

Dronfield Junior School Newsletter 23 27 February 2017

Tel: 01246 413145 e-mail: info@dronfield-jun.derbyshire.sch.uk www.dronfield-jun.derbyshire.sch.uk



Wow! The quality of the Y5 World War II projects was stunning. I was invited to see the projects when the year group shared their work in the hall and I had a further opportunity in the Y5 classrooms on Wednesday evening – it was the highlight of my week. I know the Y5 teachers were also thrilled. Thank you very much for supporting this project, I hope that you (as well as members of your extended family) and your child enjoyed working in partnership.

Table Tennis – Good luck to our girls' table tennis team who battle it out in the Runners' Up Final in Blackburn on Saturday 4th March. We're all rooting for you. Good luck! I will let you know how they get on next week.

Maths Pop Quiz – Good luck to our two groups of our Y6 pupils will be taking part in the Pop Maths Competition at Sheffield Hallam University on Saturday, 4th March. They will be competing against other schools in the wider area including Birkdale and Westbourne. Good luck! I will let you know how they get on next week.

Egg Boxes – please could you bring any unwanted egg boxes to the school office as we have some potatoes to chit before they are planted in the school garden? Thank you.

Sainsburys Active Vouchers – we are collecting Sainsburys Active Vouchers so please ask family and friends to collect for us too. There is a collection box in Reception or your child can just hand their vouchers to the teacher. These vouchers not only help us to replace our old PE equipment, they also provide equipment for lunch times for individuals and for the Mini Leaders to support activities they design. Thank you in advance.

Chess Club – There will be no chess club on **Monday 6 March** due to Parent Consultations. Mr Trafford has also advised that he will also be unavailable on **Monday 20 March** so there will be no chess club on that day either.

Dinner Money – The Governors agreed our Dinner Money Policy last week. This policy has been adopted to ensure that there is a consistent and fair approach to any debt incurred by parents/carers whose children take school dinners. As the Local Education Authority is no longer accountable for the administration of dinner money debt, the responsibility now falls on schools to pursue all instances of non-payment. As a result, the school budget is required to directly fund any outstanding debts that cannot be recovered, thereby directly impacting the amount of money available to provide education to all pupils. A copy of our Dinner Money policy is on our school website and a paper copy is held in Reception.

Dinner money for this term is £70. If you have not already paid for the term, please can you do so as soon as possible. If you wish to pay weekly, the cost is £10 per week and must be paid at the start of each week. Please write your child's name and class on the reverse of your cheque and make it payable to DCC. If you are sending cash, please send this in a named, sealed envelope.

Football Shirt Appeal – we have been asked by Mrs Temple, one of our School Governors, if we can help orphan children in Malawi via a charity called Aquaid Lifeline. The charity is looking for donations of **good condition** football shirts to send out to orphan children in Malawi. If you have a good condition football shirt that you have grown out of that you would like donate, please bring it to Mrs Myers or Mrs Cooper in the school office. It would be lovely if we were able to support such a worthy cause. If you would like to see what the charity does please log on to <http://lifelinefund.org.uk/what-we-do.html>. The last date for donations is **Friday 18th March**. Thank you in advance.

Clubs – clubs will continue as normal this half term. Street Dancing will cost £17.50, Table Tennis will cost £21.

Disco Dancing – This started last Thursday and will run weekly until Thursday 30 March (inclusive). The cost for this term will be £15.

Parent Consultations – the next Parent Consultations will take place the week beginning **Monday 6th March**. You should have received details of how to book your appointment with your child's class teacher, online. If you have not received these details, please see your child's class teacher or contact Mrs Myers or Mrs Cooper in the school office. There will be no Teacher run clubs (Film Club/Drama) during this week (6th March).

World Book Day Thursday 2 March – Mrs Ford has lots of exciting activities planned: the children will be given a £1 book voucher and are invited to enter the 'extreme reading competition'. This year we are asking the pupils to bring in a named photograph of them reading in the strangest / most unusual / most original place. There will be a winner from each year group who will receive a £5 book voucher. You should have received further information last week from Mrs Ford. Also children will be invited to take part in a book swap within year groups. Children will be able to bring in a maximum of 3 books which they will be able to swap. Children will be given a token for each book they want to swap and will then be able to browse and collect a 'new' book for each token they have.

Year 5 Concert – the children have started rehearsing for their Easter Concert. These will take place on Tuesday 28 and Wednesday 29 March at 6.30pm. Tickets will go on sale at a cost of £1 on **Monday 20 March 2017**. Each family is entitled to 2 tickets. If you are unable to come to the office to collect tickets, please send the money in an envelope with your child's name on and your chosen night for tickets. Any tickets left over will be available on a first come, first served basis from **Friday 24 March 2017**.

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 on **Monday 20th March** (6pm – 7pm) at Henry Fanshawe School. Please see separate letter, which went out on Safer Internet Day (7th February), to book your place.

App advice – Derbyshire LA has suggested that schools make parents / carers aware of the following: please find attached to this email an infographic regarding five apps that you need to be aware of: four of these apps are potential safeguarding concerns but the final one lets you manage the time your child can spend online. The infographic is best viewed by using the QR code opposite so you can download the information. Additional information can be found by clicking on each icon which will take you to the relevant site. I cannot edit the infographic and I appreciate that some of the apps contained may not be relevant but for those parents with older children, it may be helpful. I do know that some of our children do have, and are using, Musical.ly.



Parking – we have had a complaint from a member of the public whose elderly relative lives on Apple Tree Drive. She was dismayed to find that she could not get her vehicle into the relative's drive because of inconsiderate parking. Please can I ask you to be mindful of where you park and consider how accessible it is for residents to manoeuvre into their driveways?

Jumping Clay Club – Jumping Clay is creative, educational, mess free, fun! If your child would like to take part in this club, after school sessions start on Thursday 2 March 3.30-4.30pm for 5 weeks at a total cost of £28.50. The club is open to all year groups. For more information, or to book a place, please contact Catherine Slaney 07799 182880. There are limited places which will be allocated on a first come, first served, basis.

Discovery Club – This started last Wednesday and runs every Wednesday to Wednesday 5 April, 7 weeks at a total cost of £42. Online registration is open at www.discoverysystem.org.uk and click on After School Stem Clubs.

Communications – The newsletter is now emailed to parents or available to view on our website. For this term only, we will continue to send out other letters regarding class trips or events. Please ensure you keep your contact details up to date.

ParentPay - We are currently looking at introducing ParentPay after the Easter Holidays. ParentPay is a more convenient and secure way to pay for school trips and dinner money. We will share more information with you over the coming weeks. If you have any questions in the meantime, please speak to Mrs Myers or Mrs Cooper.

Free Self-Harm Online Training Course for Parents/Carers - 'Talking to your children about emotional resilience and self-harm', the Virtual College in partnership with selfharmUK have created an online course that not only allows parents to understand more about self-harm, but also how they can proactively raise the topic with their children in confidence. They'll be launching the course sometime this week but parents/carers and staff can register for free online: <https://confirmsubscription.com/h/j/697873F692EA0A51>

INSET Days – our INSET days for the academic year 2017-2018 are: Monday 4 September 2017, Monday 30 October 2017, Tuesday 2 January 2018, Wednesday 3 January 2018 and Monday 4 June 2018.

Jacket Potatoes – please can you let the office know if your child no longer wishes to carry on with their jacket potato on a Friday? Thank you.

2017 – Up-coming dates

w/c 6 March – Parent Consultation week

4 April - Bags to School

7 April – School closes for Easter Holidays

24 April – School re-opens

25 April – Class Photographs

8 May - KS2 SATs

24 May – Sports Day

26 May – School closes for half term

5 June – INSET Day

6 June – School re-opens

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