1.30pm). You can book your place at www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/business-start-up-day-tickets-41495308585 or bit.ly/startabusinessday. Again more details are on our parents’ noticeboard.

2018

5 February – Online Safety evening for parents at Dronfield Henry Fanshawe School (6pm – 7pm)

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 – Sports Day at the English Institute of Sport (EIS)

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