



February 2017 Newsletter

15th February 2017

Dates to remember:

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Upcoming Dates

Half Term 20th—24th February

World Book Day—2nd March

Mothers Day Meal 22nd March

Parents Meetings—week beginning 3rd April

Easter - Egg Decorating competition by 31st

World Book Day

We will be celebrating World Book Day on Thursday 2nd March and would like to suggest that children come dressed as their favourite book character from the following authors we know the children love: Michael Morpurgo, David Walliams, Roald Dahl, Anne Fine, Shirley Hughes, Julia Donaldson or any Nursery Rhyme character.

We would also like to invite families to enter the following competitions:

To write an adventure story with family members as characters.

Or to make a comic strip of a family adventure story.

Or to create a model of their favourite story character.

If we could have all entries in by Wednesday 1st March and we will celebrate winners in Star of the Week.

We also thought it would be a kind act to suggest children bring in books they have finished with that are still in good order and we will donate them to children in challenging circumstances e.g. children in hospital, those visiting or staying hospices or for our friends at Mahoma Primary school in Tanzania.

Mothers Day Meal

This has been planned for Wednesday 22nd March for children in school who have a dinner and would like to invite a 'mother' / female relative to join them for dinner in school. Information will be coming out after half term.

Parents Meetings

These will take place during the week beginning 3rd April where parents / carers are invited into school at 2.40 to find out about supporting your child with reading and strategies we use to help them understand better what they have read.

Dates to remember continued

Egg decorating Competition

We will be inviting entries from children and families to enter our egg decorating competition to start our celebration of Easter and new life. Could we have entries in the week of 27th—31st March.

Health and Safety

There are currently several childhood illnesses going around school and the locality so we have been reminding children of basic hygiene and suggest you continue to do the same at home. This is simply correct and timely handwashing and using the 'catch it, bin it kill it' for use of tissues when coughing and sneezing.

Bike safety

Several of the Y5 and Y6 children took part in the Bikeability training and wanted to share these top tips:

Faith says— always wear a helmet and check that you can fit two fingers under the strap to stop it choking you.

When crossing a road stop, look left, look right and left again and only when the road is clear should you cross.

Ewan says—before using your bike you should do the M test:

Check the back tyre for good pressure and that the wheel and spokes are not damaged.

Check the seat is firm and doesn't wobble and that it is at the correct height.

Check the chain is in the cog and moves freely.

Check the handle bars are firm and that the breaks are working.

Finally check the front tyre.

Keep safe on your bikes!

Internet Safety Tips

Connors advise: check multiple websites to make sure information is accurate.

Kitty's advise: keep you personal details to yourself.

Daniels advise: only speak to people you know.

Jonny's advise: check the age limits are appropriate on online games.
Following the Appointment of our new Deputy Head, Mrs Elmes, we looked to see Amelia's advise: always check with parents and carers before going online.

Matthews's advise: make sure children are supervised whilst online.

Use your parental controls to help with these and have discussions with your children about what and how they like to use the internet.

Latest School Evacuation Drill—well done everyone, we had no issues and everyone was out in 1.5 minutes.

Attendance

January's attendance:

FS1	95.8%	
FS 2	91.6%	Top Table Winners:
Yr 1	95.5%	06.01.17 Year 3 and Year 4
Yr 2	95.5%	13.01.17 FS2
Yr 3	93.4%	20.01.17 Year 2
Yr 4	89.6%	27.01.17 Year 1
Yr 5	93.1%	
Yr 6	96.6%	

Overall school attendance for school aged children January was: 93.6% and since September is: 94.8%. We need to improve this by 1%.

Congratulations to Year 6, Year 2, Year 1 and FS1. Gong to Y4 and FS2

2017— 2018 holidays

Please find attached the holidays planned for the next academic year. As previously mentioned NO holidays in term time can be authorised by schools and only exceptional circumstances can be granted. Taking a child out of school without permission will in most cases incur a fine.

Out of school and Parenting activities

Evenwood Cricket Club—they are looking for under 18 and under 11 members to join them. There will be indoor nets at King James Academy on 14th March 6—7pm. Contact the Chair David Priestley 07808878070 or Secretary Luke Bannister 07522456640.
Staying Cool Anger Management For adults—this is a course running at Bishop Auckland Taylor Road Sure Start 22nd February 9.30 –4.30. Contact them on 03000 268000 or email fip@durham.gov.uk

Rights Respecting School

As a school we have been working with and promoting the United Nations Conventions of the Rights of the Child. There are 42 conventions in all and some of the more well know ones include the right to play, to have clean water, to choose your own friends, to have your opinions listened to, to be safe and protected, food clothing and a safe place to live and of course the right to an education. We will be holding a day in school on the 10th of March exploring these further through the theme of equality and diversity. The children will be able to share more about this after our day in school.

Maeve Mackenzie

Headteacher

