

# Happy New Year

January  
2016



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

Dear Parents/Carers,

I hope you have all had a relaxing Christmas break and return refreshed for the spring term ahead.

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

The new term has got off to an exciting start. No doubt you will have heard that each class has now launched their new curriculum theme for the next half term and your child's class teacher will be writing to you to provide you with an overview of your child's learning for the coming weeks. Information will also be uploaded to the school website so please keep a regular check on updates.

We are very pleased to welcome back Mrs Rigden into year 1, following the birth of her son, Jack. Mrs Walker provided the children with an excellent transition into year one and has spent time planning with Mrs Rigden to ensure a smooth handover.

Many of you will now be aware of the exciting news that Mrs Bertoletti is expecting her first child in May. She hopes to continue teaching until the end of this term but I will write to parents in due course, to explain the arrangements for her cover.

Unfortunately Mrs Todd, Mrs Rose and Mrs Lewis (MSA) are currently unwell and therefore were not able to return to school following the Christmas break. In order to minimise disruption to the children, we are looking to provide cover from existing school staff, where possible. We wish them all a speedy recovery.

With very best wishes for a happy and prosperous 2016,

Caroline Hancy

### PLEASE PARK CONSIDERATELY AROUND SCHOOL

I have received a further complaint regarding parents parking opposite and across driveways near to the school, making access for residents difficult and, on occasions, impossible. I respectfully ask that you park considerately if you need to use a car to travel to and from school.

Thank you for your co-operation.

### PARENTS' SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PANEL

Each year the governors and staff of the school evaluate the school's performance and set further targets for development. These are outlined in our school improvement plan.

Pupil Voice is regularly sought in order to develop our practice in school. For example, last term we interviewed 70 pupils across the school to gather their views on writing in the curriculum. In response, each class teacher has been provided with some areas for consideration in their future planning and teaching.

For some aspects of school improvement, we are also keen to gather the view of parents.

To this end, a few years ago, we established a Parents' School Improvement Panel, with a representative parent from each year group.

All parents were provided with their representative's contact details so that they could pass on their views on required topics. Responses were then discussed in meetings with myself and Simon Parkinson, Chair of Governors and considered by staff and the governing body when making decisions around policies, procedures and spending.

Topics in the past have included school meals, residential visits, choice of languages, homework and premises (including the roof and toilets!!)

We are keen to reconvene with this group again to discuss some elements of this year's improvement plan.

Topics this year to include:-

Improving communication with parents to:-

- Raise awareness of assessment in the new national curriculum,
- Ensure E safety,
- Understand raised expectations in spelling, grammar, punctuation and handwriting.

Improving our facilities for sport and outside play

Please watch out for further communications regarding this matter but also, if you have any areas you would like me to raise for discussion, please drop me an email on

[head.dunningtonprimary@york.gov.uk](mailto:head.dunningtonprimary@york.gov.uk)

### FIVE TO NINE ON THE LINE!

Staff have a daily briefing at 8:35– 8:45am. Duty staff then make their way to the playgrounds to meet and supervise the children as they arrive at school.

Please could you ensure that your child arrives at school between **8:45 and 8:55am** when the whistle will blow.

KS1 children obviously arrive with an adult but a number of KS2 children have recently been arriving on their own, as early as 8:35am.

Prior to 8:45am, children will be asked to wait in the school hall until the start of the session to ensure their safety.

Registration takes place between 8:55 and 9:05 and registers close at 9:15am.

Children should aim to meet their teachers at '5 to 9 on the line!'

Thank you

## SPRING TERM 2016 IMPORTANT DATES

### January

- 19th Y6 to Young Voices at Sheffield  
29th Y1/2 MEG Workshop—Language Through Song

### February

- 9th Y3/4 Celebration—Egyptian Project Displays 2.45pm  
10th Y5 Celebration—Ancient Civilisations 2.30pm  
11th Y6 Celebration—'Horror Show' 2.30pm  
12th Y1/2 MEG Workshop—World Music  
12th EYFS/KS1 Dance Celebration 2.30pm  
12th Last day of school before Half Term  
22nd School re-opens after half term

### March

- 1st Parent Consultation Evening  
2nd Parent Consultation Evening  
15th Y3/4 Performance—The Pied Piper 6.00pm  
16th Y3/4 Performance—The Pied Piper 6.00pm  
22nd Musical Evening 6.00pm  
23rd Church Service at St. Nicholas - Parents Welcome  
10.00am Infants  
11.00am Juniors  
23rd Last day of school before Easter

## Extra Curricular Activities for the Spring Term 2016

Clubs start week commencing 11th January  
Clubs finish week ending 18th March  
(unless otherwise notified by club leader)

### Monday

Netball Y5/6 3.20-4.15pm  
(weather permitting)

Gymnastics All ages 3.20-4.15pm  
(Groups already notified of their dates)

### Tuesday

\*Premier Sport  
Netball Y3-6 8.00-8.55am

Choir Y3-6 3:20-4:15pm

School Band Y3-6 3.20-4.15pm

### Wednesday

\*Premier Sport  
Gymnastics Rec-Y2 3.20-4.15pm

### Thursday

Dance Y3-6 3.20-4.15pm

\*YCFC Football Y1-6 3.20-4.15pm  
Recorders Y3-6 3.20-4.15pm

### Friday

No clubs at present

Places are still available for the Premier Sport  
Gymnastics and Netball—apply online or pick up  
a form from the school office.

\*These clubs are run by outside organisations  
and a fee is payable.

If for any reason a club has to be cancelled, we  
will do our best to notify parents with as much  
notice as possible.

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

## 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.



### THE SAFETY OF CHILDREN OUTSIDE SCHOOL

A number of parents have expressed concern over the safety of our children with regards to traffic outside the school gates. Please help us to keep your children safe by:-

- Avoiding using 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
- Keeping the pavements around the school gates clear from dogs and any obstructions

**Thank you for your cooperation.**