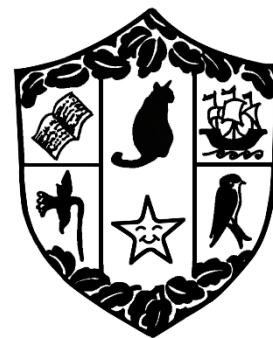


Deneholm Primary School

Newsletter Issue 2

September 2018



***Resourcefulness *Resilience *Reasoning *Responsibility *Reflection**

Dear Parents/Carers,

It has been a really busy start to the term so I've written an extra newsletter to share some things with you.

School Dinner Money Changes

Firstly, you may recall that during last year the school started the process of becoming 'cashless'. I am continuing this piece of work and hope to have everything in place for half term. As soon as we have details we'll send home the information for you to create an account, all payments will then be made and tracked online. It is a very reliable, secure and easy system, already tried and tested in another Trust school. We are changing processes in school to get ready- could you please ensure that any dinner money is brought on Monday's in a named envelope please?

After school and breakfast club

I am currently investigating the possibility of accepting childcare vouchers and registering the school for the new 'Tax Free Childcare' scheme. I hope this means that working parents will be able to save money when using our breakfast and after school clubs.

Breaktime snacks and packed lunches

I have had a parent querying the contents of packed lunches this week. I'll be working with the Pupil Leadership Team and the School's Advisory Board to agree our policy and ensure that we are following the guidance from the Department for Education, which details what schools can and cannot offer in terms of food during the school day.

I can confirm that the only snacks allowed for morning break are fruit, vegetables or dried fruit, not cereal bars, chocolate or anything else. Children have been told this and from Monday snacks other than fruit, vegetables or dried fruit will be returned home at the end of the day.

Admissions- joining in Reception 2019 or moving to Secondary School

If you have a child who will be starting school in September 2019 please look at the information regarding visits to the school which is on the admissions page of the website. We have set some dates to welcome prospective families and answer any questions they may have. For our Year 6 pupils the process of applying for secondary school has already started- please ask us or look at Thurrock Council's Admissions page for more information.

Fundraising

Jeans for Genes- raising money for Great Ormond Street Children's Hospital. This fundraising will take place on Friday 21st September. On that day children bring £1 (or more) to school and swap their normal school trousers or skirt for jeans. The only change to the normal school uniform is jeans, and children should wear their white tops with red jumpers as usual please. This is not supposed to be a day for the latest fashions- it's about raising money for a good cause!

I have linked the first coffee morning of the year with the McMillan fundraiser- I hope to see you on 28th September at 9am. If you would like to donate some treats you can bring them to the office on Thursday 27th. I look forward to letting you know how much we raise for this good cause and of course meeting all of you that are able to attend.

In terms of School Development our key priorities are:

- Raising the standard of writing across the school
- Improving maths by ensuring children know their times tables (look out for more information on an exciting new app soon)
- Providing more challenging work for our most able pupils
- Addressing poor attendance and ensuring that children are ready to learn when they arrive in school

These priorities will build on the successes of last year and pick up on points from the Ofsted report last March, I look forward to giving you information on these as they year progresses.



Important Dates for your diary...

AUTUMN TERM

September

- 20th 100% Attendance Assembly 9am
- 21st Jeans for Genes Day
- 24th Afterschool clubs start
- 28th McMillan Coffee Morning 9am

October

- 2nd Open Session – New Intake 9:15am & 2:15pm
- 5th Sharing Assembly 6B
- 12th Sharing Assembly 5W
- 15th Flu Immunisation
- 17th Harvest Festival
- 18th Individual Photographs
- 19th Sharing Assembly 4S

22nd October – 2nd November Half Term

November

- 7th Parent Teacher Consultations
- 8th Parent Teacher Consultations
- 9th Sharing Assembly 3PD
- 16th Sharing Assembly 2T
- 22nd Open Session New Parents 9:15am & 2:15pm
- 23rd Sharing Assembly 1G
- 26th Last week of Clubs
- 30th Sharing Assembly 6F

December

- 13th Yr 1 & Yr 2 Christmas Concert 1:15pm
- 14th Yr 1 & Yr 2 Christmas Concert 9:15am
- 17th Reception Nativity (Dress Rehearsal) Parents, Family with younger siblings) 1:15pm
- 18th Reception Nativity (adults only) 9:15am & 1:15pm
- 19th Carol Services am & pm St John's Church
- 20th Christmas Dinner & Parties
- 21st Christmas Jumper Day

LAST DAY OF TERM 21ST DECEMBER

SPRING TERM

FIRST DAY OF TERM 7TH JANUARY

January

- 7th Yr 3 Swimming Lessons
- 10th New Intake Open Session 9:15am
- 11th Sharing Assembly 5L
- 18th Sharing Assembly 3M
- 25th Sharing Assembly 4H

February

- 1st Sharing Assembly 2R
- 8th Sharing Assembly 1D
- 15th Sharing Assembly 6B

18th February – 22nd February Half Term

March

- 1st Sharing Assembly 5W
- 7th World Book Day
Bedtime Stories 6 – 7pm
- 8th Sharing Assembly 4S
- 12th World Maths Day
- 15th Comic Relief
Sharing Assembly 3PD
- 22nd Sharing Assembly 6F

APRIL

- 4th Easter Egg Raffle p.m.

LAST DAY OF TERM 5TH APRIL

SUMMER TERM

FIRST DAY OF TERM 23RD APRIL

APRIL

- 23rd St George's Day

MAY

- 3rd Sharing Assembly 1G
- 6th Bank Holiday
- 10th Sharing Assembly 2T
- 13th SATs Week Yr 6
- 17th Sharing Assembly RC
- 20th Walk to School Week
- 22nd Class Photographs
- 24th Sharing Assembly 5L

27th May (Bank Holiday) – 31st May Half Term

JUNE

- 3rd Stubbers Residential Week
- 7th Sharing Assembly 4H
- 14th Sharing Assembly 3M
- 21st Sharing Assembly 2R
- 28th Sharing Assembly 1D

JULY

- 5th Sharing Assembly RD

LAST DAY OF TERM 19TH JULY