King Street Primary & Pre - School

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Spennymoor

County Durham

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14th June 2024

Dear Parent/carer,

I would like to extend a warm welcome to our new families who have joined us this term. We have had 20 children join the school since Easter and we know that our children and staff always take the time to show them around and help them to settle.

It was wonderful to see how many people attended our Father’s Day event this year too. They were all on their best behaviour and bacon sandwiches were enjoyed by all. There were some lovely moments we captured on camera of dads, grandads, uncles and other family members with the children. They had a super morning and will definitely do it again next year.

Upcoming events

Next week we have our Year 4/5 residential information event for parents. Please come onto the main yard for 4:30pm (Monday 17th) and we will show you into the main hall for the presentation. For those who are unable to attend we will send home the PowerPoint presentation and all additional paperwork, including kit lists, Itinerary and consent/medical forms. We look forward to seeing you there. Please make sure all payments are up to date on ParentPay.

Staffing for September

We are now in a position to allocate staffing for September and with that comes some sad and some exciting news! Mrs Chazot has been offered a post as a professor at Durham University, conducting research and supporting students who are coming into teaching. She will be a wonderful support for students and will be part of re shaping the training of teachers in the future and we wish her all the luck in the world.

Due to this change, we have been able to offer Miss Boe an extended contract in school. She had expected to leave us in the summer as was covering a maternity post but we are delighted she will now remain with us. This will certainly please the children and families she has worked with over the last few years.

Below is the expected staffing for each class from September. Now we have this firmly in place, we will be holding our ‘transition session’ for all children on 3rd July. This is a brilliant opportunity for children to meet the new staff and see their new classrooms and helps alleviate any anxiety that is brought about because of the changes. Each year we have children who worry about what the new class will be like and it is guaranteed that, every year, children settle really quickly and then wonder why they worried in the first place. Where we think individual children require a more intensive approach, staff will organise this with children across the remainder of the term.

From September:

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| --- | --- | --- |
| Year group | Teacher | Additional support staff |
| Nursery | Miss Whitfield | Mrs Atkinson, Miss Bendelow |
| Reception | Miss Simpson | Miss Starkie, Miss Navin, Miss Stayman, Mrs Gash |
| 1 | Miss K Brown | Mrs Gamsby |
| 2 | Mrs Kane/Miss Boe | Mrs McGonigal |
| 3 | Mrs Heightley | Miss S Brown |
| 4 | Miss Bell | Mrs Bott, Mrs Angus |
| 5 | Miss Lloyd | Mrs Scott |
| 6 | Mr Colling | Mr Swift |
| Mr Murdoch will support children across the week in Year 1 and Year 6  Mrs O’Keefe will work across EYFS and Year 2 supporting children | | |

Parking

We have some fantastic progress being made to ensure families remain safe around the community and drivers do not park on the zig zag lines. I have been informed this week that the police no longer need to be present for parking tickets to be issued to dangerous drivers. Therefore, from now on, if you witness a vehicle parked on the zig zag lines or a ‘no parking’ zone you can take a photo and send it direct to the Spennymoor and Ferryhill policing team via their Facebook messenger page. The photo must include the car registration plate in full and clear evidence that it is parking in a dangerous and prohibited place. Parking fines will then be issued directly to the vehicle owner. We are hopeful this will improve the parking situation around school and is something we have long campaigned for.

Donations

I have a very unusual request from our Y6 team! We are looking for donations of large bird puppets (particularly parrot type birds) or plush bird toys. We are also looking for anything that is stone age or flintstone related! Whilst these may appear very strange requests they would be a great asset to our Year 6 end of year performance! If you do have anything available, please bring these to the school office and we promise to take great care of them and they can be returned at the end of term.

Plant sale

We have had so many people ask when we will be holding our plant sale and I am delighted to tell you that Mt Colling will be selling these from 3-3:30pm on Monday 17th June on the main school playground. We are selling large container pots of plants for £8 so please come and have a look. Any remaining plants will be sold at the school fair.

Tesco Blue Token Event

As you will know, we have been part of the Tesco ‘blue token’ scheme in the Bishop Auckland store; this will help us raise much-needed funds to enhance the opportunities we offer our children. This finishes at the end of June, so please help us by adding your own blue token if you are in the Bishop Auckland Tescos.

Community Events

St. Andrew's Summer Fair and Grand Draw is being held at 10.30am this Saturday 15th: stalls, games, raffles, tombola, cakes and refreshments, toy stall; something for everyone. All proceeds for church funds. Everyone welcome.

As always, if you have any concerns or queries, please speak to a member of staff on the yard or speak to the school office.

**Upcoming diary dates:**

Thursday 13th June- Fathers’ Day event (9am)

Friday 14th June- dress down day- bring a chocolate donation for the school fair.

Monday 17th June- Y4/5 residential information session (4.30pm)

Friday 28th June- Dress down day- bring a bottle donation for the school fair.

Thursday 4th July- School summer fair (3.30pm)

Monday 8th July- KS2 Sports day 1-3pm

Tuesday 9th July- Reception/KS1 Sports day 1-3pm

Friday 19th July – school closes for summer break

The 2045-25 academic year begins on Wednesday 4th September 2024. Term dates for next academic year are available on our website.

Joanne Bromley

Head Teacher