

January
2014



Please could you ensure that your child's PE Kit is clearly labelled

NEWSLETTER

Dunnington C of E Primary

Please Remember
Our school is a "NUT FREE ZONE". Please avoid nuts, or any products that contain whole nuts in packed lunches.
Thank You

Happy New Year

Welcome back. I hope you have all had an enjoyable break, and are feeling refreshed ready for the term ahead.

May I take this opportunity to thank you, on behalf of the staff, for your Christmas cards, gifts, and well wishes. They were very gratefully received.

A huge congratulations to ???% of our pupils who managed to achieve their Bronze certificate for consistent good behaviour throughout the Autumn term.

Also congratulations to 202 of our pupils for achieving attendance levels of above 95% last term. 166 pupils managed attendance of above 97% and 93 pupils attended every single session! They will each receive a certificate in recognition of their achievement.

I have decided to slightly amend the way in which we award the certificates this year, based on feedback from parents and staff, so that the percentages will be calculated for each separate term rather than a cumulative total over the year.

Many children are keen to achieve the certificate for 100% attendance, which is great, but parents have reported that sometimes they are very reluctant to take a day off when they really are not well enough for school!!! This adaptation will mean that they can try again for 100% the next term, rather than waiting for the new academic year.

This term sees all classes embarking on an exciting whole-school approach to enhancing the quality of writing. 'Big Writing' is a lively, and fun approach to encouraging higher level writing by developing the children's 'writing voice'. Children will be supported to enrich their writing voices by using new and increasingly challenging vocabulary, connectives, sentence openers and punctuation. Weekly talk homework will also be introduced to support the generation of writing ideas. More information will follow from our literacy coordinator, Mr Martinez.

I thank you in anticipation of your on-going support and know you will join us in continuing to encourage your child on the road to success.

Wishing you all a happy, healthy and prosperous 2014.

Caroline Hancy

Extra Curricular Activities for the Spring Term

Monday

Netball Y5/6 3:20-4:15pm
(14th Jan-18th March inclusive)
Gardening Club Y1-6 3.20-4.15pm
Dates to be confirmed by Mrs Abbott
Rounders Y3/4 3.20-4.15pm
(25th Feb - 18th March)

Tuesday

Latin Dance Y4/5/6 3.20-4.15pm
(15th Jan-19th March inclusive)
Searchers All ages 3.20-4.15pm
(15th Jan- 26th March)

Wednesday

No clubs run by school staff

Thursday

World Dance Y3-6 3.20-4.15pm
(17th Jan-21st March inclusive)

Friday

Gym Club All 3.20-4.15pm
Groups already advised of their dates

If for any reason a club needs to be cancelled, we will notify parents, giving as much warning as is possible.

If children new to the school would like to join any of the above clubs, please contact Mrs Bertoletti.

Dates To Note

January

21st-25th SEAL Week 'Going for Goals'
21st - Y6 Trip to The Tempest
Wakefield
25th SEAL celebration assembly 2.45pm
Parents welcome.

February

18th - 22nd Half Term
Children return on Mon 25th February 2013

March

5th & 6th Parent Consultations
11th-15th SEAL week 'It's good to be me'
15th SEAL celebration assembly 2:45pm
Parents welcome
25th & 26th Y3/4 Performance at 6pm
27th Easter Services
(Infant 10:00, Junior 11:00)
Parents welcome

School closes on Wednesday 27th March 2013
Children return on Monday 15th April 2013

Class Assembly Rota

(Always held on Fridays at 2:45)

Reception -

Y1/2 Mrs Abbott's class -
Y1/2-Mrs Bertoletti's class -
Y1/2 Mrs Rigden's class -

Parents Welcome

We hope you are able to join us to celebrate the children's hard work

IT'S BUG BUSTING WEEK AGAIN!!

Thank you for your extremely supportive response to our bug busting weeks in the past. This approach to the problem has been very effective in working towards the elimination of head lice from our school. We would therefore like to ask for your cooperation in continuing with this regular event.

Please remember that we need every family to participate in order for our efforts to be effective.

Please proceed as follows:-

Starting from Monday please check for head lice and eggs and wet-comb the hair of every member of your family at least once every three days for at least one full week.

Experts are divided as to whether wet-combing or chemical treatment is best but unless you find lice or eggs, it is better not to treat heads with chemical preparations.

If you are unfamiliar with head lice and would like more information or support about detection and treatment, please see Mrs Hancy.

We will keep you up to date about any relevant information we receive on the effectiveness of our bug-busting week.

PROCEDURE FOR EMERGENCY SCHOOL CLOSURE

With the wintery weather forecast, we do not anticipate having to close the school in the foreseeable future.

However, should this become necessary at any point, this would be announced on Radio York and Minster FM and would be published on the City of York Council and school website.

Notification would also be sent by e-mail to all parents on the Parentmail system.

Please avoid telephoning the school office, leaving the line free for those who are having difficulty making the journey or for the school to make contingency plans should the need arise.

We do allow the children to play out in the snow when the conditions are suitable, but they must have a coat and a change of footwear at school.

COMMUNITY MESSAGES

* A local resident contacted the school concerned that she had witnessed a 'near miss' with one of our pupils running out into the road between parked cars. Please reinforce 'road safety' messages with your child if they walk home alone. We will also continue to do this in school.

* Please could dog owners ensure that they clean up after their dogs in the village and dispose of the bags in bins. This is causing a particular nuisance around the school perimeter fence and at Hagg Wood.

* Whilst we encourage children walking and 'scooting' to school, please could you ensure that they are mindful of other pedestrians using the pavements in the village. We have received a complaint from an elderly resident who was almost knocked over by young children on scooters in the snicket near to the Glebe.

Thank you for your support.



THE SAFETY OF CHILDREN OUTSIDE SCHOOL

A number of parents have expressed concern over the safety of our children with regards to traffic and obstructions outside the school gates. We also had a reported 'near miss' just before the Christmas holidays.

Please help us to keep your children safe by:-

- **Avoiding stopping on the yellow zig-zag areas to drop off children**
- **Avoiding parking near crossing points, blocking the vision of pedestrians, particularly opposite the KS1 entrance**
- **Refraining from parking on the double yellow lines and in blue badge parking bays**
- **Adhering to the 20mph speed limit**
- **Refraining from fastening dogs to the railings, a number of children are afraid and step into the road to avoid them**
- **Keeping the pavements around the school gates and driveways of neighbours clear from obstructions**

Thank you for your cooperation.