



This week sees our Y6 children take their KS2 SATs. They have worked so hard and we wish them lots of luck in this venture. Please be aware that there will be children sitting their tests in the hall each morning from Monday to Thursday. If you are coming into reception to talk to Mrs Myers and Mrs Cooper in the office, please be mindful of the Y6s working in the hall – thank you in advance.

Cliffe Park Official Opening – Millie (who won one of the first prizes in the Cliffe Park poster competition) and I were invited to the official opening of Cliffe Park on Friday. Millie was presented with her prize and her winning poster is framed on the wall just outside the tearooms. Photographs of the event will feature in the next edition of the Dronfield Eye. I know that a number of you spent the afternoon there on Sunday enjoying the new facilities and the warm weather.

Dronfield Arts Photography Competition – we now have the framed winning entries that were displayed in the Baptist Church, in school. They will be presented to Isabelle (1st prize) and Erin (3rd prize) in whole school assembly on Friday. Congratulations to you both.

Sports Day – Our annual Sports Day is **WEDNESDAY 23rd MAY** at the English Institute of Sport, Sheffield. The children will leave for the EIS (English Institute of Sport, Coleridge Road, Sheffield S9 5DA) just after registration. In the morning all classes will take part in a circuit of athletics activities, so that every child will try 12 running, jumping and throwing events. After lunch, we have the inter-house Sports Day which will begin at 1pm. Parents and Grandparents are very welcome to come and watch from 12.30pm onwards. Parking and entry is free and there are plenty of tiered seats, but it tends to be very cool, so bring something warm! Children will need a packed lunch and water bottles and they should come dressed in the PE kit with their house colour T-shirt. They will also need a sweat shirt or track suit top to keep warm when not competing.

I would be very grateful if parents would make a voluntary contribution of £4 per child towards the cost of hiring the EIS and coach travel. Please make this payment online through ParentPay. **Please acknowledge in the notes field how your child will be travelling home from the EIS, eg in parents' / relative's car or on the coach – this is most important so we can account for your child.** Please be aware that if your child is travelling back to school on the coach, they will be back in school around 4.40pm, depending on the amount of traffic.

Warm weather – hopefully the warm weather will continue, my optimism knows no bounds! Please can I ask that your child has a water bottle in school and that they have applied sun cream? We will encourage the children to seek shade if the weather gets particularly hot.

Plea for Decking – please can you let the office/Mrs Sturdey know if you have any spare pieces of decking that you no longer need. We would like to repair some of the raised beds in the School Garden and spare pieces of decking are ideal. Many thanks.

On Thursday 24 May we will be holding a 'Happy Shoes Day' which is an annual event organised by Living Streets'. Wear the shoes that make you happy, have fun and help us create safer walkable streets for all. We ask for £1 donation for you to wear your shoes to school that make you happy! All donations will be given to Living Streets whose mission is to achieve a better walking environment and inspire people to walk more.



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.

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.

Used Batteries – we now have a collection point in reception for used batteries which we will send off to be recycled.

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.

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