



Newsletter Spring Term 2

27 February 2017

Dear Parents

Welcome back to the second half of the Spring Term, we hope you all enjoyed your break. We have had a very busy and enjoyable Book Week. Thank you to everyone who helped in any way to make it a success.



DENBY DALE DRAGONS P.T.A.

Thank you for your donations to Bags2School we received £21.20.

We are constantly reviewing best practice within our Foundation Stage Unit. We have decided to trial a new finish time for our morning sessions. The door will not be opened until 11:45am. This is to maximise learning time for your children, giving them the full 3 hours they are entitled to. You are welcome to arrive 5 minutes before we open the door to ensure prompt pick up and aid our transition to lunch for the children that stay. Thank you for your continued support and understanding.

STAY & PLAY

Sessions are running again this half term 9.15am-11.15am on Mondays and Thursdays in the Community Room. On the run up to Easter, we will be decorating eggs, making bonnets and chocolate nests.



Once again we are collecting Sainsbury's Active Kids vouchers. Please hand any vouchers in to the school office.



Friday 24th March – We are supporting **Red Nose Day** with a dressing up day. The theme is 'Make your laugh matter'. We would like to see your fun red nose day outfits. You can dress in red, wear red noses or you could dress as a red nose; maybe Nose-it-all, Dr Nose or DJ Boogie.

We are asking if parents can donate buns and biscuits on the day. As usual, we are asking for a £2 donation to take part in all the activities and wear non-uniform.

Red Noses will be on sale for £1 all week.

Spring Term Topics and Activities



Dragonflies will be looking at planting and growing. The children will have the opportunity explore the soil and develop their gross motor skills with the use of tools. They will be planting their own seeds and observing their progress over the coming months. Alongside this we will be focusing on the Very Hungry Caterpillar which will involve a number of games and fruit tasting. On the run up to Easter we will be exploring printing to create Easter patterns and will have the opportunity to join in with baking activities.

Foundation Stage Unit at the start of this half term we will be finding out about how Shrove Tuesday is celebrated around the world. The children will learn about Mardi Gras, make masks and sample different foods. Towards Easter we will be exploring the topic of New Life including planting and growing and finding out about animals and their young.

We are looking forward to the Annual Easter Bonnet Parade on Wednesday 5th April. We have found that the children really enjoy making their Easter hats with their families and appreciate your effort and support. At school we will be learning some songs to share at the parade and we look forward to seeing you there if possible. Time will be confirmed nearer to the date.



This half term **Year 1** will continue with our topic about materials. You can help your child by looking for objects made from wood, metal, fabric, plastic and glass. We will also continue to practice telling the time but will also be working with money. We will be working hard in our 'kidnetics' lesson developing a range of skills.



During this half term in **Year 2** the children's learning will be inspired by the topic 'Pirates'. We will be learning about famous pirates throughout history, creating pirate maps to find buried treasure as well as using our ICT skills to produce posters. In addition to this we have a 3D pirate DT project to create gruesome pirates.

In **Year 3** this half term we will be looking at rocks, soil and fossils. This will involve looking at how rocks and soils are formed, the role rivers play in the formation of rocks and soils, and water poetry in Literacy. We are also in the process of trying to arrange a visit to the National Coal Mining Museum and the fossil workshop as part of this topic.





This half term the topics for **Year 4** are 'The Good the Bad and the Ugly' and 'Sounding Off'. The first theme looks at the way we relate to each other along with how our actions affect others. We'll look at social issues like litter and vandalism along with parks and woodlands. We'll explore graffiti and sculpture. The second theme is a science based idea where we explore the concept of sound. We'll also think about how choices of words matter and that it's ok to have an opinion. Let's hope all our words of wisdom stick!

Year 5 will be delving into the world of narratives. We will be visiting 'Alchemy Island' to explore the wonderful potential that each of us have within our own imaginations. We will be looking at what makes stories so popular as well as conducting our very own research into the authors we enjoy in our school. As part of our topics we will also be researching a variety of both famous and perhaps some unknown children's authors in order to widen our reading range.

This half term at **OoSC** we will be looking at planting and growing. We will be planting bulbs in the outdoor planters, which the children can then tend to over the coming year. They will also be creating their own bird and butterfly feeder to hang outside. Other events we will be covering are Mother's Day and Easter. We hope to be spending more time outside as the weather gets warmer. Donations of outdoor play equipment for the **OoSC** would be greatly appreciated. (Scooters, Prams etc.) Donations can be left with the school office or given directly to the club. Thank you

Extra Curricular Activities this half term



| | | | |
|-----------|-----------|--------------------|----------------|
| Monday | 3pm-4pm | Dance Club | Years 2, 3 &4 |
| Tuesday | 3pm-4pm | Netball | Years 4 & 5 |
| Tuesday | 3pm-4pm | Crafty Kids | Years 1 - 5 |
| Wednesday | Lunchtime | Chess Club | Years 3, 4 & 5 |
| Wednesday | 3pm-4pm | Hockey | Years 3 & 4 |
| Thursday | Lunchtime | Advanced Recorders | Years 3, 4 & 5 |
| Thursday | Lunchtime | Table Tennis | Years 4 & 5 |

Holiday Club

Holiday Club will be open to all age groups (2-5 years and 6-10 years) during the Easter break and booking forms can be obtained by contacting the office. Places will be limited, so please ensure your form is returned no later than Friday 17th March. Posters and booking forms are in the main entrance.



Parking

We experience numerous problems with parking, particularly around school drop-off and pick up times. Please can we ask you to park considerately, leaving the yellow zig zag lines, neighbours' driveways and the bus routes at the junction to Pingle Rise clear.

There are two designated drop-off spaces in the school car park for parents to use when dropping off or collecting children from our Dragonflies extended provision. If the designated spaces are full please use the spaces at the top of the car park.

However, the car park is not accessible between 8.30am–8.50am and 2.45pm-3.30pm.

The only other people using the car park between 8.30am and 3.30pm should be staff, parents with specific permission from the school and deliveries. No children should be in the car park unsupervised.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Yours sincerely

Miss J Wood
Headteacher

Dates for your Diary

Monday 27 February-Friday 3 March
Wednesday 1 March
Thursday 2 March
Tuesday 7 March
Tuesday 14 March
Tuesday 21 March
Friday 24 March
Tuesday 28 March
Monday 3 April – Wednesday 5 April
Wednesday 5 April
Thursday 6 April
Friday 7 April
10 April – 13 April
14 & 17 March
18 April – 21 April
Monday 24 April
Tuesday 25 April

Book Week
Bag2School Collection
World Book Day
KS2 Boys Football tournament at Shelley College
KS1 Football tournament at Scissett Middle
KS2 Girls Football at Scissett Middle
Red Nose Day
KS2 Hockey Festival
Yr5 Trip to Robinwood
FSU Easter Bonnet Parade
Year 1 Class Assembly
School closes for Easter holidays
HOLIDAY CLUB
Dragonflies closed-Bank Holidays
HOLIDAY CLUB
School re-opens for Summer Term
KS2 Hi-5 Netball

Spring Term:

School re-opens
School closes
Dragonflies closed Good Friday
Dragonflies closed Easter Monday

Monday 27th February 2017
Friday 7th April 2017
Friday 14th April 2017
Monday 17th April 2017

Summer Term:

School re-opens
School and Dragonflies closed May Day
School closes for ½ term
Dragonflies closed Bank Holiday

*School and Dragonflies closed**
School re-opens
School closes
Dragonflies closed*
Dragonflies closed*
Dragonflies closed Bank Holiday

Monday 24th April 2017
Monday 1st May 2017
Friday 26th May 2017
Monday 29th May 2017

Monday 5th June 2017
Tuesday 6th June 2017
Friday 21st July 2017
Monday 24th July 2017
Tuesday 25th July 2017
Monday 28th August 2017

* Please note: The above dates include 3 additional closure days for staff training.



2017 - 2018 Term Dates

Autumn Term:

*School and Dragonflies closed**

School re-opens

School closes for ½ term

Monday 4th September 2017

Tuesday 5th September 2017

Friday 20th October 2017

*School and Dragonflies closed**

School re-opens

School closes

Dragonflies closes for Christmas

Monday 30th October 2017

Tuesday 31st October 2017

Friday 22nd December 2017

Friday 22nd December 2017

Spring Term:

Dragonflies re-opens

School re-opens

School closes for ½ term

Tuesday 2nd January 2018

Monday 8th January 2018

Friday 16th February 2018

School re-opens

School closes

Dragonflies closed Good Friday

Dragonflies closed Easter Monday

Monday 26th February 2018

Thursday 29th March 2018

Friday 30th March 2018

Monday 2nd April 2018

Summer Term:

School re-opens

School and Dragonflies closed May Day

School closes for ½ term

Dragonflies closed Bank Holiday

Monday 16th April 2018

Monday 7th May 2018

Friday 25th May 2018

Monday 28th May 2018

*School and Dragonflies closed**

School re-opens

School closes

*Dragonflies closed**

*Dragonflies closed**

Dragonflies closed Bank Holiday

Monday 4th June 2018

Tuesday 5th June 2018

Friday 20th July 2018

Monday 23rd July 2018

Tuesday 24th July 2018

Monday 27th August 2018

* Please note: The above dates include 5 additional closure days for staff training

STAY SAFE EVENT

Tuesday 7th MARCH 2017

11am-2pm

SKELMANTHORPE FIRE STATION
CUMBERWORTH ROAD SKELMANTHORPE



FIRE SAFETY



- Learn about fire safety in the home
- Theatre performance of Doorstep Crime
- Advice from Age UK
- Scams and Doorstep Crime prevention
- Information stalls from a range of organisations
- Buffet lunch and refreshments provided



Free transport can be provided.
Please contact Skelmanthorpe Fire Station on
01484 863514 to book your place

