

Dronfield Junior School Newsletter 32 15 May 2017

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I would like say a huge well done to all the Y6s, who embraced the challenge of the SATs positively and with determination. Thank you to all other year groups who worked incredibly quietly to ensure that the Y6s did not have any distractions.

Mini tennis – congratulations to **Dylan H, Mayia G, Ben R-B** and **India P** who represented our school at a Mini tennis competition last week at Dronfield Henry Fanshawe School. The children played excellently, earned a fantastic 2nd place and are through to the next round. Thank you to Miss Rogers, for coordinating the event and escorting the children.

Spring Environment Day – I did thank the families of the children who supported our Spring Environment, but missed Ted H and his family from the list – huge apologies and belated thank you. All the children who supported the morning, came out in whole school assembly last Friday, and were thanked.

Telephones – Please note we are having a new telephone system installed on Tuesday 15 May. There should be minimal disruption; however, if you have any difficulties getting through to us, this could be the cause so please keep trying.

Road Safety – this evening, a parent has phoned to inform us that their child was nearly knocked over on the zebra crossing. Please can I ask that parents are extra vigilant during busy times (before and after school) to ensure the safety of all our children?

Chess Club - There will be no chess club until **22 May** 2017 due to Mr Trafford's work commitments.

Year 4 Hook Day Friday 19 May – To link in with our topic 'Ye-Haw!' our hook day will be on Friday 19 May. On this day we ask that children come dressed as either a Cowboy or Indian. To cover the cost of the resources we will be using during the day we ask for a contribution of £1.

Football cards / lego cards – I have asked all children not to bring football cards or lego cards (eg the free cards given away at Sainsburys) or any other type of card, into school, that can be swapped or traded. Children are swapping cards and then changing their minds and this is causing needless upset and difficulties, which can take a copious amount of time to sort out. Please can I ask that you support us with this?

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.

Sex Education – All Y6 parents should receive, from their child, this week, a separate letter detailing information about the curriculum regarding sex and relationships education – this letter has a slip at the bottom that we would kindly ask you to return to your child's Y6 teacher. Please see your child's Y6 teacher, or the office, if you have not received a letter by the end of the week.

Y6 Leavers' assembly – the Y6 leavers' assembly for all Y6 parents will be on **12th July at 6.30pm** in the Infant hall.

School Uniform Orders – if you require a new T-shirt for Sports Day or any other uniform, please order online at www.stparent.co.uk by **Monday 15th May**.

Well done to Cosmo J who has had a great weekend at the Derbyshire County Track and Field Championships. He is the Derbyshire U13 boys champion in the High Jump, winning Gold. He also won three bronze medals in the 800m, 1500m and long jump. Congratulations Cosmo, what a great achievement.

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.

Sports Day – Due to circumstances beyond our control, the date we had originally given you for Sports Day has had to be changed. The new date for our annual Sports Day will now be **TUESDAY 20TH JUNE** at same venue - the English Institute of Sport, Sheffield. Parents may join us at 12.30pm. I do apologise for any inconvenience this change of date may cause. Further information regarding transport and arrangements will be available shortly.

Community notice re proposed housing development on Dronfield Greenbelt land - Dronfield Greenbelt Residents' Group are hosting a public, open-air meeting on Tuesday 23rd May, 7pm giving an update on proposals to build 860 houses on Greenbelt land around Dronfield. There will be a speaker from Rural Action Derbyshire and a "Greenbelt Question Time" with NE Derbyshire General Election candidates. All welcome. You can refer to their website for further details www.dronfieldgreenbelt.com or speak to parent, Lynne Gadsden, for more information about the meeting and the residents' group campaign.

Y6 Leavers' Party – Some of the parents of children in Y6 are independently organising a party for all Y6s at Hallowes Golf Club on **Tuesday 11th July**. All Y6 children should have received an invitation to this event.

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 final payment is due by Friday 19 May.

Please pay via Parent Pay.

Communications – The newsletter is now emailed to parents or available to view on our website.

2017 – Up-coming dates

26 May – Y6 Trip to Alton Towers - School closes for half term

5 June – INSET Day

6 June – School re-opens

12-16 June – Y6 Residential Visit to Llandudno

20 June – Sports Day

3 July - Summer Music Concert

4 July – Welcome Meeting for parents of Year 2 children (evening)

11 July – Y6 Leavers' Party at Hallowes Golf Club (independent event organised by a group of Y6 parents)

12 July – Leavers' assembly for Y6 parents at 6.30pm

13 July – Y5 Science and Technology evening at DHFS

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