

#### DUNNINGTON C.E. PRIMARY SCHOOL

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27th January 2023

Dear Parents/Carers,

## **Important Dates**

Please find attached, a list of important dates for the term. These will also be published on our website.

## **Teachers' Strikes 1st February 2023**

Trust Leaders have now met to consider the management of the strike action. We have several unions represented in our school but, to date, only the NEU have met the required thresholds in their ballots for strike action.

Collectively, as a Trust, we have agreed that we will not undermine the strike action taken by the NEU and therefore will not cover the classes of staff members taking strike action nor will we ask other staff members to plan remote learning for the classes not in attendance.

It is likely that we will be open for most, but not all classes on 1st February (the first day of strike action).

Pupils not in attendance can access appropriate remote learning materials for their year group on the Oak National Academy website. Please visit: <a href="https://www.thenationalacademy/">https://www.thenationalacademy/</a>. Go to the **Classroom** button, then **Subjects**, and then click on **show year groups**. Select the appropriate year group. Pupils can choose any of the lessons contained within that area.

Staff do not have to tell their employer which union they are members of and individual NEU members do not have to tell their employer whether they personally intend to take part in strike action. Therefore, it is very difficult to know the precise impact of the strike until the actual day of the strike. I will endeavour to notify parents as soon as I have a clearer picture but this may need to be by email on the morning of the actual strike days.

School lunches will be provided for those pupils in attendance and for any pupils in receipt of free school meals who are at home. Please contact the school office if you wish to take up this offer.

I'm sorry that you may have to make alternative arrangements for your child at short notice. I understand that this situation may be frustrating, and ask that all members of our school community continue to treat each other with respect.



### **Healthy Snacks in School**

Free fruit or vegetable is available daily to all infants (EYFS and KS1). A piece of fruit can be brought as a playtime snack in KS2. Please can we also request that children do not bring energy drinks, crisps, sweets and chocolate bars into school for breaktime snacks?

We do try to encourage healthy eating but we are noticing a number of older children regularly bringing and hiding sweets and chocolates in their lockers, which they have purchased at the shop on the way to school. As you know, we do ask parents not to send any food items containing nuts to school as we have a number of children with severe allergies so we do try to keep our school a 'NUT FREE ZONE'. When children are sneaking confectionery into school, it is really difficult for staff to ensure the safety of others. I would really appreciate your support with this matter.

## **Seesaw for Schools**

Further to our announcement in the newsletter on 13<sup>th</sup> January, our current subscription with Seesaw for Schools will come to an end on 31st January 2023. Having reviewed exactly how we use Seesaw and the features we need, we will be moving to the free version from 1<sup>st</sup> February. From the information we have received, we anticipate that your children will remain in their current 'Seesaw classes' and that your current codes to access these virtual classrooms will continue as before. If, however, we discover that this doesn't work as we anticipate, or if you are unable to post to the current classroom after this date, then we will look to set up new Seesaw classrooms and re-issue you with new codes. If you have any queries regarding Seesaw, particularly any issues that may crop up after 31<sup>st</sup> January, then please do let us know. EYFS and KS1 team.

## **Extra-Curricular Sports Clubs**

Please find attached a list of extra-curricular sports clubs on offer for the second half of the Spring term.

#### **Dodgeball Club**

We will need to cancel Dodgeball club on the 7<sup>th</sup> Feb as Mr Sellers is taking some children to a tournament at St Oswald's School.

## **Fulford School Beauty and the Beast**

Year 5 and 6 have been invited to watch Fulford School's performance of Beauty and the Beast on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> February. We have arranged for the children to be taken by coach to Fulford, leaving school at 10 am and returning at approximately 1:30pm. Children in these year groups will need to bring a packed lunch. We would also appreciate a voluntary contribution of £3 towards the cost of the coach. This can be paid via ParentPay or cash in an envelope to the school office.

# Big Garden Birdwatch (27th - 29th January)

Today Reception have been busy making bird feeders as part of Forest Schools lessons. We are hoping that the children can hang them outside to try and attract the birds ready for this weekend's Big Garden Birdwatch. If you would like to take part in the birdwatch at home, you can find out all the details at: <a href="https://www.rspb.org.uk/get-involved/activities/birdwatch/">https://www.rspb.org.uk/get-involved/activities/birdwatch/</a>. Then, all you need to do is watch the birds



for a 1-hour period, count how many of each species of bird lands in that time and report what you found online to help the RSPB understand how the birds are doing and protect our birds for generations to come. We would love to hear how you get on (and if the birds liked what Reception made for them!)

## **Information for Year 6 Parents**

Year 6 parents will receive a letter separately outlining the arrangements for statutory assessments and the residential trip.

## **Parent 5-Minute Read**

Please find attached, this week's 5 minute read on 'Fake New and Disinformation Online'.

With very best wishes,

Caroline Hancy

#### **Attachments**

- Important Dates for Spring Term
- Clubs for Spring 2
- Year 6 letter
- 5-minute read 'Fake News and Disinformation Online'

