



Sunnyfields Primary School

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Happy New Year 2018

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Dates for your diary

- * 24th January KS1 visit to Yorkshire Wildlife Park
- * 9th February School closes for Half Term
- * 20th February school opens
- * 23rd March school closes

A huge welcome back to our children and parents after the Christmas break. The lead up to Christmas was a lovely one with superb nativities and productions produced by the children and staff in EYFS and KS1. The children in KS2 worked hard to present a medley of work from their music sessions. The year ended with our annual visit to St. Leonard's Church to celebrate the Christmas story with a carol service.

Thank you to all of the parents who supported the school in the Autumn Term through fundraising events and attending school shows. Your support is essential in ensuring that our school

continues to be the very best place that it can be!

Throughout the Autumn Term and on into the Spring Term we continue to build on our reputation by supporting two other primary schools in strengthening their teaching and learning.

We also have strengthened our links with Don Valley Academy as we look to improve the options for our children as they move into their secondary education. We are looking forward to working closely with Don Valley Academy throughout this academic year sharing practice across the primary and secondary phase.

I am so proud of our sports teams that represent the school so well. This year our school will be represented at the South Yorkshire regional level in football and cross country. Children will represent our school and Doncaster while competing against schools from Barnsley, Rotherham and Sheffield.

I am so proud of the children and staff. As we move into 2018, I am looking forward to continuing to build on our work completed in 2017.

Mr. D. Richardson

Head Teacher

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Development of reading

The school is working really hard to ensure that children who leave KS2 meet the national benchmark. This is so much more than reading fluency and includes the ability to infer meaning, deduce author intent and identify how the author has structured texts.

Mrs. Milner has built on the amazing work already happening in school by developing reading further. One of the creative initiatives was the opportunity for children to earn 'Golden Tickets' for a special treat. Last half term this was a movie afternoon. The children

earned their reward by working beyond the expectations of the school and reading at least four times a week. A majority of children achieved this and were well supported by parents and carers. **The reading challenge will be running again in the Spring Term to reward the children who go above and beyond at home!**

Social Media

The school uses Twitter to promote the work of our pupils and staff in the Doncaster area and beyond. We share this with the children to teach them about the responsible use of social media and the steps needed to stay safe on line.

Many of our parents engage the school through Twitter by sharing and celebrating the successes of our children and the school.

Unfortunately, it has come to the school's attention that a small minority of parents have used Facebook to make defamatory comments about the school and the staff. The School and the Governors **will not** tolerate any negative or defamatory comments made about the staff or the school. Such comments directly break the home/school agreement that all parents are asked to read in the front of the pupil planners where it states,

'Home. We will support our child by agreeing to:

****Ensure appropriate use of internet and social media by parents and children.'*** The school has challenged those parents robustly and will continue to challenge any parents who make negative comments about the school.

If parents have any concerns about school they should direct these to the Senior Leadership Team.

What have the Governors been doing during the Autumn Term?

Ben Sheppard has now resigned as a member of the governing body. Ben has given many years service to Sunnyfields Primary School during which his two sons attended the school and have now moved on to secondary school.

Ben committed to supporting the school on its journey to good which he did successfully when the school was judged as good with outstanding features in July 2017.

The school would like to thank Ben for all of his hard work and support. The governing body have an interested person for the role of community governor which will be formalised at the next board meeting.

"The governing body represents all stakeholders in the school."

Emma Wain

Puma Class and Data Governor

I am the governor responsible for Data, PE and I am also the class governor for Puma Class.

During the Autumn Term, I attended PE training and helped Mr MacConnachie put together the subject improvement plan for PE. I will be joining Mr. MacConnachie at a PE conference in the Spring Term. I am also meeting with Mr. Richardson in the early part of the term to review progress of pupils and I will be meeting with Miss. Raynor to find out how Puma Class are doing.

Martin Hobbs

Chair of Governors

I came into school in December to check out how the financial procedures were being followed for

ordering and purchasing goods. I also discussed future plans with Mr. Ainsley (School Business Manager) for digitising orders, invoices and payments to reduce the amount of paperwork being generated.

Julie Hides

Leopard Class and SEND Governor

Over the term, I attended pupil progress meetings and worked closely alongside Miss Walden and Miss Brownson to ensure that our SEND children are well catered for and are making good progress.

Lorraine Flint

Panther Class and Pupil Premium Governor

This half term, I attended pupil progress meetings with Mrs. Gatt and Mr. Richardson. I have also spent some time working alongside Mr. Crosby to oversee the progress of pupil premium children in school.

School Clubs

The Spring Term has two very short half terms this year. Clubs will start from the second week back (week beginning 15th January 2018) and will continue to the penultimate week of the half term (week ending 2nd February 2018). **Clubs will NOT take place during the final week of this half term.**

If your child attended a club before the holidays they will continue to attend from next week. Almost all clubs are run by school staff at no

additional charge. They are offered by staff during their own time, therefore, they can be subject to change or cancellation at very short notice. The school tries to avoid this wherever possible. All after school clubs (apart from the Junior Leadership Team) start at 3:30pm and finish at 4:30pm.

All children must be collected from the main school entrance at 4:30pm. Children are not allowed to walk home by themselves.

New boards!

We have now completed the improvements to hardware in the classrooms. All classrooms now benefit from new multi-touch interactive boards. This has been a substantial investment for the school in order to future proof the classrooms.



Attendance continues to be good!

Attendance continues to be a real strength of the school. Our pupils want to be in school and our parents encourage our pupils to see why attending school is so important.

Each week we celebrate the class that has the highest attendance. If the class reaches 100% they receive

some extra treats delivered to their class by Mrs. Hides. We also draw tickets in EYFS, KS1 and KS2 for children that have 100% each week.

If the child name is drawn they receive free toast and juice for snack time from the kitchens for the following week. We also celebrate attendance with special prize draws throughout the year. Our lucky

winner of attendance hamper this term was Toulia Stelling with runner up prizes for Maddison Major and Sofia Sables.



School uniform and PE kit

Our children are often praised on how smart they look in their uniform. Uniform ensures that our children can focus on their school work without the need to be concerned about how they look and worry about what to wear to school. However, the obvious issues with uniform is that it looks the same which means uniform often goes missing. This can be avoided by ensuring that your child's uniform

has their name in permanent pen or on a stitched in name label. Name labels should be included in coats and PE kit. You can also encourage your child to keep their coats and uniform, that they remove, in their lockers. This reduces the chances of their uniform being picked up by the wrong person.

School uniform extends to footwear where children are expected to wear black shoes. Black trainers are

not an acceptable form of footwear for school. Trainers are permissible at break time and lunchtime but during teaching sessions black shoes must be worn. Children are asked to remove trainers indoors unless they are being worn for PE sessions.

PE kits should be sent to school on a Monday and taken home on a Friday. If a child does forget their PE kit the school does have a small number of kits that can be used by pupils. Pupils may only be excused from PE if they present a note in their planner from parents.

Shield for Effort Success

Our pupils continued to work hard in the Autumn Term. Twenty children have joined Mr. Richardson throughout the term at the Head Teacher's Tea Party to celebrate their individual effort in class. The class teacher's make a nomination each half term for one child to attend the tea party.

During the final assembly of the year, three children were awarded Shield for Effort prizes. The Shield for Effort is presented to a child who has shown good academic progress and dedication to their work. Each term one winner and two runners up are presented with shields.

In the Autumn Term, Sonny Higgins was presented with the main shield for his superb effort in class and attention to detail.



Huge congratulations to all three boys for their fantastic effort.

George Ion and Tyler Herring were presented with the runner up shields after working so hard throughout this term.



New Members of the Team



Mrs. Tidswell joins the teaching assistant team from January working alongside Mrs. Gatt and Mrs. Peace in Panther Class. Mrs. Tidswell already works in school as a lunchtime supervisor and chairs the Friends of Sunnyfields Group.

Mr. Rankin also joins the teaching team for the Spring Term. Mr. Rankin is in his final year of teacher training at Sheffield Hallam University. He will be leading the teaching and learning in Panther Class alongside Mrs. Gatt for the next ten weeks as he works towards his Qualified Teacher Status.

Doncaster Champions

Our Y5 and Y6 boys have had a superb season so far. They progressed through the group stages to reach the Doncaster Schools Finals. During the finals they did not lose a match and progressed to the South Yorkshire Finals. We are so proud of their team effort and superb sporting attitude.



Important Dates

INSET days (In Service Training Days) are days set aside by the Department for Education that are additional to the 190 days of pupil education. The five additional days are for ongoing training of teaching staff. We have taken one INSET day already this year on 4th September 2017.

The remaining INSET days where we will be closed to children are on:

- 19th February 2018
- 25th May 2018
- 4th June 2018
- 23rd July 2018

The Y6 SAT week is on **14th May-17th May 2018** and Y1 Phonics week commences on **11th June 2018**. Absence should be avoided during this time.