**King Street Primary & Pre - School**

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17.1.20

Dear Parent/Carer

We are already at the end of our second week of this term and the children have been working incredibly hard. We have spent some time talking to the children in classes this week about their curriculum, the reading they do in school and how they feel about school. We are really proud of how articulate they are, how much they have learned and remembered and how passionate they are about their experiences in school- they even have some great ideas for new ways to develop the school so the next two terms are also likely to be full of visits, activities and hopefully even a new range of after school clubs.

Movie night

Miss Starkie and Mr Swift have returned after Christmas full of energy and enthusiasm and are busy organising our next school fundraising event- our movie night on Wednesday 22nd January 4-6:30pm. Many children have already purchased tickets but you still have plenty time to do this. Please return the form with the movie choice indicated and £2 and we will send the tickets home with your child. It promises to be a super night and will help raise funds for the school.

To raise further funds, we will also shortly be looking for volunteers from Year 5 and 6 to help with a bag pack at Asda on Sunday 2nd February. (letter to these classes to follow) These events can raise up to £1000 for school funds which we plan on using to enhance the experiences the children have in school. We already have plans for another science week, a sports and healthy lifestyles week and another international event.

BBC 500 words competition

We are very excited to announce that we are going to be taking part in a national competition organised by BBC radio. The launch day was yesterday and all classes from Year 1 -6 took part in a ‘live lesson’ watching and listening to well-known authors give top tips to story writing. The idea behind the competition is to use published stories to inspire children to be creative, write their own story and to help develop vocabulary, sentence structure and punctuation. There are fabulous prizes for the winning entries too. If you would like more information about the event please look at the BBC website bbc.co.uk/500words. Teachers will be working with children in classes over the coming weeks to plan and write their stories before the deadline at the end of February. We hope it inspires the authors of the future and maybe even encourage a few of our reluctant readers to enjoy stories more.

On a less positive note, I must address the issue of parent behaviour around the school premises. We have had 2 incidents this week where inappropriate adult behaviour has been exhibited in front of our children and families. On one occasion we have had families feuding and fighting outside of school and on another occasion, we have had a parent swearing at their child at the school gates in front of other families. This behaviour is not acceptable and whilst we do appreciate it is rare and is a very small minority of people, we do need to reiterate our expectations. Please ensure that behaviour around the school premises is appropriate as it is very frightening to children who are witness to this. It is school staff and other families who are left trying to explain to our children that the adults around them have made wrong choices. Where necessary we do inform both the police and County Hall of incidents and the Local Authority may act to ban individuals from the premises if they are seen to be a further risk to the community. Thank you for your cooperation and to the families who help us set very good examples of behaviour.

School crossing patrol

The local Authority are currently looking to recruit a crossing patrol officer however, this may take a few weeks. In the short term it has been noticed that parking in the area has been dangerous at times and we call out for all families to be vigilant as children are crossing the road. Please park sensibly and ensure children can clearly see all parts of the road as it is already a difficult road to cross. We do not want any families to be put at a greater risk because of inconsiderate parking.

Headlice

Headlice are a common childhood nuisance and we all acknowledge that, at times, all schools have outbreaks. However, we seem to be continually having issues with repeat cases and the only way to combat this is for children to have their hair checked weekly. The NHS guidelines and recommendation is that children’s hair should be combed using the special combs each week. Acting only when there is an outbreak will not stop this persistent problem. Please help us break the cycle by checking your child’s hair each week using the specialist comb.

Eschools

After Sir David Attenborough made his stark statement about the environment yesterday, now more than ever we need to move to a more efficient way to send these weekly newsletters. We have tried previously to go paperless but insufficient numbers of families had signed up to eschools, however as most families are now signed up we are going to trial this from next week. Next week’s newsletter will simply be sent by the eschools communication system which means it should come straight to your device or via an email. We will continue to hold paper copies in the main reception for anyone who wants a copy for family members but hopefully this will be a very small part towards saving our planet. If you are not yet signed up to the system or are having access problems please direct your enquiry to Miss Wigham who will issue new log in details. Using the system is a far easier way to communicate and also gives you access to online booking for parents’ evenings.

On a similar theme of saving the planet and looking after our environment, it has been noticed that the litter in the area is increasing. Many of our children are very keen on cleaning up our community and participating in a litter00008

pick but it does appear that some children and families continue to litter the area. Please do speak to your child about the impact of litter in the environment- especially if they travel to school alone where they are more likely to drop it.

Contact details

We still have a number of families for who we do not have up to date contact details. It is really important, especially in an emergency that we are able to contact parents/carers or family members. If you have not already, please pass new telephone numbers and emails to the school office.

If there is anything at all that you would like to speak to us about, please speak to a member of staff on the yard or make an appointment through the school office. We are here to help you and your child.

Yours Sincerely

Joanne Bromley

Head teacher