

Church Road
Barnby Dun,
Doncaster,
DN3 1BG
Tel : 01302 883917
www.barnbydunprimaryacademy.co.uk

BARNBY DUN PRIMARY ACADEMY



NEWSLETTER - Summer Term 2015 - Second Half

Welcome back to our final half term. Fingers crossed for some sunny weather!

Star Pupils Every week we continue to enjoy our special assemblies to celebrate children's achievements and efforts across the curriculum as well as French, Swimming, Gardening, Sporting competitions and out of school activities. Our Barnby Dun Bears, Snuggles and Bernard, continue to be very popular and are given to one boy and one girl for outstanding achievement, effort and behaviour. Recent star pupils have been: Jasmine Butcher, Lexie-Belle Redfern, Thomas Newbury, Leon Akery, Kyle Richards, Katie Moss, Erin Plevy and Tom Wood.

Well done, we are very proud of you all.

Year 6 Sats

Before half term, our Year 6 did their National Sats tests in maths, reading and spelling, punctuation and grammar. They have been working extremely hard in preparation for these, during and after school, as well as at home. We are so proud with how they dealt with the tests, every single child did their absolute best. It will be a nervous wait now until their results are published in July. Thank you to all parents for your support and encouragement. I am sure, like us, you are glad it's all over!!

Absences Parents are reminded that when a child is reported to be absent, a decision is then made by myself if to authorise the absence or not. Authorised absences will not be given for very minor injuries or illnesses. Similarly, absences for medical appointments are only authorised if we can see that effort has been made to arrange it at a time that will least impact on a child's education. As late as possible in the school day is best as they will not miss much lesson time.

There have been a small number of occasions recently when children have been reported ill and the circumstances have not been considered genuine so haven't been authorised. Parents are committing an offence by keeping their child off school without authorisation. The Local Authority take a very dim view of such situations and Fixed Penalty Notices can be issued, even for one day unauthorised absence.

Staffing and plans for September

I am sure you would wish to join me in congratulating Mrs Johnson, teaching assistant in the Squirrels, on the birth of her baby daughter, Ellie-Mai. Mrs Pedder, Assistant Head, will also be leaving us soon to commence her maternity leave and we eagerly anticipate her exciting news! While she is away, her role as Special Educational Needs co-ordinator will be covered by Mrs Ronan, current teacher in the Dinosaurs and Mrs Smith, current teacher in the Squirrels.

I am now working with class teachers to organise children into their new classes for September. As always we will start with friendship groups, also taking into account teachers' knowledge and observations of the children.

If parents have any concerns or thoughts they wish to share with me regarding classes for September please catch me first thing in a morning or give me a quick ring, if that is more convenient. I am happy to discuss your thoughts with you over the next couple of weeks. Once new classes have been finalised and children informed these cannot be altered.

Class swap afternoon will take place on Monday 13th July. We hope you will pop in and say hello to your child's new teacher and teaching assistants. We will remind you closer to the time. Many thanks.

Sporting News

Last term our football teams all did extremely well at competitions held at Kirk Sandall Juniors. Both our Year 4 and 5 teams reached the finals and lost narrowly to two other teams. All the boys were fantastic representatives of the school, so well done to James Butterfield, Ben Munro, Ross Hawkhead, Alex Hawker, Leon Perigo, Charlie Batty, Lewis Thaxton, Leo Jackson, Archie Fox, Bradley Taylor, Max Ibbotson, Zach Smith, Max Garbutt, Aidan Forshaw, Oscar Trowbridge, Thomas Brookes, Thomas Atkins, Luke Manson and Adam Walker. Also last term we entered our first cross country competition for Years 3 and 4. The children ran about 700m on grass and tarmac. Thank you to Patsy Denton, Saskia Sleath, Freya Jones, Harmany Gibson, Jayden Waite, Joshua Sleath, Tommy Plevy, Joseph Dixon and Elijah Maxey. However, a huge well done needs to go to Corinne Hay who came first out of 25 children! Key Stage 1 had a fantastic time at the Athletics competition held at Hungerhill School where they were triumphant and came first overall! Well done to Imogen Stokoe, Freya Jubbs, Monica Dias, Lily Cooper, Charlie Hargrave, Jude O'Sullivan, Harry Beaglehole, Riley Trowbridge, Oliver Bull, Georgia Hay, Alfie Denton, Ruby Hancock, Isabella Goodchild, Katie Jackson, Luke Atkins, Daniel McNaught and Hayden Szalma.

Sports Days

Fingers crossed that the weather will be kind to us and our Sports Days will go ahead as planned. We very much hope to see you on Monday 22nd of June at 1.30pm for Reception and KS1 and Thursday 25th of June at 1.30pm for KS2. As always we will be over on our sports field next to the schools library service/old school. Feel free to bring a rug or a chair.

If these events cannot go ahead due to bad weather we will text parents/carers and re-schedule. Thank you in advance for your patience.

May I remind parents that the sports field is part of our school site and the same no-smoking/no dogs policies apply.

INSET DAY

Another reminder that school is closed to pupils on Friday 26th June, as we have a teacher training day. Thank you.

Attendance

Congratulations to the year 4 Meerkats who were our highest attendance class winners for last term, with an amazing 99.3%! They will enjoy their iPad reward day soon. Our lucky raffle winners of Toys R Us Vouchers for having 100% attendance last half term were Abbie Smith and Molly Reed. Well done!!

Doncaster Royal Infirmary No Smoking Competition

We are proud to tell you that two of our pupils, Freya Jones and Harmany Gibson have been lovely ambassadors for Barnby Dun Primary Academy at the recent formal presentation at Doncaster Royal Infirmary's no smoking poster competition. There were eight winners out of over 100 Doncaster entrants, with six being presented with certificates and acrylic copies of their own poster.

Freya won the overall competition and gets to record the voice over for the entrance to the hospital sites at DRI, the women's hospital and Montague next week. There is a display of all eight winning entries and these will be replicated into steel for outside the site in due course too. The girls will be in the Free Press in the next couple of weeks.

Medicines

Mrs Simons is the person responsible for administering prescribed medicines to the children, (or myself in her absence). You can normally find her outside the Meerkats' class 8.30-8.45 each morning. Please remember a form has to be completed and signed by parents beforehand.

We can only administer medicines such as Calpol or Nurofen if they have been prescribed by a doctor and are labelled with your child's name and the dosage. If your child is a little unwell but well enough to attend school and you wish to come into school yourself to administer such medicines, please let us know and we will be happy to make the appropriate arrangements. Thank you for your co-operation.

Diary Dates

8th-12th June—My Money Week

8th June- year 3 overnight stay at Austerfield

9th June- year 4 overnight stay at Austerfield

10th June—Trip to Harrogate/Yorkshire Showground for some gardeners/eco-warriors

16th and 17th June—Year 6 Transition Visits to Hungerhill

Friday 19th June—Class Photos

Tuesday 23rd June—Year 3 Leopards visit to Hungerhill—Greenaway Literacy Project

Tuesday 30th June—Meeting for new Reception parents @ 5.30pm

Monday 6th July—KS2 Performance for Grandparents @ 10.00am

Tuesday 7th July—KS2 Performance for Parents @ 6.00pm

Wednesday 8th July—KS2 Performance for Parents @ 10.00am

Thursday 9th July—KS2 Performance for Parents @ 6.00pm

Monday 13th July PM—Class Swap Afternoon

Thursday 16th July—trip to Yorkshire Wildlife park for 100% attendance

Friday 17th July—SCHOOL CLOSES FOR SUMMER

Pupils return on Wednesday 2nd September 2015.

Class Assemblies

The Bears' class assembly will be at 3pm on Thursday 11th June and the Ladybirds' class assembly will be on Thursday 18th June at 3pm. We hope to see you there!

Leave of Absence A further reminder that Government legislation now prohibits leave of absence during term time, except in very exceptional circumstances. The Government defines exceptional circumstances as:

* Where it is Company Policy for an employee to take leave at a specified time of year and there is no opportunity to take a family holiday at any other time. Documentary evidence needs to prove that the employee has no influence at all over when their employer allocates their holidays. Please note also that self-employed people who prefer to take their holidays in term time do not meet this criteria. The evidence can only be accepted if it proves there is no other opportunity at all during the year.

* Where service personnel are returning from or scheduled to embark upon a tour of duty abroad.

* Where a holiday is recommended as part of a parent or child's rehabilitation from a medical issue. Evidence must be provided by a qualified medical professional.

If family circumstances meet one of these criteria and a child's attendance is at least 96%, 5 days leave of absence may be authorised for one occasion during a school year.

I have always urged parents/carers to speak with me prior to making any booking or travel plans. Given the serious implications of taking unauthorised leave, and growing number of parents being prosecuted for their child's low attendance, it is imperative that you do this. Thank you.

Kind regards,

Miss C.E. Robinson—Headteacher



PLEASE ASK US IF YOU REQUIRE THIS NEWSLETTER IN LARGE PRINT