

Dronfield Junior School Newsletter 34 5 June 2017

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Welcome back! I hope you had an exciting and enjoyable half term holiday and were able to enjoy the warm weather. This term looks to be another action packed seven weeks with opportunities to learn, and experience, new things. Moreover, this term, we will also welcome our new pupils, who will be Year 3 in September, as they visit us as part of their transition programme.

Cricket – Congratulations to the following Y5 & 6s who represented our school playing cricket at the end of last term: **Matthew S**, Alfie K, Joe B, Matthew T, Alex D, Ben L, Thomas S, James P, Finn P, James G, Jamie H, Sam N, Leo C, Jake H, Zach L, Will P, Sam S, Libby W, Poppy H, Ashleigh F and Emilia M. We entered 2 teams. Team 1 reached the semi-final. The Y6 staff were very proud of all the teams who showed excellent sportsmanship - well done everyone! My grateful thanks to the Y6 staff for escorting the children.

Sex and Relationships Education – reminder of Y6 meeting regarding sex and relationship education tonight for Y6 parents in our school hall at 6pm.

Y6 Trip to Llandudno – children who are going on Trip 1 need to be in school at 8.15am, ready to leave at 8.30am, children who are going on Trip 2 need to be in school for 7.45am, ready to leave at 8.00am. Please can you ensure they have sun cream in case it is needed. They will also require a raincoat – they do not have to wear school uniform. Please bring a packed lunch for Monday (first trip) and Wednesday (second trip). Please can I remind you that children should **not** bring a mobile phone or any device with 3G/4G access. The children are responsible for any items they bring.

Dinner Money – is £68 for the full term, for Y6 pupils going to Llandudno it is £62. **Please can you ensure that dinner money is paid promptly on ParentPay. Please ensure that your child is aware which days they have sandwiches and which days they have school dinners. Please note you will be charged £2 for a meal if they tell their teacher the incorrect information.**

Warm weather – hopefully the warm weather will return! 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 particular hot.

Clubs this term are as follows:

Monday: Street dance with Jazmin, £15 for the term. Chess Club.

Tuesday: History Club. Boys' football

Wednesday: Table tennis £15 for the term (no club on 21st June and 28 June)

Thursday: Disco Dancing is £15 for the term – the last session will be Thursday 13 July. Girls' football

Friday: Rugger Eds from **Friday 9 June to Friday 14 July**. The cost is £30 (cheques payable to Chris Jones). Please collect a registration form from the Office if your child is interested.

Baby Basic Collection – we are now collecting for Baby Basics and we are looking for donations of the following items: Moses Baskets, first size nappies, baby wipes, maternity pads, baby shampoo, wash, lotion, adult shampoo and shower gel, toothbrush and paste, towels, blankets and newborn clothing. Baby Basics works with midwives, health visitors and other professional bodies to provide much needed items and help vulnerable groups such as teenage mums, people seeking asylum and women fleeing domestic abuse and trafficking.

Sports Day – Our annual Sports Day will now be **TUESDAY 20TH JUNE** 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 should be very grateful if parents would make a voluntary contribution of £5 (or £8 for 2 children, £10 for 3) towards the cost of hiring the EIS and coach travel. Please make this payment online through ParentPay. If you are paying for more than one child, please just make one payment but indicate in the notes field that this covers their sibling. This will ensure that we receive your consent for all your children to attend.

If your child requires a place on the return coach back to school, please also make this request in the notes field.

Eat Well for Less – the BBC show Eat Well for Less is currently casting for the fifth series. They are looking for “fun and lively families who would like to eat well and pay less for their weekly shop. The show follows Masterchef’s Greg Wallace and award winning greengrocer Chris Bavin on a mission to prove that it is possible for families to save money on their food budget without scrimping on food and nutrition.” If you would like to apply please call 0177 970 7661 or email eatwell@rdftelevision.com.

Let’s Make a Buzz – The lazy buzzing of the bumble bee is part and parcel of the Great British countryside, but it might not be for much longer. Did you know that our bees are already in trouble? Already 20 of our native species of bee are extinct, having a detrimental impact on our economy and the entire food chain. We are already importing bees from Eastern Europe to pollinate our crops. Derbyshire Wildlife Trust has launched a new campaign called Feel the Buzz, which focuses on encouraging the Derbyshire community to get involved, if you would like to help or find out more please visit <http://www.derbyshirewildlifetrust.org.uk/feelthebuzz>.

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.

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. Please can you ensure that you send £10 with the reply slip in a sealed envelope.

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.

Please pay for all Residential Trips via Parent Pay.

2017 – Up-coming dates

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)

5 July – School disco (all years together, outside, hopefully!)

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