

# Great Dalby Primary School Newsletter



14<sup>th</sup> July 2017

*Dear Parents*

I can't quite believe that I am writing the final newsletter of the academic year - and what a year it has been! The class teachers work hard from September to July to ensure the children have the best opportunity to enjoy each school day; make good progress term by term and attain well at the end of the year. Topics across the school have included Under the Sea; The Stone Age; Machines; Great Greeks; Scientists and Inventors and Monsters, Myths and Magic. Each time I step into a classroom it is a hive of activity within an interesting and purposeful learning environment.

The hard work from all stakeholders: school staff, governors, parents and, of course, the children has once again produced a pleasing set of provisional results at the key points (EYFS, Year 2 and Year 6) which, based on 2016, should hopefully put us in line or above than the national average. I will be delighted to report this information to you in the new academic year.

This year has seen visits to; Cadbury's World, Pizza Express, Bosworth Battlefield, The Warning Zone, Derby Museum, Belvoir Cricket ground and De Montfort Hall. All, but one, year groups have enjoyed Forest School. Year 4 had an exciting week in Whitby, whilst Year 6 had an exhilarating week at Edale. All of these visits have extended the children's learning experiences and challenged them personally, especially for those children who have stayed away from home.

Our boys and girls have taken part in a variety of sporting activities over the year including; Swimming, Multi-skills, Tag Rugby, Netball, Tennis, Cricket and Athletics. They were successful in many; reaching the County Championships in Tennis and Athletics. We are always incredibly proud of how our children represent the school when they are off-site.

As a school we have raised money for Children in Need, Jeans for Genes, The Children's Society, Comic Relief, LOROS, St. Swithun's Church and Melton First Responders; as well as supporting our own fantastic Friends of Great Dalby. A huge thank you goes to each and every person involved in the Friends of Great Dalby who work tirelessly to support events and fundraise to make our school even better. We can't wait to see the outdoor classroom in August.

Above all, our children – your children – have shone. They show curiosity, self-belief, kindness, gratitude and resilience; and that's all before break! They make me very proud each day, each time they leave school to represent us or visit somewhere and each time they communicate with adults. The school website is updated regularly and contains lots of photographs from all of the exciting visits and activities that the children have experienced this year.

To those families leaving us with their Year 6 children; alongside all staff I am delighted you chose Great Dalby as your child's primary school and that we were able to give them solid foundations for their education in the future. We hope they have many happy memories from their time here.

Lastly, thank you for the support you have given me in my first year of headship and I look forward to another great year on our return on Tuesday 29<sup>th</sup> August 2017.

*Mrs Lucy Anderson*

## Uniform Reminders

The children are required to wear the following:

Boys – Black/grey trousers or shorts, white polo shirts, red jumpers and black shoes. Girls – Grey skirt/trousers or pinafore dress, red and white summer dress, white polo shirt, red jumper or cardigan, grey or red tights and black shoes.

PE kit – Red shorts, white PE t-shirt and plimsolls/trainers (inside/summer). Black/grey tracksuit and outdoor trainers (winter).

Please ensure that all items of clothing are clearly labelled.

From August 29<sup>th</sup> 2017, all children from EYFS to Year 5 are required to have a school book bag to transport things to and from school. To help to identify each book bag the children can have a maximum of 1 small keyring on their bag. Year 6 children can bring a bag of their choice.

## Attendance

Individual attendance reports have been sent home this evening. Good attendance is 96% + with no unauthorised absences. We will continue to monitor unauthorised absences next year and look forward to providing you with guidelines in the new academic year. With this in mind please avoid booking holidays during term time. Medical appointments and illness will be authorised and are to be expected. Absence for exceptional circumstances will be considered. Please always complete an absence request form, available from the office.

## Summer Reading Challenge

Mrs Corner has sent out a Reading Challenge for the children to complete over the summer holidays. Please support your child with this and if you take any photographs of them reading please email them to school.

## Personal, Social and Health Education (inc. Sex and Relationship Education)

We recognise that our Year 6 children have not received SRE this year, unfortunately due to time and training it was not possible. Please keep an eye on the website (Curriculum/PSHE) where I will add some recommended links. This area of the curriculum will be developed during 2017/18 in consultation with parents and governors.

## Building Work

Over the summer holidays the main building will be having new windows and doors installed following a successful bid for improvement works. You may see teachers' cars outside school during the holiday but please do not come onto the school site as there will be building work taking place.

## Diary Dates

23/24/25 August	Teacher Training Days (INSET)
Tuesday 29 August	Children return to school
Tuesday 6 September	Year 6 visiting The Roundhill Academy
Wednesday 11/Thursday 12 October	Parent's Evenings
Friday 13 October	Close for Half Term

## Residential Visits 2018

Beginning Tuesday 8 May 2018	Whitby (Year 4)
Beginning Wednesday 27 June 2018	Edale (Year 6)