



Sunnyfields Primary School

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Spring 1
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Inside this issue:

Keeping children safe online	2
School clubs	3
Free school meals	3
Attendance	3
Volunteers	3
Uniform	3
Governors	4
Shield for Effort	4
Break and lunch times	4
Important Dates	4

Dates for your diary

- * 16th January School Nurses working with FS2 and Y6
- * 23rd January Puncture Repair Workshop
- * 29th January—Science Workshop for KS2
- * 15th February School Closes
- * 25th February INSET Day

Happy New Year 2019

A very happy new year to you all.

The children have returned to school refreshed and ready for the term ahead after the Christmas break. I have been so impressed with their attitude to learning as they have settled back into the daily routines at school.

2019 will prove to be an exciting year for several members of staff with Miss Best and Miss Raynor both planning their weddings for later in the year. Miss Brownson and Mr. MacConnachie have recently become engaged and are expecting their first child in June. Mrs. Laycock, Miss Cheesmond and

Mrs. Oldfield will all be returning to school after their maternity leaves. I will also be celebrating a significant birthday in a few weeks time.

It is also an exciting year for the children as we continue to strive to provide an excellent learning experience for them. We are planning the development of a new Multi Use Games Area (MUGA) as well as improving many aspects of the school site. The staff are continuing to make the curriculum as engaging as possible. We recently reviewed our curriculum to ensure it really meets the needs of all of our pupils.

The school has also formed links with several primary schools where we currently share our practice with colleagues.

We have made changes to the supervision of children at break time and lunchtimes as well. (More information about that later in this newsletter)

I am so proud of the children and staff. As we move into 2019 I am looking forward to continuing to build on our work completed in 2018.

Mr. D. Richardson
Head Teacher

david.richardson@sunnyfields.doncaster.sch.uk

Improvements to our Woodland Area

Our woodland area has been out of bounds for some period of time after bad weather earlier in the year which caused some large trees to uproot and fall.

Mr. Richardson, Mr. MacConnachie, Mr. Crosby and Mrs. Brown have all spent time over

the last few months clearing the woodland area and making it safe for our children. The woodland area is now available for the children to use.

We have cleared an enormous amount of dead wood out of the way so that the children can

use the area safely. This means that we have a huge amount of wood that can be collected by individuals for use in wood burning stoves. If you would like to collect some wood please contact the school office. All that we ask in return is that you make a small donation to the school.

Keeping Children Safe Online

Many of your children may have had tablets, games consoles or mobile phones as Christmas presents this year. Do you know what sites they access and how to monitor their safety online? If you are a little unsure the school would like to help. We are working in partnership with the NSPCC and O2 to provide a workshop to parents on Friday 25th January at 9:30am. More information will be provided via a separate letter.

Online Safety Workshops for Parents

Our free hour-long workshop will help you understand your child's online world and know how to keep them safe.

Location: Sunnyfields Primary School

Date: Friday 25th January 2019

Time: 9:30-10:30am

"It was very informative and I feel more confident about where to find information and talking to my son."

To book your place, or for more information:
Please contact the school on 01302 780388 or call in at the office.

O₂ NSPCC
Let's keep kids safe online

The school has also partnered with Zurich Municipal Insurance to provide the 'Safer Schools' App to all of our staff, children and parents. This app allows all users to access information about staying safe online, specific vocabulary linked to each game or app that children use, ways of blocking sites and monitoring usage.

It also provides free push notifications to your mobile phones with national alerts.

I have trialled the app as a parent and have learnt more about my own children's internet usage in the last two months than I have in the last five years. I am introducing the app to staff this week and then will be rolling it out to parents by the end of January.



Shown below is a screen shot for one of the games that a lot of our children access (Fortnite). This screen shot provides some of the language that your children may be using while using their head sets to communicate with friends.

- **Schematics** - Schematics are plans found hidden throughout the world of Fortnite Battle Royale. They are recipes allowing other players to craft their own weapons and traps from materials.
- **V-Bucks** - Battle Royale's internal currency. V-Bucks can be used to purchase things such as weapons, weapon skins and new clothing. V-Bucks can also be built up within the game without having to add a credit card, contributing to the addictive nature of the game.
- **Looting** - 'Looting' can be collecting anything from ammunition, weapons, traps or resources in the game. These are also referred to as "Loot Boxes".
- **The Storm** - You need to be aware of "The Storm" as they bring Monsters, meaning play will be harder. Otherwise known as "The Wall", the Storm is a large, blue, transparent wall that covers the entire map. Anyone caught in the storm can lose health. 
- **Battle Pass** - The Battle Pass is a method Battle Royale players can use to gain access to exclusive in-game rewards. You can pay for a Battle Pass with V-Bucks.
- **Challenges** - All players in Battle Royale will receive "Daily Challenges", each night at midnight you are set a maximum of three challenges.
- **Item Shop** - The Item Shop is Battle Royale's online shop. This is where you can purchase outfits, weapons and emotes.

The app provides videos to watch as well as audio clips so you can listen to the updates on the move. This service is being provided at no cost to school so we are very excited about sharing this with children and parents.

School Clubs

Clubs will start from the second week back (week beginning 14th January 2019) and will continue to the penultimate week of the half term (week ending 8th February 2019). **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, unless their club has changed. An up to date timetable is on our website.

Almost all clubs are run by school staff at no additional charge (There is a small charge for cooking club to cover the cost of ingredients). 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.

As staff offer these clubs on a voluntary basis there have been some changes. The full timetable can be found on the school website.

All children must be collected from the main school entrance at

Free School Meals and Pupil premium

Your child may qualify for free school meals. Please visit the link <http://www.doncaster.gov.uk/dononline/free-school-meals>

Free school meals also generates a grant to schools which can be used to support pupils. This grant is called Pupil Premium funding. If your child is in Foundation Stage or KS1 they will already receive universal free school meals. However, it is important for parents of children in those key stages to still check whether they meet the free school meals criteria as this could trigger additional funding for the school. We regularly benchmark our school against other similar schools and have found that our number of pupil premium children is significantly less than other schools which means the school could be missing out on funding.

Attendance continues to be good!

School attendance continues to be a real strength of the school. Our current attendance rate is 95.8%. Our target is 97%. We obviously don't want children to be in school if they are really ill. However, we really do want you to continue to encourage your child to attend school as often as possible.

Volunteers

We are always eager to welcome volunteers in to school to work alongside our children. If you have a special skill that you think would help our children or you could spare some time to listen to children read please contact Miss Best. Miss Best is responsible for all volunteers in school.

Rebecca.best@sunnyfields.doncaster.sch.uk

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 name label is stitched in. 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 acceptable forms 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.

Governors

Emma Wain PE and Data Governor

During Autumn 2, I met with both Mr MacConnachie and Mrs Gatt about their subjects. Both meetings were very interesting to see what their plans were for this year.

I also had the pleasure of attending both the KS1 and KS2 Christmas concerts which definitely put me in the Christmas spirit. It was really nice to see how many children are learning an instrument and confident enough to perform to a room full of adults.

This half term I am looking forward to working with Puma

Sharon Sinha Class Governor

I spent a morning in Kangaroo class learning about letter writing and toys from the olden days. I worked with a group of children composing a letter to send to some of our elderly neighbours asking them what they played with when they were children.

I really enjoyed accompanying the children when the whole school went to church on the last Friday of term. What a delightful occasion. As usual the children were a credit to their teachers and the school and showed great enthusiasm for the singing and 'acting' at the church.

Ruth Martin Maths Governor

I had a maths update with Miss Raynor where she talked me through her action plan for school.

The headline for the plan is-

'Increase the percentage of children at Age Related or above and ensure gaps between all year groups are closed.'

I will be meeting with her again this term to look at evidence of the success of the plan so far.

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, Nakiah was presented with the main shield.

Charlie and Aimee were presented with the runner up shields after working so hard throughout the Autumn Term.

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 academic year on 3rd September 2018.

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

- 25th February 2019
- 24th May 2019
- 3rd June 2019
- 22nd July 2019

The Y6 SATs week is on **13th May-16th May 2019** and Y1 Phonics week commences on **10th June 2019**. Absence should be avoided during this time.

Break times and Lunchtimes

You may have noticed members of staff wearing high visibility jackets before school. We have reviewed how we can make ourselves even more visible to children and parents.

The staff also wear these at break and lunch times. Our senior leaders and teaching assistants are also on duty at lunch time to ensure our children are safe.
