



Last week saw us celebrate Girls' Football Week. There were two after school sessions of girls' football which were both well attended. The weather on Tuesday was dreadful and it rained for the whole hour but the girls were undeterred by this, honing their skills and using them in a game situation. Similarly on Thursday, whilst the weather was slightly kinder, it still was not great and it was good to see the girls still keen to attend. All girls were given tickets to see a Doncaster Belles match with their families last Saturday.

Dronfield Arts Festival Photographic Competition – Congratulations to **Isabelle** who was selected as the winner of this competition. This is her winning entry, which will be enlarged and framed or put onto canvas, whichever Isabelle chooses. You do have an eye for photography Isabelle – a budding David Bailey, I have no doubt. Very well done, we are proud of you.



National Teaching Awards – Congratulations to **Mrs Lunn** and **Mrs Weston** for receiving a thank you from the National Teaching Awards as they were nominated by a parent whose child is in Y3LW. Both teachers received a thank you card from the awarding body which was presented in whole school assembly on Friday.

Football tickets – we are holding a sealed bids auction to raise money to be able to buy more footballs when needed for the bottom yard at break times and lunchtimes. The prize at our auction is two tickets to a Category B home fixture at Sheffield United FC during the 2018/19 season. If you would like to take part, please put your bid into an envelope marked 'Football tickets auction' and either hand it in at the school office or ask your child to give it to his/her teacher. Thank you in advance.

Infant gate – please note the Infant gate will be open at 3.30pm when all the children have come back into school from PE, this is to safeguard our children. I would like to take this opportunity to remind you that our adventure playground and Trim Trail are both designed for children aged 7 and up. If parents of Infant children allow their child access to this equipment, they do so at their own risk and need very close supervision.

Lost Property – there is a large amount of lost property in the Den, including clothes, shoes, sandwich boxes, water bottles and plastic containers. If you have lost something, please encourage your child to have a look in the Den. You are also welcome to look in lost property after school, with your child.

Dronfield Eye – **Lily** and **Chloe** are both featured in this month's Dronfield Eye in different articles linked to community events.

Gymnastics – congratulations to **Lois** who participated in the East Midlands regional grades competition. She performed excellently and achieved a distinction, coming third place against 23 others. Congratulations also to Isabel who attended a gymnastics competition with other 70 others and came second, also achieving a distinction. Well done girls, what a great achievement! We are proud of you.

Dronfield Arts Festival – this takes from Friday 4 May until Monday 7 May. Our school choir will be performing in the Civic Hall on Friday 4 May at 2pm as part of this festival. Please do go all to support them – this event is free.

NO₂ Emissions - please could I ask parents not to leave their engines running outside school or on neighbouring streets when waiting for children? This would then reduce our children's (and our neighbours') exposure to

nitrogen dioxide which is emitted from diesel engines. *'The main effect of breathing in raised levels of nitrogen dioxide is the increased likelihood of respiratory problems. Nitrogen dioxide inflames the lining of the lungs, and it can reduce immunity to lung infections. This can cause problems such as wheezing, coughing, colds, flu and bronchitis.'* We do have a number of children in school with asthma and other respiratory conditions who are particularly vulnerable. Thank you in advance for your support.

Leave of absence – please can I remind you that holidays during term time are against Government regulations. Leave in these cases would be unauthorised and we are obliged to inform the Local Authority who may issue a fine (this decision does not involve the school). There is more information about this on the Derbyshire County Council website. There are, however, a **few** occasions when a planned leave of absence is agreed due to exceptional circumstances. When you are completing your leave of absence form, please provide supporting evidence (for example: if you are going abroad for a family wedding and are seeking more than a day's leave, you will need to provide a copy of the wedding invitation.) Unfortunately, taking a holiday during term time because it is cheaper, is not recognised as an 'exceptional circumstance'. Please note that if a child's attendance is below 95%, then it would be unusual for leave of absence to be granted even under exceptional circumstances.

Communication - if you need to see your child's teacher, he/she is usually available before school at 8.45am until 8.55am and after school at 3.35pm (except Wednesday due to Staff Meeting). Please be aware that the class teacher will need to be ready to teach his/her class at 9am. To ensure safeguarding of all our children, we ask that you come into school to speak to the class teacher via the office. Thank you for your co-operation.

School Uniform – please can you ensure that your child has the correct school uniform? The following is taken from our school prospectus which can be viewed on the website under the parent tab. Our uniform consists of:

- Sweatshirts, cardigans, jumpers – burgundy with white and gold logo or plain burgundy
- Polo Shirts – sky blue or white with gold and burgundy embroidered logo or plain sky blue or white
- Formal trousers or shorts (cullotte style for girls) – black or grey
- Skirts – black or grey
- Tights – black or grey
- Shoes – black (or **plain black** trainers).

In the summer, girls may optionally wear a blue or red gingham check dress (girls can wear white cycling shorts underneath which are above the knees for modesty). We also sell reversible coats in burgundy or navy blue.

Items which are **not** allowed to be worn:

- Inner layers which can be seen above the polo shirt collar
- Tracksuit bottoms, jeans, combats, leggings, casual shorts, hot pants, mini skirts or skinny trousers
- Trainers with sporting manufacturers' logos, Converse, Ugg Boots, Doc Martens, ballet shoes or sandals
- Nail varnish or make up
- Unnatural hair colouring

Uniform is now ordered through the School Trends website – www.schooltrends.co.uk. The order is collated on a monthly basis and takes approximately 14-21 days for delivery (from the collation date).

Friends of DJS Gardening Group – we have an active parent/grandparent (and any other willing adults – aunts or neighbours etc) gardening group that meet most Tuesday mornings in our school garden after drop off. With the

weather warming up we will be out and about and would love anyone who can spare a little time and enjoys gardening to come along. No experience or equipment needed.

We also run a weekly Tuesday afternoon gardening reward session during which a small group of children from across the school get to go out and do a bit of gardening. If you are available 2.45-3.30pm on a Tuesday afternoon, please get in touch. Contact Mrs Sturdey via the office or Katharine Lunn (Y5 parent) for more information.

Assessment at the end of KS2 – the Standards and Testing Agency have produced a leaflet for parents regarding assessment at the end of KS2. We have put this leaflet on our website under the parent tab at the left hand side of the home page. The Government Standards and Testing Agency (STA) have also produced videos for parents of children taking tests in Year 6. These can be downloaded from the following website:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/key-stage-1-and-2-national-curriculum-tests-information-for-parents>

Payment Dates for Residential Trips – the payment item on your parent pay account will show you the final amount owing and the dates this needs to be paid by. However, for your information -

Mount Cook – final balance due by 8 June 2018

France – final balance due by 14 August 2018

Cadbury Trip – final balance due by 29 June 2018

2018

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

5 July – Y2 Parents' Meeting

10 July – Bags2Schools Collection

13 July – Last day for Y6s who are due to transition to Dronfield Henry Fanshawe School

16 July – Changeover Day

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