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BARNBY DUN PRIMARY ACADEMY



NEWSLETTER - Summer Term 2018 - Second Half

Welcome back to our final half term. Fingers crossed the sunshine will continue!

Star Pupils Every week we continue to enjoy our special assemblies to celebrate children's achievements and efforts across the curriculum as well as with 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: Hannah B (Polar Bears), Emily C (Pandas), Katie J (Stingrays), Ashton G (Monkeys), Jayden O (Lions), Charlie W (Panthers) and Josh F (Panthers). Well done, we are very proud of you all.

Year 6 Sats Before half term, our Year 6 did their National Sats tests. They worked 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 and didn't let nerves get in the way. **Thank you to all parents for your support and encouragement.** I am sure, like us, you are glad it's all over!! I am very grateful to all teachers and many of our support staff who ran after-school revision sessions for 10 weeks and came in early to put on a SATs Breakfast club. Vicky, our cook, even rustled up bacon sandwiches which went down a treat! Thanks everyone.

Unauthorised absences Parents are reminded that:

- Keeping your child off school without authorisation is an offence. Fixed Penalty notice fines can be issued even for one day unauthorised absence (£60 per parent, per child).
- When your child is reported to be absent, a decision is then made by myself if the absence can be authorised or not.
- Authorised absences will not be given for very minor injuries or illnesses. They will certainly not be given for children being tired from celebrations/events neither will they be given if we believe the reason provided is not genuine.
- Absences for medical appointments are only authorised if we can see effort has been made to arrange it at a time that will least impact on a child's learning. As late as possible in the school day is best as they will not miss much lesson time and their arrival/departure won't disrupt lessons for others.
- If you fail to explain your child's absence and do not respond to our efforts to contact you by phone, unauthorised absence marks will have to be given.

Staffing and plans for September

We are very much looking forward to staff returning from their maternity leaves soon. It has been a difficult year having so many valued staff off at the same time! Mrs Jevons will return next week and Mrs Pearson will return for the last week before we break up in July. Mrs Johnson, one of our teaching assistants, returns at the end of June.

Mrs Ronan decided she wants to spend more time at home and has therefore secured a job teaching two days a week in another school. Miss Jackson will come to the end of her time teaching with us in July. Mrs Smith has secured a teaching post at a school in Bentley. Mrs Jeffrey, who has been covering the role of Special Educational Needs Co-ordinator temporarily, will also leave us in July. We wish these teachers every success for the future and are grateful for their hard work and commitment.

Thankyou to the parents who did take up my offer and come and see me/email me to discuss their thoughts about classes for next year. Our discussions were very useful. Class lists are currently being finalised and children will be told of their new classes later in the term. As per the previous newsletter, no changes will be made at that stage and no further discussions with parents will take place.

Class swap day will take place on Tuesday 17th July. Our new Reception children and their parents will be visiting us too on that day. We hope you will pop in and say hello to your child's new teacher and teaching

Sporting News Well done to our KS1 children who took part in a tri-golf competition at Hungerhill School this term. They enjoyed trying new skills and represented the school admirably: Jenny M, Finn B, Jacob B, Jack J, Beth DB, William DB, Ethan L, Henry J, Blake W.

Our year 5/6 mixed football team had a fun day at the Keepmoat Stadium's annual play on the pitch tournament. During the whole day event they played 4 matches, had a tour of the stadium and took part in team building activities led by The National Citizenship Service. Well done to: Oliver B, Joseph D, Charlie H, Alfie D, Luke A, Megan L, Sophia N, Nathan H. They were a pleasure to take.

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 Wednesday 20th June at 1.30pm for Reception/KS1 and Friday 22nd 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 extremely hot or rainy 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. Thanks.*****

INSET DAY

Another reminder that school is closed to pupils on Friday 15th June. Thankyou.

Top attendance Congratulations to Panthers, Lions, Chameleons, Monkeys and Pandas whose overall attendance hit the target of 98.1% or above for the last half term. They will enjoy a reward day with activities of their choice very soon. Our lucky winner of a book voucher for having 100% attendance last half term was Robyn (Lions). Several other children won chocolate treats from Arnold the Attendance Alligator's raffle. Well done!!

Class Assemblies

We are very much looking forward to our Butterflies' class assembly on Thursday 14th June at 3pm and Bluebirds' class assembly on Thursday 21st June at 3pm. Please arrive a few minutes before 3pm so we can get everyone seated. Mobile phones should be on silent and if younger children or babies become restless and noisy, please be prepared to nip out. As with all performances photos must not appear on Facebook or any other social networking site. We look forward to seeing you there. I'm sure the children will be excited!

School Office

We are very much looking forward to welcoming Mrs Jubb to our office team. She will take up post on Monday 18th as part time office assistant.

A big thankyou to parents for activating your new ParentPay accounts. We very much appreciate your support. Please keep your accounts 'topped up'.

Please remember to fill in the relevant form at the office when your child has a medical appointment. We know it is sometimes unavoidable, but it would really help if this could be done well in advance and not on the morning of the appointment.

Please can parents endeavour to ensure that children have everything they require for the school day when they arrive in the morning—including packed lunches, water bottles, PE kits and items of clothing for after school clubs.

Thank you for your co-operation.

Kind regards, Miss C.E. Robinson — Headteacher

Diary Dates

Tuesday 5th June—Trip to Harrogate/Yorkshire Showground for some gardeners/eco-warriors

Thursday 7th June—Reception trip to the Butterfly house at Anston

11th, 12th and 13th June—World War 1 workshops for years 3-5

Thursday 14th June —Yr 3 Polar Bears activity day at Hungerhill

Monday 18th June pm—Yr 3 Polar Bears 'Greenaway literacy project' celebration

Tuesday 19th June—KS1 trip to The Deep

19th, 20th and 21st June —Year 6 Transition Visits to Hungerhill

Thursday 28th June—Meeting for new Reception parents @ 5.30pm

Monday 9th July—Year 5/6 trip to York to see Romeo and Juliet

Tuesday 10th July—KS2 Performance for parents @ 6.00pm

Wednesday 11th July—KS2 Performance for parents @ 9.30am

Thursday 12th July—KS2 Performance for grandparents @ 9.30am

Thursday 12th July—KS2 Performance for parents @ 6.00pm

Tuesday 17th July—all day Class Swap

Wednesday 18th July—trip to Yorkshire Wildlife park for 100%/highest attendance

Friday 20th July—SCHOOL CLOSES FOR SUMMER. Pupils return on Tuesday 4th September 2018.

Leave of Absence Government legislation 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.

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

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.

We have been advised not to consider any leave of absence applications for next school year as yet, because it is expected that changes will be made to law regarding consequences for unauthorised absences. If you require further information, please don't hesitate to contact me.

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