King Street Primary & Pre - School

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10th November 2023

Dear Parents/Carers

The end of term has arrived and the children are looking forward to a week off, with hopefully some lovely weather. It has been a lovely term and a highlight was definitely the Halloween disco yesterday. A big thank you goes to staff who organise the evening and create a wonderful environment for the children.

This term we have changed our reward system based on the feedback from our pupils. We previously rewarded just one child at the end of a term in recognition of wonderful behaviour. Children felt that they would like to see more children rewarded because ‘so many children are always good’. This term therefore, we have chosen 5 children from each class and they will be rewarded with ice cream and hot chocolate when they return after the holidays. Your child may be one of the chosen children this half term and please share our congratulations for the wonderful things they have achieved.

We will repeat this every half term so many more children are given the opportunity to be recognised and hopefully show our children how proud we are of them.

**Parents’ evening**

Our termly parents’ evening will be held after half term and the booking system has now opened on Eschools. Please log onto your Eschool account and book a convenient time to meet the teacher and discuss how your child has settled and the progress they have made. If you have forgotten or lost your log in details, please contact the school office and we can resend them to you. The booking system will remain open until Thursday 9th November - ready for the following week.

**Autumn competition**

It would be fantastic if, over the holidays, children could get out and about and find some things to enter our Autumn competition. As always at this time of year, we have asked the children to search for any of the following:

* The biggest Conker they can find.
* The biggest Pine Cone (Fir cone) they can find.
* The reddest leaf they can find.
* The lightest shade of yellow leaf they can find.

Children should bring their competition entries into school in a container or small bag (sandwich bags are ideal) and they should be clearly labelled with their name. We have already had lots of entries and it has been lovely hearing the children share their stories of how and where they made their discoveries! The entries will be judged on 10th November and a prize awarded for the winner of each category. The aim of the competition is to encourage children to get outside, enjoy family walks and immerse themselves in nature, finding out lots of facts along the way.

**SEND News**

 Have you heard of SENDIASS? Durham SEND Information Advice and Support Service is a statutory service supporting parents/carers of children with special educational needs and disabilities (SEND) and children and young people with SEND. Durham SENDIASS provides confidential information advice and support through a range of services. This includes home visits, attending meetings in educational settings and liaison with all services working with children and young people. Training and guidance to parents/carers, young people and professionals on SEND issues are also provided. Durham SENDIASS operates at ‘arm’s length’ from the Local Authority and the services provided are confidential and impartial.

Durham SENDIASS:

• is a free, impartial local service

• provides confidential information advice and support

• works directly with parents and carers of children and young people with SEND

• works directly with young people with SEND

• works in partnership with parents/carers, young people, educational settings the local authority and other agencies

• supports parents and young people to inform and influence local policy and practice

• enables parents/carers and young people to make informed choices and decisions with confidence

• has a role in making sure that parents’ and young people’s views are heard and understood and that these views inform local policy and practice

• is able to put parents and young people in touch with other local and national organisations

Durham SENDIASS provides information on:

• how special educational needs are identified and assessed by educational settings and the local authority

• who parents and young people can talk to in a school or Durham County Council or Local Authority about their concerns

• the SEND Code of Practice 0 – 25, the statutory assessment process and Education Health and Care Plan (EHC Plan)

• parents/carers and young person’s rights and responsibilities

• meetings and reviews about a child’s or young person’s needs

• how progress is monitored and reviewed

• what parents can do if they are not happy with a decision made about their child’s SEND

• what young people can do if they are not happy with a decision made about their child’s SEND

If you would like to contact Durham SENDIASS or if you would like to find out more, you can visit their website: <https://durhamsendiass.info>

**Toys in school**

We have an ever-increasing number of children bringing toys into school. Please do not allow you child to bring toys into school. They risk being broken or lost and it can become very distracting to learning when they want to play with them during class time. Thank you

Upcoming diary dates

Monday 6th November - School reopens for Autumn term 2

Monday 13th to Friday 17th November – Parents’ evening Y1-6

Monday 13th November - Reception Class stay and play

Wednesday 15th November – Nursery Class stay and play

Friday 17th November – Children in Need, dress down day.

I hope you all have a lovely half term break and we will see you on Monday 6th November.

Yours Sincerely

J Bromley

Head Teacher