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Barnby Dun Primary Academy NEWSLETTER



Spring Term 2016- Second Half

Welcome back!

We hope you have had an enjoyable half term break.

CLASS ASSEMBLIES

Thanks to the many family members who have joined us for our class assemblies. We have appreciated your support and the children have certainly done you proud. The following classes are looking forward to their assemblies soon: Penguins (18th Feb), Honeybees (25th Feb), Lions (3rd March). Our Reception Bears and Ladybirds will do their class assemblies in June, we will give you plenty of notice when a date is set.

Special Mentions

I want to say very well done to Brynley Sims, Caterpillars, and Aiden Reade, Honeybees, who organised our school collection for the North of England Flood Appeal recently. Along with Aiden's Mum, Alicia Reade, the boys promoted the event, made collection boxes, counted and sent the money. I am really proud of their effort and kindness.

I would also like to thank a group of our year 6 pupils: Harry Walton, Roman Gladwin, Adam Walker and Bethany Dixon who took part in a 'Dragon's den' type competition to secure funding from Ikea for an Eco-project we have been planning. With help from Mr Harrison, they made a powerpoint/ slideshow to pitch their idea against other Doncaster schools and we are thrilled to have been chosen as winners. They really did a fabulous job. With this funding, every class will be able to have their own raised bed in our new school allotment over in Barnbywoods

Last but certainly not least, we have been amazed at the swimming talent of one of our year 5 boys, Ben Firth. Ben managed to swim the full 25m length of the pool all in one go underwater! He was presented with a special certificate by the Armthorpe swimming instructor which is the first one she has given in all her career.

3.30pm collection

This half term is another extremely busy one with all teachers being involved in after-school Sats booster classes for our oldest children. It is imperative that Reception-Year 5 children are collected promptly at the end of the day from their classes so teachers can get to where they need to be, without delay. If parents are going to be late/held up unexpectedly, we would appreciate a phone call so office staff can gather your children and wait with them for you to arrive. Please be aware that the office staff leave at 3.45. Thank you for your co-operation.

Star Pupils

Congratulations to the following children who have recently been chosen as Headteacher's Star Pupil of the Week. They were presented with a special certificate in assembly and looked after one of our Barnby Dun bears for that week. A very well done to: Jayden Waite, Leo Jackson, Owen Cairns, Harry Walton, Finn Cairns, Grace Brookes, Isabelle Kelly, Isabella Goodchild, Lucy Roffe and Charis Jayet-Laraffe. Well done, we are proud of you!

Attendance

Thank you very much for ensuring your child is here by 8.45am, ready to learn and start each new school day.

Thanks also for adhering to our procedures if your child is unable to attend school. Parents/carers should report their child's absence by telephone, answerphone message, or in person at the school office preferably by 8.45am, but definitely by 9.15am at the latest. A full explanation of why they are absent is required so it can be recorded in our book. An authorised absence cannot be given if a child is just a 'little unwell' or if a sibling or another child's parent comes and tells us they are not here. If your child is away for more than one day, it is essential that you contact us each morning to update us, so a decision can be made if the absence can be authorised. If a child has been off for three days and we haven't had a conversation directly with parents, our procedure is to ring home and ask for an update and an indication of when they will return. Thank you for your co-operation.

Sporting News

It has been a busy half term for competitions! We have won at both Netball and Athletics competitions at Hungerhill. Our Year 5 boys also recently took part in the 2016 Doncaster Kids football club, coming a very respectable third. Well done to Daniel Ticala, Max Ibbotson, Thomas Atkins, Ryan Swaby, Oscar Trowbridge, Leon Perigo, Max Garbutt, Adam Walker and Thomas Brookes. Everyone played well and were a credit to our school.

Upcoming events include a 'dance-off' competition, quick cricket and basketball at Hungerhill. Some of our Year 5 and 6 pupils are also currently in training for the 'Fittest Primary School' competition this month, where we will compete against other Doncaster schools.

Thank you to the parents for your support and help with transporting the children to and from all the different venues. Thanks also to Miss Jones, Miss Connor and Mrs Bailey, our PE leaders.

Parents' evenings

Our Spring term parents' evenings will take place on Monday 29th February 3.40-7.30pm and Thursday 3rd March 3.40-6.00pm. Appointment sheets will be up in classes next week. If, due to work commitments, these dates/times are not suitable, please contact us and we will do our best to see you at a different time. We do like every child/parent to have an appointment so we can share information about your child's progress, well being and targets for improvement. We look forward to seeing you.

Easter Service

Our KS2 Easter Service will take place in church with Reverend Dee, on Thursday 17th March at 11am. We hope you can join us. Any parents willing to walk with us to church and help supervise the children would be welcome. Please see class teachers.

End of the school day

I became concerned at the end of last half term about a number of children running up the grass banks, along the walls and near the car park at the end of the school day. For everyone's safety, please can you reinforce the need for children to behave sensibly at this busy time and stay close to the adult who is with them as they make their way home. Thankyou.

Kind regards,
Miss C.E. Robinson. Head Teacher.

Vouchers

We are now collecting Sainsbury's Active Kids Vouchers and used postage stamps for Kidney Research. There are collection boxes near the office/main entrance. In the past we have received some wonderful equipment in exchange for these vouchers, so your support again would be very much appreciated.

Top Attendance!

On the last day of the half term, we held Arnold the Attendance Alligator's golden ticket raffle for those children who had managed to attend every morning and afternoon session for the full five weeks. Our first place winners were Luca Palmer and Rylan Warrington, both from the Honeybees. They received an Argos voucher to recognise their 100% attendance. Several others won chocolate treats. Well done to all children who managed to avoid all the bugs and have 100% last half term, that is a great achievement.

When we returned after Christmas, I set each class the challenge of achieving at least 98.1% collectively for the half term. Many were very close but only four achieved this aspirational target: Year 6 Giraffes with 98.1%, Year 2 Fireflies with 98.4%, Year 6 Lions with 98.5% and year 5 Toucans with the highest—98.9%! These classes will soon enjoy a reward day with activities of their choice.

This half term, 98.1% is again the target for every class. We will track the progress of all classes in our weekly assembly and no doubt children will be determined to achieve this, especially if they narrowly missed out last time!

DISCO

Our popular school discos will be held on Thursday 10th March. A letter with details and a ticket request form will be sent out shortly. Thank you.

THE BEAK

Please check the notice board at the front of school for information about forthcoming events at the BEAK Children's Centre. Alternatively, please telephone 01302 892000.

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