King Street Primary & Pre - School

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Dear Parent/Carer,

The last day has arrived and the children are ready for their holidays. At this point in the year we are very sad to see our Year 6 children leave. The school have watched them grow and develop into very mature young people. They will leave the school with some amazing memories, not least the recent London trip and last night’s sleepover! They have wonderful relationships with staff and I am sure it will not be the last we see of them. The leavers assembly was, as always, a tear jerker for all involved and shows what a fantastic time the children have had at King Street. I know you will join us in wishing them all the best for the future.

**Den’s Day**

Even though it was delayed by a day, the children have had a fantastic time and I am sure they will tell you all about it. Thank you for all the boxes- we could not have done it without you!

**Music event**

Unfortunately this week we had to cancel our short Year 1/2 music concert. This concert was due to be held outdoors and was led by a music specialist from the Local Authority, therefore the date had been set by their availability. The morning weather forecast showed rain throughout the afternoon and we took the early decision to cancel based on this information. I understand this left some parents disappointed and I am told some parents had wanted to leave the decision to cancel until much later but please appreciate we have many parents who like as much notice as possible for cancellations and we also had electrical equipment that was to be used that could not be in the rain.

**Transition days**

The children have enjoyed time with their new teacher this week, gaining an insight into the kind of things they will be learning next year and sharing information about themselves to help get to know one another.

**Breakfast and Daycare (childcare services)**

***From September, we will be hosting the breakfast and Daycare services in the detached school building.*** We are able to do this as we have moved our youngest children into the main school to create an Early Years Unit. Please access this building via the black security gate and use the buzzer to notify staff that you are there. The benefits of using this building are numerous. The children will have immediate access to the small garden area which allows more free play opportunities but also allows staff to create activities such as bug hunting and shelter building as part of everyday activities. When required, the children will still be able to access the large sport yard for ball games and other sports. **I had also previously mentioned that I would look into extending the opening hours of our Breakfast club and I am pleased to notify you that from September we will now be open at 7:45am.** I had many requests from parents who started work at 8am and I sincerely hope that this helps you all out a little bit. At this point, there will be no additional charge for the extra 15 minutes, however this may need to be reviewed in the future.

**Morning procedures**

Also from September, we are opening our main school doors (on the yard entrance) at 8:40. This will allow our earliest children to filter into school as they arrive rather than wait around on the school yard. Children are not obliged to arrive at this time but must still be in school for 8:50am in order to be in class and registered for 8:55. In doing this, cloak areas will not be as crowded and parents will have longer opportunities to talk to staff about any concerns. The class teacher will be out on the yard from 8:40 until 8:55 whilst the support staff will monitor classrooms and set ‘Early Bird’ activities to engage the children. Again, this earlier entry time may allow parents to drop off and leave slightly earlier if they need to be at work. Please note. Children should not be on the school yard before 8:40am but are welcome to come to Breakfast club if childcare is needed before this time.

**Community Events**

*FREE FAMILY EVENT*

*Spennymoor Town Show, Jubilee Park Saturday 2nd September 2017 11am – 3pm*

*St Andrew’s Church- Music for a summer’s evening. Performed by the Parish Choir*

*In aid of Butterwick Hospice and in memory of Ron Smith. 1932-2016*

*Saturday 22nd July 2017 at 7pm*

**Training day**

As mentioned in the last newsletter the children return to school on Tuesday 5th September.

**Uniform**

I have noticed this week that some children have begun wearing trainers or joggings bottoms. Please be aware that although it is the last week of term we always require children to wear school uniform until the final day- this includes refraining from wearing jewellery. In September, this will be monitored closely and staff will work alongside families to ensure that children are all wearing the correct uniform.

To order uniform please visit: Cre8ive graphics, Peel Street , Bishop Auckland or order through the current school website via the ‘shop’.

**Curriculum and learning**

Please look out for the termly newsletter in September which will inform you of the topics your child will be learning and any key dates, such as PE days.

Also look out for the information arriving regarding our new website and the smartphone app. The app allows information to be sent straight to your phone. In addition to this, we are currently adopting a system called Marvellous Me. A letter accompanies this newsletter with more information. This is a further communication tool that allows parents to see photos and videos of their child in school and allows teachers to send your child’s ‘praise points’ directly to you, so you are aware of the positive behaviours in school. These will be used in the same way that ‘R’ points are now. (Reward points)

In addition, the curriculum should begin to look very exciting for your child- please do not throw away your children’s old clothes as we will be needing them! We will be taking the children to our school field throughout the year (off site) to experience ‘into nature days’. This will introduce them to forest school activities and allow them to undertake field work linked to their curriculum. They will also experience additional adventure activities such as canoeing, climbing, hill walking, karting, and archery as part of their PE curriculum. More information on this will follow from individual class teachers next year.

**General Information**

We are very aware the office area can be very busy during drop off and pick up times and parents often have to wait quite a while just to hand in letters, reply slips etc. With this in mind we now have a post box in the waiting area so you can post and go. You are still more than welcome to speak to our office staff about any concerns or enquiries you may have in the usual way.

I wish everyone a relaxed and happy holiday period.

Yours Sincerely

Miss J Nugent