



# Spring Term Newsletter



Number 353 – 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2019

INVESTOR IN PEOPLE

Dear Parents

## **Parents' Evening**

Firstly, I would like to thank you to all the parents who have attended Parents meetings with your child's teacher. I cannot tell you how invaluable these meetings are and we know that children achieve best with parental support. Unfortunately some parents did not attend and did not let us know. I would ask you that in the future, as a matter of courtesy to please let the teacher know if you aren't coming as your time can be allocated to someone else. If you were unable to attend, please do speak to your child's teacher to rearrange.

Thank you to all the parents who completed the questionnaires. Your views are invaluable and will be taken into consideration. I am delighted to report that the feedback and the comments were very positive. It is wonderful to hear that the work of my staff is so greatly appreciated. The results and comments will be published on the school app.

## **Queries from the Questionnaires - Homework**

Some parents feel that we give too much whereas others think that the amount of homework we give is too little. It is a fine balance but extension activities can be given on request. We also strongly advocate that you should encourage your child to read every single night. We are finding more and more children have problems with understanding of texts in school and it is purely because they have never come across certain words. This can only be improved if you encourage your child to read daily and use the dictionary for any words that they do not understand. All children are expected to read daily for at least 30 minutes. If you want further advice, please speak to your child's class teacher.

All children are set weekly tasks on Mathletics relating to the topic taught in class or relating to a particular weakness the child might have. The children are encouraged to use Mathletics every day in order to complete and make the most of their tasks set. As well as that, the children are set TT Rockstars tasks, Reading Eggs, spellings. It is important that you encourage the child to complete the daily tasks and should you need any support, please do not hesitate to contact us.

## **Internet Safety**

All children in the school from Reception to Year 6 are taught about internet safety. This is done during the computing lessons as well as assemblies and regular assemblies delivered by Mrs Heath, the police or other agencies such as NSPCC and local authority advisers. The school uses the LGfL filtering system which ensures that no inappropriate material is accessible by children through school laptops, PCs and iPads.

I would just like to urge parents to please monitor your child's internet usage especially during holiday time. We are very alarmed by the number of children who have social networking sites accounts unsuitable for their age group. No child under the age of 13 should have such accounts as they often contain advertising and other content which is inappropriate. I would please urge you to be vigilant as it is quite clear that some children are also accessing inappropriate web sites or apps at home. So much has been reported in the media about the dangers of the internet recently so we will be arranging a meeting for parents in the Summer Term with further guidance. In order to encourage as many parents to attend this, we will be running a morning session and an evening one.

## **School App**

I am delighted to report that the feedback on this matter is very positive. From conversations I have had with the parents, it has transpired that everyone finds the app useful and easy to use.

## **Kidzone Payments**

After Easter, the payments for Kidzone will be made via Parent Pay.

## **Science week**

We have had a very successful Science week. The children have been learning many scientific facts on different topics relating to science. On Monday, the children had a palaeontologist's experience uncovering a variety of fossils. They also got to meet Chewie the Allosaurus and Millie the T-Rex. Everyone had a great time. Today we had a visit from the Cat Protection League which help around 200,000 cats and kittens every year thanks in no small part to our network of over 250 volunteer-run branches and 36 centres. The children learned how to care for a cat or kitten and that many cats are unwanted and looking for new homes. Thank you to Mrs Davies who organised the Science week.

# News Items

## Building Work

The building work is going well and the demolition of the old school started on Tuesday. The bulldozers were in and there is nothing but rubble left from the old junior block. It was sad to see the building being demolished as we all feel we had a special bond with the building which held so many happy memories but we also know that it is the start of something amazing – building a school which will be better for all the children and generations to come. I cannot tell you how proud I am of all the children who have been amazing through the whole process.

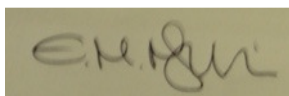
## Uniform

All parents have signed a home school agreement consenting to abide by uniform rules. Please ensure all clothes are labelled and correct uniform and footwear is worn to school. Should your child not be in correct uniform on any day you will receive a letter and persistent non-compliance will result in a meeting with me or the chair of governors. It is important that we all dress smartly to show our pride at being members of our school family. I would also like parents to kindly ensure they check their child comes home with their own items of clothing including coats and returns any items which do not belong to them. It is vital in particular that coats and jumpers are labelled as these seem to be the items which go missing most often. Please ensure that your child has the correct footwear. Boots and trainers are not permitted and your child will be asked to change in their PE plimsolls.

## Almsgiving - Food Bank Friday

Thank you to everyone who contributed to the food bank Friday. Next Friday we are collecting toiletries. Please remember the importance of these contributions. They will help someone who is in real need and also teach the children the importance of almsgiving during Lent. Please give generously, your contributions are always welcome and they make a difference to the lives of those in real need.

Have a lovely weekend and God bless!  
Mrs McSperrin  
Heateacher



## Children who have been awarded certificates w/e 15 March 2019

1 Daniel, Victoria

2 Ka-Re, Dominic

3 Demi, Franco

4 Lily, Kuba

5 Blake, Abigail

6 Randy, Aldiz

## FORTHCOMING DATES

4 April	Easter Egg Hunt
5 April	Wear something yellow for Marie Curie
8-22 April	Easter Hols
23 April	School restarts for the summer term

## ATTENDANCE FOR WEEK ENDING: 15<sup>th</sup> March 2019 – overall total 94.5%

Year 2	97.3%
Year 5	96.7%
Year 3	96.2%
Year 1	95%
Year 6	94.7%
Year 4	93.8%
Reception	87.9%

## ATTENDANCE FOR WEEK ENDING: 22<sup>nd</sup> March 2019 – overall total 96.8%

Year 3	100%
Year 5	98%
Year 2	97.3%
Year 4	97.2%
Year 6	96.3%
Year 1	94.8%
Reception	94.1%