

**Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> October 2020**

I hope you are all keeping well and staying safe during these unusual times!

I continue to be SO impressed by the way the children have responded to being back at school and by their resilience in adapting to new routines. Well done children! Additionally, I'd like to thank parents and carers for adhering to our new Covid policies and procedures. Your support is very much appreciated.

### **Fun Run for Macmillan Cancer**



Our year 3 and year 6 pupils had a fantastic time last Friday doing laps of the school field in their fancy dress outfits. It was lovely to see this annual tradition taking place, albeit it in year group bubbles.

This Friday is the turn of our Year 4 and 5 pupils. Hopefully the weather will be kind to us once again. Please remember that sports team kits are not permitted so children not in fancy dress should wear their PE kit. Thank you.

Together we can hopefully raise a good amount for the Macmillan Cancer charity. Thanks for your support.

### **Discussion with your child's teacher**

In the current climate it is not possible for us to hold our Parents' Evenings face to face in school. Instead, you are invited to have a telephone conversation with your child's teacher at a mutually convenient time, during the week beginning 19<sup>th</sup>

October. *Look out for further details which will be following shortly.*

### **Staff retiring/leaving**



We will soon be saying a fond farewell to some of our staff.

On Friday 16<sup>th</sup> October **Mrs Kelly** is retiring from her role as senior lunchtime supervisor after working within the lunchtime team for just over 30 years (with barely a day off)! Her amazing dedication to the school has been simply outstanding and we will definitely miss her tremendous work ethic, superb organisational skills and her fabulous sense of humour.

I'm sure you'll share with me in wishing Mrs Kelly a very happy, relaxing and well-deserved retirement.



As we break up for half term, two more lunchtime supervisors will also be leaving the school. **Mrs Gray** will be retiring and **Mrs Campbell** is leaving us for a different post. Both will be missed as they have been very loyal and hardworking members of the lunchtime team and we thank them for all they have given to the school.

And finally, Mrs McNeil, one of our very experienced and talented teaching assistants is leaving us at half term too. She has decided to make a career change and will be working in a GP surgery. Many children have benefitted from Mrs McNeil's skills, patience and kindness and I know our whole staff, as well as the

children, will miss her very much. Thanks for everything Mrs McNeil.

### Congratulations

Congratulations to Miss Hyde who will be taking over the role of Senior Lunchtime Supervisor from 19<sup>th</sup> October. I'm sure that she will follow admirably in Mrs Kelly's footsteps.



### New staff

After half term we will be welcoming two new teaching assistants to the school – Mrs Kidd and Mr Wilkinson. We hope they will be very happy here at DJS and we look forward to working with them both.

### A few reminders

Keeping warm: Since we need to keep the school well ventilated at present, even though the heat is on it can get chilly in classrooms and the dining hall. We suggest, therefore, that children wear plenty of layers and perhaps bring a spare fleece to school that they can pop on over their uniform if they feel the need.

Trainers: A reminder that trainers are not part of our school uniform so please ensure that your child comes to school in black shoes/boots. Thanks.

Change of details: If you move house, change your email address or change your phone number please ensure you let us know straight away as otherwise you may not receive important information. Thank you.

Remote learning: Another reminder that, should we have the situation where your child is having to self-isolate, our remote learning offer is up and running ready for

you to access from our website. Please take the time to have a look at it in advance and ensure you can access it, just in case you need to. If you have any difficulties, please get in touch.

Break up and return dates: The children break up for half term on Thursday 22<sup>nd</sup> October. Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> October is a disaggregated training day for our teaching staff. School re-opens on Monday 2<sup>nd</sup> November and we break up for Christmas on Friday 18<sup>th</sup> December.

**IMPORTANT REMINDER: SCHOOL APP – Sorry to keep nagging but it is essential that you download our free APP (search for 'School Jotter' to download the APP then look for 'Driffield Junior School') so that you receive letters, alerts, reminders, photographs and so on. We are almost a 'paperless' school so, without the APP (or looking regularly on the website), you will undoubtedly miss something important.**

Of course we realise that some people do not have a smart phone so may instead wish to receive newsletters via email. Please see our website for details (click on the 'Information for parents' tab under 'letters').

*L J Laird - Headteacher*