

# Sunningwell Primary School



## Newsletter – January 2019

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Dear Parents/Carers

### **Term Three Newsletter**

Welcome back to school and I hope you all had a very enjoyable Christmas and New Year holiday. Thank you for the many gifts given to individual staff and to those left for us to enjoy in the staff room over the Christmas time.

### **Dates for your diary**

Diary dates for this term are available on a separate sheet which is sent out with this newsletter.

### **Uniform**

We do try and maintain high standards within the school and thank you for supporting us in this matter. Can we please remind you that if a child's hair falls below the collar then it needs to be tied up securely in a ponytail or bun. Children should not wear nail polish and earrings should be discreet studs only.

### **A big thank you**

Thank you for supporting the PTA over the Christmas period in raising funds with the raffle and buying refreshments. Thank you to those on the PTA for their time in organising these events.

A big thank you also for parents who have donated items to our school. We thank Heelas Heating and Plumbing for our new football kit and we thank parents who have donated unwanted stationary to the school.

### **Fundraising - Charity Clothing Collection**

Save a trip to the Charity Shop. We will be holding a collection of clothes and shoes to raise funds for the school and also The Salvation Army. Children will be given bags to fill with clothing and shoes you may be discarding. We would ask that you return filled bags to school on Thursday 14<sup>th</sup> February. The Salvation Army runs nationwide programmes to help support many vulnerable groups in society including the homeless and we hope you will want to raise funds for them and also the school.

### **School Attendance**

School opens at 8.40am and children must be registered by 9.05am. If you arrive any later than 9.00 please use the Main Reception entrance only. Absences for any reason other than illness and medical appointments may be unauthorised and subject to a penalty notice (fine) being imposed.

### **PTA**

Our PTA is in real danger of folding. If this happens this will have a direct impact on each child as the PTA fundraising has funded many school projects that otherwise we could not implement.

We have recently purchased new Chromebooks to replace our very ancient laptops, without PTA funding we could not have upgraded and children would have had very limited online access to learning materials. If you can help, please contact the school office.

### **Part time job vacancy – Headway**

We don't normally advertise external vacancies on newsletters but we do have good links with Headway and have supported their good work in the past.

They are looking for someone to work 3 hours a day Tuesday, Thursday and Friday each week. The position is for an Activity and Rehabilitation Assistant working with clients in therapy and working one to one with them. If you are interested please email the school office.

### **Gym Mats – Free to a good home**

We have two gym mats that we can no longer use in school that are free to a new home. If you are interested email the school office.

### **After School Club – 15<sup>th</sup> February**

We had planned to go on a school trip on 15<sup>th</sup> February and there was no after school club planned on this date. We are now not going on a school trip and there will be club on this date. If you would like to book your child into club for this session can you please complete a booking form and hand this into your child's class teacher.

### **Payments**

In line with most schools we would like to become 'cashless'. This would mean that all payments for school lunches/trips/clubs will need to be by either cheque or online via ParentMail and cash payments will not be accepted. Processing cash payments has a significant cost to the school in terms of administration and security. If the cashless system would cause a problem for you can you please contact either Mrs Leech or Mrs Givinchi-Lewis before we make the final decision.

### **Healthy Food in Schools**

We do strive to help educate the children about making healthy food choices. The food we make in the school kitchen uses recipes that are reduced in sugar and fat but we want to ensure that we extend this across the school.

Could we please ask that if you want to bring in treats to share for your child's birthday that they are not sweets, chocolate or cake. Could we also ask that packed lunches contain healthy choices and high fat and sugar items are replaced with healthy options. Chocolate bars and sweets should not be in packed lunches. Please supply drinking water only and not fruit juices, smoothies, squash or flavoured water.

### Class 1

Our topic for this term is "Journeys and Transport. We will be reading stories and poems about different means of transport, talking about how transport has changed over time and taking imaginary journeys to different countries and capital cities. We would welcome any parents who would like to come in and talk to the children about a particular travel experience that they found special and exciting. If you would be interested in doing this, please kindly contact the class Teacher and arrange to visit.

Please talk to your child about family travel experiences and share any pictures or postcards you might have. If you have any photos of family holidays that you could send in for a class display, they would be much appreciated.

This term we will also be looking at recycling and ways of looking after our planet. We will be making different things using junk modelling resources so, if you have got any cereal boxes, yogurt pots, plastic milk bottles, bottle lids, kitchen roll tubes and egg boxes, please send them to school.

We value parents' comments and observations about their children, so please continue to send in your child's WOW moments.

### Class 2

Happy New Year and welcome back to Class 2.

This term we are going to be looking at Seasonal Changes. Please encourage conversations with your children about the changes happening around them as the seasons change. In addition to this we will also be looking at different types of weather.

Our literacy will be based on the poetry book 'Out and About' by Shirley Hughes. We will be looking at how she writes poetry to describe the different seasons and weather. We will also be having a go at writing some of our own season's poetry.

Please continue to read with your children at home and record all types of reading in their reading journal. Please also record any 'book talk' you have with your children in their reading journals too.

Remember to keep an eye on the notice board outside Class 2 for up to date notices/requests.

### Class 3

Happy New Year! We are looking forward to a new term with new topics in Class 3.

In Literacy, the book we are reading is called 'The Abominables' by Eva Ibbotson, which is about a family of yetis who live in the Himalayan mountains. We will be developing our descriptive and creative story writing skills as we read the novel.

In Maths, we are learning how to multiply and divide large numbers, so times tables have been very helpful! Last term, we made a game which puts our times tables to the test, and we will continue to play this every Wednesday, so keep practising!

Our new topic is 'mountains, rivers and coasts'. We will be finding out lots about the natural world and how it is formed, including using maps to identify different features of a landscape.

### Class 4

After a lovely, restful Christmas break, we have come back ready to learn and work hard and there is a lot of fun and learning to come!

We are starting a new picture book in Literacy called 'The Matchbox Diaries' and have already started some interesting discussions using the pictures as stimulus.

In Maths we are moving on to fractions and will be incorporating lots of Active Maths, which the children love to take part in

We will be starting a very exciting project this term to try and achieve our CREST discovery award in Class 4. The first project is 'Beat The Flood' which will use lots of Science, Geography and D&T skills to work in teams to design, make and present our models.

The models made will be tested with hose pipes and trays of water to assess how well they have been designed!

Next week we start our 10 weekly sessions of swimming which lots of the children are looking forward to. There are lots of sports events in the diary, including netball, hockey, athletics and football for our children to represent the school in.

In the spring term we will be visiting the Rutherford Appleton Laboratory for a day and we've got lots of activities planned across the school for Book Week.

We have a very busy term ahead, and on top of that our Year 6s will be working towards their SATs through revision and practice paper sessions.

Yours

Anita Leech  
Headteacher

