King Street Primary & Pre - School

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06/09/19

Dear Parent/Carer,

Welcome back to the new school term, we are welcoming many new families both in our Nursery and Reception but also throughout the school and it is lovely to meet everyone. We do hope all of our children settle well and enjoy their experience at King Street. We also welcome our new member of staff Mrs Cornley who teaches in Year 1.

There is a fabulous buzz of excitement across the school as children tell us about their holiday experiences and when they find out the exciting things that they will learn about this year. Thank you all for supporting our school policies and sending children in full school uniform and black school shoes. Children look incredibly smart and are very proud of their smart look. May I take the opportunity to remind parents that we do not allow nail varnish or ‘tram lines’ in haircuts. We also advise that earrings are studs only and must be removed or covered with plasters for PE and swimming.

All Year groups will be issuing their class newsletter today so please do take the opportunity to read this as it gives full information about PE days, homework and the content of the curriculum for this term. This should help families who would like to continue learning at home as you will have an overview of the topics to be covered. We always welcome children bringing in activities completed at home as they love sharing these with others. In addition to the class newsletter we are, once again, holding our annual ‘meet the teacher’ event which will allow you to see in more detail the plans for the school year and to ask any questions you may have. This event is for all classes from Reception to Year 6 and will take place on Wednesday 11th September. We always host 2 sessions to allow those families with siblings to see more than one teacher. Therefore the times for the event are 3:15pm-3:45pm and then a repeat of the session 3:45pm-4:15pm. This way families can see one presentation and then move to the next class.

In order to welcome all of our families back to school we are also hosting a coffee morning event on 24th September. This will be facilitated by Mrs Livesley (our Positives Future worker) and Mrs Gamsby and will allow new families to meet others but also gives advice on the services that both the school and the community can provide- as always we will be providing tea, coffee and cake so please feel free to come along anytime between 9am-10:30am. Full details have been sent out on a separate letter.

Additional key dates are also attached to this newsletter which give you an overview of the activities taking place. Hopefully this allows you to plan ahead and organise your own diaries. Please do add all the relevant dates to your own calendars as the children love having their family attend the events where possible. Please do understand that at times, these dates may need to change due to unforeseen circumstances but we do our best to hold the date. Throughout the year a revised list will be issued as new dates are added including school visits, coffee mornings and other events.

It will also be important that all families are signed up to our ‘Eschool’ communication system. We have tried for many months to move to this system as it is an efficient paperless software which ensures information such as newsletters can be sent directly to a mobile or tablet and also arrive through email. For this to be successful however, we need to ensure that all families sign up and download the app. This will ensure that communication is received. It has been our mission for some time to try and move towards a paperless system to help save the environment. Miss Wigham is our technology lead and will re issue a log on for every family next Friday. If you know your log on you will not need to use this but if you have misplaced it or cannot remember it you can use this to set yourself back up. It is really important that you use this so you have up to date information. We will keep paper copies in small amounts in the future and these will be available at the office. The communication system also allows parents to book parents evening appointments later this term.

I have the pleasure of informing you of a community event that we mentioned in previous newsletters. This is being facilitated by one of our parents, Mr Craig Daley. Please see the information below.

Interested in getting in to running?

We will be hosting a couch to 5k starting from the school gates. Working with qualified run leaders on a weekly basis they will take you through a progressive program which will hopefully enable you to have the fitness and confidence to run 5K in just 10 weeks. The sessions are free for anyone to attend over 16 years old and will last around 30 minutes. The group run to suit the pace of each other and are there to support and encourage you. It’s all about getting you back into running and feeling good. This all begins on the 18th September, please do join us. To book on please e-mail [craig.daley@durham.gov.uk](mailto:craig.daley@durham.gov.uk)

Finally, a big focus for the school this year will be around reading, phonics and spelling. With a move to a digital age there is a danger that the younger generation do not utilise books like we may have done in the past. Children often favour electronic games over reading and we would like to revive the passion for books. We have purchased new books in school and developed our shared area in school around a reading area. Reading and language will be embedded into the school curriculum with some really engaging class texts which we hope the children will love. If you would like any advice on reading with your child please do not hesitate to ask.

If you have any questions or ideas please do not hesitate to speak to staff, including myself as we always do our utmost to help. Information about our school, the classes and newsletters can also be found on our school website.

Yours Sincerely

J Bromley

Head teacher