

Dronfield Junior School Newsletter 26 20 March 2017

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As we look forward to another school week, I would like to share with you a number of successful events we celebrated last week, please read on to find out more.

Athletics – Well done to Amelia Proctor, Lottie Maclachlan, Lottie Dyson, Lily Ward, Bethany Leah, Alicia Wilks, Isobel Ramsbottom, Jack Ryan, Adam Worthy, Jayden Wheeler, Maxim Johnson, Joshua Cartwright, Dylan Hambidge, Anthony Seller, Harry Nashir and Max Taylor who represented our school at the athletics competition at Dronfield Henry Fanshawe School last Monday. The children completed well – congratulations! This was their first foray into competing against schools. Miss Rogers said you were a credit to us. My grateful thanks to Miss Rogers for coordinating, escorting and supporting the team.

Netball – Well done to **Poppy Bell, Freya Hammett, Joel Thomson, Issy Tomlinson, Chloe Waite** and **Dan Wing** who represented our school in the netball District Finals at Eckington High School last Thursday. The team rotated positions and played 4 matches. They won two and lost two. Congratulations to all. There was great team spirit and sportsmanship. My grateful thanks to Miss Hughes and Mr Mason who trained the team before the tournament and to Mr Mason who supported the team.

Comic Relief – It is Comic Relief on **Friday 24th March**. The Charity Group have asked that children come dressed as their favourite pop star or dress in their favourite style of music e.g. rock star, punk rocker, boy band member etc and bring a £1 for this worthy cause. Remember to wear your red nose and try to learn a funny joke to tell the class.



Year 4 Bikeability – this will take place on the following dates: **Y4LR – Wednesday 29 March and Y4CR & Y4B – Tuesday 28 March. Please note the NEW date for Y4LR as the original date clashed with the children watching the Y5 dress rehearsal.** Your child will need their bike and helmet in school on the appropriate day as well as suitable, warm outdoor clothing and footwear.

Bags2School – Our next Bags2School collection will be on Tuesday 4 April. Please leave any donations just inside the School Gates by 9am on the collection day. Unfortunately we are unable to accept or store any donations before 4 April.

Time Swap – Please can I draw your attention to Time Swap? Time Swap is a community scheme which enables people to share their time, skills and talents to help each other. For every hour you give you can receive an hour to use to get help with something you would like help with. Anyone interested must become a member and all exchanges are organised through the time broker to ensure the exchanges are safe and suitable. If you are interested and want to find out more, the next get together is Thursday 23rd March at Dronfield Library at 11am – 12pm. Everyone is welcome, there will be free tea, coffee and sweet treats.

Governors' newsletter – please can I draw your attention to the Governors' newsletter on the website? You can find it under the Governors tab at the left hand side of our home page. The Governors are keen that you understand how they work with school but also offer the voice of challenge to ensure the very best outcomes for every child. My grateful thanks to all the Governors who contributed to this newsletter and to Mr Gilson, our Vice Chair of Governors, who compiles the newsletter.

Swimathon Fundraiser – Ella Scott (Y5H) and her mum are raising money for Marie Curie Cancer Care on Sunday 9 April. If you would like to donate, please visit www.justgiving.com and enter 'Kristina and Ella's Swimathon' in the search bar.

Congratulations to Cosmo Johnson Y6 who received second place trophy for U13 boys Indoor Series last weekend against boys from across the North of England. The events included competing in sprints, middle distance, long jump, high jump and shot put. Cosmo also recently became the South Yorkshire Cross Country Champion for the winter season. Well done!

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) – The final payment of £140 is due for payment by Friday 30 June.

Llandudno (current Y6) – The next installment of £57.50 was due to be paid by Friday 17 March with the final payment due by Friday 19 May.

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’.

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.

Dinner Money – At the last full Governors’ meeting, the Governors agreed our Dinner Money Policy earlier this term. 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.

Football Shirt Appeal – Mrs Temple was thrilled when she picked up the shirts that have come in so far. She told me how happy the children in Malawi will be, she said she would ask the organisers if they could take some photographs for us as the children receive their shirts.

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 today at a cost of £1. 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**.

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 – Last week, you should have received your letter detailing the activation code for your ParentPay account. Thank you to all those parents who have logged in and activated their account. Please note that if you have a child at Dronfield Henry Fanshawe you can add your child (at our school) to this account – log on to Parent Pay with your existing account (for your child at DHFS) and click add a child, you will then be asked for your activation code when this is inserted it will merge the accounts. I would be grateful if you could log in and activate

your account as soon as possible as we will be using the ParentPay platform to email and text parents from **now** onwards. For the remainder of this term, we will continue to accept cash or cheque payments for dinner money or trips or you are welcome to pay using ParentPay if you prefer. From Monday 24 April, we will only accept payment for dinner money or trips through ParentPay. If you have any questions in the meantime, please speak to Mrs Myers or Mrs Cooper.

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.

2017 – Up-coming dates

- 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