King Street Primary & Pre - School

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20th May 2022

Dear Parents/Carers,

We felt extremely privileged this week to be asked by Aldi to open their new store. Four of our Year 6 children got up very early yesterday and were welcomed by the staff and Sarah Jones, an Olympic athlete. This was a fabulous event they will remember for the rest of their lives. Following the opening, Sarah joined us at school for an inspiring assembly and our children asked so many wonderful questions. We even got to see and hold her Olympic medal.

This week many of our Year 6 children have enjoyed a residential visit to London, visiting many of the iconic attractions. They have had a very busy itinerary and will no doubt sleep well tonight. They have been a pleasure to take away and a credit to yourselves. We always get positive comments about our children’s behaviour and this visit was no different. A huge thank you also goes to the staff who gave up their own time to accompany the children- getting 24 children to go to sleep is never an easy task! We are very fortunate to have dedicated staff who always want to give our children the best possible opportunities. Next up is our Year 4 and 5 children who have a residential visit to Weardale Adventure Centre in July.

Sarah Jones, the Olympic athlete, was not our only visitor this week. Today, we have had staff from Durham County Council in school filming some of our Year 5 children as part of a Festival of Creativity. We have been working alongside the Local Authority helping schools to develop ideas for making the curriculum more engaging and creative, the filming is the final part of the project and will be used to train educational professionals across the county. We really have had a busy week.

Next week continues to be a busy week in school with the Fire Brigade in EYFS and Year 1 on Tuesday, Year 5 are on Outdoor Education, a Movie night on Thursday and our Jubilee Royal High Tea on Friday. Preparations for these events are under way and it has been lovely to be able to organise events once more. We are already looking at what we can organise for next year!

After School Clubs

We are also delighted to be able to return to After School Clubs after the half term break. Mr Colling is busy looking at what activities will be best to offer so we can include as many as children as possible. Information on these clubs with a sign-up form will be issued next week.

Contact Details

As a reminder, can I please ask that all families keep their contact details up to date. We have had several occasions over the last few weeks where we have been unable to contact families because they have changed their mobile number or email. It is really important we are able to communicate with families, especially if a child becomes poorly in school. If you have had a change of address, email or telephone number, please contact the school office to update us. Thank you.

Sun cream and hats

This week we have really begun to see evidence of the warmer weather and I thought it was worth reminding families that on hot days, sun cream should be applied before school and then children can bring sun cream into school to top up during the school day. A sun hat is also a really good idea as they can spend longer periods outdoors.

Family Support

The Local Authority are currently advertising the support available for families. At a time when many services have long waiting lists, it is nice to see that support can still be accessed. The details are below.

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93% of parents who completed the course said ‘Understanding Your Child’ was helpful.

92% of parents who completed the course said ‘Understanding Your Child with additional needs’ was helpful.

97% of parents who completed the course would recommend ‘Understanding Your Teenagers Brain’.

Social media

Once again, I would just like to remind parents of the age restrictions on social media and messaging Apps. The minimum age for most of these apps is 13 but many of our children report using them frequently, often late at night when we believe parents may be unaware. We do recommend children’s phones and devices are removed from their rooms at bedtime and checked thoroughly by an adult. All too frequently we are hearing of children who are led into inappropriate adult material through sites such as Tik Tok, Instagram or Snapchat. We also know that children’s behaviour changes online, becoming more ‘risky’ and often less kind than they would be face to face. Each week we talk to the children in lessons and assembly about keeping themselves safe but we welcome you to reinforce this message at home. Thank you for your help with this.

Finally, next week is our last week of this half term. We finish on Friday with our Jubilee celebrations which will be a superb way to round off the week. Please note, due to staff training on Monday 6th June, children do not return to school until Tuesday 7th June.

As always, if you have any questions or concerns or would like to volunteer in school, please speak to class teachers or contact the school office.

Yours Sincerely,

J Bromley

Head Teacher