King Street Primary & Pre - School

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Weekly Newsletter

Dear Parent/Carer

We have reached our final week of term next week, the time is flying by. It is always a busy time for schools with action packed days of fun!

Your child should have brought home their school report this week and they were all a pleasure to read. Whilst I do not yet know the names of every child I feel like I am slowly getting to know them. Please, still feel you can approach me on the yard and introduce yourself- it has been great to stop and chat to many of you.

**Training days**

It has come to our attention this week that the website states the return to school date is the Tuesday 5th September. These dates are set 12 months in advance. Schools internal recording system shows that the return to school date was Wednesday 6th September. I can only assume this was an oversight when it was added to the website. However, the 6th of September was due to be a training day which I am fortunate enough to be able to rearrange therefore I will reopen the school for teaching purposes on **Tuesday 5th September** as it states on the website. I hope this helps those parents who had only prepared childcare until that date. Please accept my apologies on this occasion. I had recognised that the website had a number of issues and was one of the reasons it is currently being redeveloped- the new site is due to be launched when we return and will be an up to date calendar of the year’s events which I hope will be useful to everyone. The downloadable app and notifications should keep you well informed as I know newsletters can get lost between school and arriving home! I will of course, as required by the local authority, need to rearrange the training day and I have set this as Friday 20th October. This is just before the half term break which means that the children will now break up on Thursday 19th October.

**Sports day**

After uncertainty with the weather I am delighted that we persevered and went ahead as both days were a huge success. We have some amazingly talented youngsters and it is brilliant that so many of you could attend. KS2 parents were particularly keen – we had to run 2 races! Well done to all of our winners- children and adults alike. I would like to highlight that the refreshments were staffed by our ‘Friends of the School’ and therefore would like to thank them for their time and effort as we would have been parched without you! Events are always enhanced by the time dedicated by our volunteers and their efforts do not go unnoticed. Thank you!

**Events in school**

Staff have been very keen recently to invite parents to celebrate end of term activities with the children. I appreciate that for those parents with more than one child, taking time off work to attend them all is very difficult. We are hoping to ensure that next year we continue to offer a huge range of activities to be involved in and this way you will be able to choose the most appropriate days, that suit you as a family, to attend. We would not expect you to attend them all but felt that if there was a wider selection of opportunities, this may provide working parents more options of what they would like to attend. We always ensure your child, whether a parent attends or not, has a fantastic time so please do not feel you must attend everything.

**Transition days**

Transition to new classes can be both exciting and nerve wracking for children and we want to make this experience as positive as possible. Both Mrs Kane (Y1 teacher) and Miss Chazot (Y4 teacher) have already spent a few days in school getting to know their children. We will also be having an official ‘meet the teacher’ day on Tuesday 18th July. This will be very informal with your child meeting their new teacher and taking part in some ‘getting to know you’ activities. The children do love this and I hope they return home full of enthusiasm for next year.

**After School clubs**

Our after school clubs are all now finished for this term and will re-start in the new term. Staff and volunteers are hoping to offer a wider range of activities than previously to encourage a wider group of children to attend. If you have any ideas or think you could support the running of a club please let us know. We are always looking for innovative ways to improve the experiences of our children.

**Community events**

I am passionate about developing community links and supporting local causes. I would therefore like to publicise the following event:

*Click-fest*

*A celebration in memory of Andrew ‘Clicky’ Whitehouse.*

*Saturday 15th July, 12:30pm-5:30pm. The Victoria Pub, Spennymoor.*

*A day filled with fun for all the family, including entertainment, tombola, raffle, stalls, food, a sponsored head shave and more!*

*All donations are welcome and proceeds will go to Maggie’s Cancer Trust*

In addition to this we also recognise the sad death of Bradley Lowery. I know his Head teacher personally and have already contacted her to let her know that we are having a dress down day in recognition of him and his family. She has advised that she will pass this on to his family who will appreciate all of the support. Thank you- all donations can be given via his just giving page. **justgiving**.com/crowdfunding/**bradleylowery**sfight

Many of you may have already been involved in some fundraising after the death of Dave Curry, a local resident. His family and friends have raised enough money to support the local community with a defibrillators. We are lucky enough to have had one donated to ourselves and this has now been fitted into the main school building and staff have been trained on how to use it. Whilst I hope it never needs to be used, I feel privileged that we might one day save a life. Thank you to Janet and her family and all of you who helped fundraise. Well done!

**Holiday club**

Thank you to all those who expressed an interest in the holiday club. I have met with Chris from Sc.out.ed today and we have finalised all the places. **If you have submitted a request for a place in the club- I can confirm that you have been accepted.** You will not receive individualised acceptance letters. Please arrive at the club on the days on which you requested and make payment directly to Chris. I hope all of the children have a wonderful time. Please note you must have signed medical consent and contact form from sc.out.ed for your child to attend. We have a very small number of children who do not have a form in place- please call into school to collect one or fill this in which Chris on the day.

**Special awards**

We were unable to do our assembly last week as we had the pleasure of welcoming Helen Goodman, local MP, into school to help us spread the message of ‘education for all’. This is an attempt to ensure all children across the world have access to high quality education.

Student of the week (last week)

Pre school- Elliot Whitfield

Reception- Katie Gardener and Scarlett Ellis

Year 1 - Katie Mcmahon

Year 2- Tia Mather

Year 3- The whole class

Year 4- Louise Sirrell

Year 5- Luke Miller

Year 6- Piper Kenny

Student of the week (this week)

Pre School- Willow Henderson

Reception- Harry Schofield

Year 1- Kaden Templeton

Year 2- Leo Franey, Ellie Snowball and Jake Birkin

Year 3 –Jack Isaac

Year 4-Tiona Hebdon

Year 5- Leon Scaife

Year 6 are in London this week so no award given.

Thank you, once again for your involvement, patience and kind words of support for the school. We have many exciting opportunities for children and their families and we all look forward to working together to make the school and its community an even better place. I appreciate at times we do not always get things right but we do always invite you in to discuss anything if you are worried or have concerns and feel you are a vital part in your child’s education. I would ask that you refrain from using social media if you have any worries and contact the school directly. We are happy to help where we can.

Yours Sincerely

Joanne Nugent

Headteacher