

# Dronfield Junior School Newsletter 27 27 March 2017

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Thank you very much to you all for supporting our Down Syndrome odd socks day and Comic Relief. It was a joy to see odd socks (there's not often I get the opportunity to write that!) and the many and varied pop stars. I did hear a number of funny jokes too! We had a fabulous time in our Upper and Lower school assemblies singing the Comic Relief song and doing some 'funny' dancing! A big thank you to Mrs De Almeida who had done a great job teaching the children the song. We made £321.30 for Comic Relief, which will go to support this very worthy cause – well done everyone! Thank you again for your support.

**Year 5 Concert** – The Y5s will perform their production of Lights, Camera, Action! on **Tuesday 28** and **Wednesday 29 March** at 6.30pm. Y5 children should arrive at the Junior school at 6pm where they will get changed into their costumes and will then be escorted to the Infant hall.

**Clubs** – There will be no knitting club this week (Wednesday 29/Thursday 30 March) and this week (Thursday 30 March) will be the last Disco Dancing Class until after the Easter Holiday.

**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.

**Y4 visit to the Yorkshire Wildlife Park Friday 31 March** – Please ensure your child is in school for 8.15am as the trip will be leaving promptly at 8.30am. Your child will need to wear their school uniform – please ensure they have a warm coat and suitable footwear. They will also require a packed lunch and drink (no fizzy drinks or sweets please) and a maximum of £5 spending money. We aim to return to school by 4pm approximately.

**Y5 Swimming** – last week was the last swimming session this term. Swimming will re-commence on **Friday 28 April**.

**Bags2School** – Our next Bags2School collection will be on **Tuesday 4 April**. This is a great opportunity to clear out any unwanted clothing items and raise much needed funds for school. Thank you in advance. 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.

**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](http://www.justgiving.com) and enter 'Kristina and Ella's Swimathon' in the search bar.

**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.

**Please pay via Parent Pay. We are happy to accept interim payments for residential visits if you prefer to pay in smaller installments. We will accept cheques for all visits up until the end of term but we would prefer you to pay on Parent Pay, please. Cheques need to be made 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.

**Dronfield Infant School PTA Fashion Show** – The Infant School PTA are holding a Fashion Show on Thursday 6 April at 7.30pm at Hilltop Sports and Social Club. Tickets are available from the Infant School Reception or on the door, they are £3 each or 2 for £5.

**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** – 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

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](http://www.dronfield-jun.derbyshire.sch.uk)