



Deer Park Primary School

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Headteacher: **Mr S. K. Beardall** B.Ed (Hons)

8th September 2017

School Newsletter No: 1 2017/2018

Dear Parent/Carer

Welcome back to the new school year, and a special welcome to those parents of children who have just started at the school. You will have received today a copy of the Annual Plan for the year detailing all of the important dates and events for the coming year. If you lose your copy at any time it is available on the school website (address above). The website is always updated and is a useful source of up to date information as is the School APP. For anyone that is new to the school or has a new phone who wishes to download the APP please search for Deer Park Primary School in either the Apple Store or Google Play store on your device. Download the APP and you will be asked for a Pin Code, which is **2016**. The Username is **Deer Park Primary School**. You should only be asked for this information the first time you download the APP to your device.

INSET Dates

Having already completed two INSET days last week, I have detailed below the closure days for the rest of the academic year:

- Friday 20th October 2017
- Monday 18th December 2017
- Tuesday 19th December 2017

Summer Reading Challenge

If your child has taken part in the Summer Reading Challenge, I trust they enjoyed the opportunity and applaud their dedication. Reading is a fundamental aspect of education and I was delighted to see that so many children were involved this year. We will be holding a special assembly for those who have done this next week. The children will need to bring in their certificates and medals on Monday 18th September.

Phonics Evening

Our Phonics Information Evening will take place on Monday 25th September. The evening is designed for parents and grandparents of children who have just started at Deer Park School, any KS1 parents who missed the previous Phonics Evening and for Parent Helpers who would like to come and read with children in school. It is very important that Parent Helpers attend this evening as the way we teach Phonics has proved very successful over the past year and we want to ensure that the style of delivery to the children is consistent. We will be arranging coaching and modelling sessions for this, ideal for and aimed directly at Parent Helpers and more details will be available on the night. Therefore, please put Monday 25th September at 6.30pm in your diary and we look forward to seeing you then.

Clubs

Our club letter was given out on Wednesday and the list of successful applicants for each club was on display from last Friday. All clubs commence this week apart from the Lego Club. The first session for this club will be after the October Half-Term.

School Uniform

Please allow me to apologise on behalf of School Trends for any inconvenience that you may have been caused with regard to school uniform over the Summer. This situation was completely out of the school's control, although I have now been assured by School Trends that all of the uniform that was ordered before the Summer has been distributed. I would like to take this opportunity to remind parents that you can now order uniform through Tesco Direct. By following the link on the school website, items can be purchased directly with delivery to your home. Items such as sweatshirts, cardigans and polo shirts will be available with our school logo. Tesco will make a donation to the school for all orders placed.

Gardening Project

For anyone that did not receive the wonderful news we received over the Summer, the token collect scheme that we had with Tesco's earlier this year was very successful in that we will be receiving a cheque for £3800 from Tesco in the next couple of weeks. The money will be put to good use to support the fantastic gardening work that we already have going on around the school and to help the project go further with development of a Junior allotment over this year. On Saturday we had produce from the current scheme exhibited at the Wingerworth Produce Open Show and I am delighted to inform you that we won the Peter Rhodes Trophy for our produce. Many thanks to Mrs Weston –Taylor and her team of parent volunteers for all the work and time that they have devoted to this wonderful opportunity for our children, who clearly are enthused as our Green Gang is already 20 children strong. If you would like to volunteer to help, please contact the School Office.

PTA

The first PTA meeting for this year will be held in school on Tuesday 19th September at 7:30pm. Our PTA are an amazing group of parents who raise vital funds for the school and over the past year have raised funds to support the Learning Heroes boards that have appeared around the school, the development of the Infant Outdoor Area and playground and the Themed Weeks that the children enjoyed throughout the year. We are looking at creating a Deer Park Radio Station over this year and funds raised from the PTA will go towards making this exciting opportunity for our children a reality. If you would like to join the PTA, please feel free to attend the first meeting of the year next week.

Snacks

One or two parents have asked me about snacks for their children. Our position is clear that as a Health Promoting School, we would ask that any snack that you send into school with your child is healthy in nature, therefore no sweets or chocolate and does not contain any nuts. If it is in a packet, it would be helpful to put your child's name on the packet. However, please be aware that in the infants, all of the children are provided with fruit and vegetables by the school to eat on a daily basis at break-times as a snack and of course they also have the opportunity to receive a cooked school meal every day. Each Wednesday, our Junior Children also have fruit snack provided for them.

And Finally...

I received news this week about national results from primary schools across the country. I am delighted to inform you that our results across the school last year were amazing and would place the school within the top 20% of primary schools in the country. I would like to thank all of parents for their continued support, the staff here at Deer Park and of course our wonderful children for all of their achievements last year. Onwards and upwards as we never, never, never give up in making Deer Park such a great place to learn and grow.

Take care

S.Beardall
Headteacher

