Drayton CE Junior School

NEWSLETTER Spring 5 2024

Please go to: www.draytonjunior.norfolk.sch.uk

Dear Parents/Carers,



Happy Chinese New Year! In assembly today we have been talking about 2024 being the year of the dragon, a mythcical creature renowned for its imagination, energy and perfectionism. Like many new year celebrations, it's a good time to reflect, come together and hope for a happy year ahead. With half term around the corner (and snowdops popping up), and a very long January over, lots of plans are being made for the terms ahead, with warmer days and lighter nights. Please check out the dates list as a number of additions have been made. The Y4 residential to Hilltop is always a March highlight and I'm sure that this year will be no different.

Wishing everyone a happy and healthy half term break when it arrives on Friday.
Best wishes, Mrs Read

What has been happening at Drayton Juniors?



BIKEABILITY: It's great to see groups of Year 5 starting their Bikeability. Road safety lessons are incredibly important and we are very grateful to the Bikeability instructors who have tailored their course around our locality, supporting our young cyclists to stay safe on the road. Of course, thank you to the many parents who managed to get the bikes to school. It is well worth the effort.

BADGERS WOOD RESIDENTIAL: Our new Reading Club between 4H and Badgers Wood residents has got off to a flying start! Sharing poetry last Friday afternoon was a great success – our homework is to write a poem titled 'Spiders in the Attic.' Both old and young are benefitting from the visits and it's definitely a highlight of the week. To learn more check out Badgers Wood's Facebook page where photos are shared.

SPORTS HALL ATHLETICS COMPETITION: Last Thursday Mrs Bond and Mrs Finch took groups from Y3/4 & Y5/6 to the school's athletic event at the UEA Sportspark. The children were their just amazing selves, competing brilliantly, with the Y3/4 team achieving 2nd place and the Y5/6 team 3rd place overall. Thank you to everyone involved. The benefits and importance of physical activity and interaction on children's mental health is really supported by team events such as these and we can only do it with your support. Thank you.

CROSS COUNTRY: Sadly, due to the torrential rain on Friday, making conditions unsafe, cross country at Horsford was postponed. There were a few sad faces around the school, especially when the sun came out in the afternoon. The rescheduled date for Horsford CC is Friday 1st March, 14:00 start time as usual.

ST MARGARET'S CHURCH: What a lovely Candlemas service was enjoyed at St Margaret's Church on Sunday 28th January! Thank you for inviting the school choir to join the service Rev Marc. Feedback has been overwhelmingly positive with Mrs Leigh, Mrs Lambourne and the school choir doing what they do as fantastically as ever! Thank you to everyone who supported this lovely community event.

GIRLS' FOOTBALL: Well done to everyone who played in the Girls' Football Tournament at The Nest on Friday 26th January. You were a real credit to the school, showing great grit and determination, getting better and better after each match. Keep up the good work and thank you for facilitating Mrs Finch.

BOYS' FOOTBALL: The football season has restarted with kits to hand out, teams to be sorted and transport to be arranged. Well done to all who've played in recent weeks – Please do ensure Mrs Read knows the scores each time or maybe write a match report for Friday's Achievement Assembly.



DJS Information Update

SWIMMING: Swimming lessons for children in all year groups returns after the half term break, which is very good news indeed. As substantive swim instructor at Drayton, Mr Graeme Burley will take a lead with all lessons and all queries should be directed to him. Mr Burley's increased timetable does mean that Year 3 PE lessons currently taking place on Friday afternoon will return to a Wednesday afternoon after half term as well. Groups of pupils swimming next term have been organised and parents/carers will be notified via email this week so please keep an eye on your inbox. Many thanks for your patience and understanding.



RED NOSE DAY: On Friday 15th March School Council are inviting children to support the national Red Nose Day fundraiser by wearing non school uniform/item of red, in return for a suggested £1 donation. Jokes and riddles always go down well too!

HOUSE WINNERS: Last half term Norman House were victorious in our House Points Competition! As a reward Normans have decided to have a non-school uniform day this coming Friday (16th February), with all Normans aiming to include an item of yellow, however small. Congratulations to the Normans – top work!

PARENT CONSULTATIONS: This Tuesday is our second Parent Consultation evening. Thank you to those who used the online booking system. If you were unable to make an appointment with your child's teacher then please don't hesitate to get in touch after half term should you have a query or a concern you wish to discuss. After school on Wednesday 27th March, 15:30 – 16:00, we are extending an informal invitation to parents/carers to visit their child/ren's classroom to look through their books with them. Most teachers will be available at this time.

PARKING: After school on Friday 26th January a second meeting took place for parents/carers eager to work together to plan and address parking/traffic concerns around the school area. This meeting was well attended with some really useful discussion and possible next steps. An online parent questionnaire is currently in development, with the aim to identify barriers to reducing traffic around the school and consider possible solutions such as establishing a walking bus, car sharing, Walk on Wednesday, etc…

CLEANER VACANCY: In a few week's Kaelim will be leaving us for his new role at Hallswood Animal Sanctuary, therefore a vacancy has arisen for a new cleaner to join our friendly team. Please see the link below. Good luck as you move on Kaelim and thank you.

https://www.educationjobfinder.org.uk/vfjobs/cleaner-313/?fromSearchPage=true



RACE FOR LIFE FUNDRAISER: On Saturday 11th May, Alfie will be taking on Norwich Pretty Muds Kids 2024 to raise valuable funds for the Cancer Research UK charity. What an amazing thing for him to do! If you wish to help Alfie please follow the link below. Good luck Alfie, go smash it & don't forget to each your banana before you start! **https://fundraise.cancerresearchuk.org/page/alfies-race-for-life-490686**

ATTENDANCE: Whole school this year so far: 95.21 **%**

Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
95.45 %	94.81 %	96.31 %	94.22 %

PASTORAL LEAD: Mrs Laura Clarke, our Pastoral Lead, is available on the playground before school, as well as on Monday and Friday mornings. If you would like to speak with her then please contact the office – 01603 867504 - admin@draytonjunior.norfolk.sch.uk For further signposting information check out details on the school website: https://www.draytonjunior.norfolk.sch.uk/parents-community/parent-support/

FRIENDS OF DRAYTON JUNIOR: Thank you to volunteers from The Friends and school staff who provided a great Y3/4 disco at the end of January. It's Y5/6's turn again at the start of next term, on Friday 1st March, 18:00 -19:30. All volunteers and helpers are very much appreciated so please do get in touch if you are available.

If you are interested in supporting The Friends please contact the school office admin@draytonjunior.norfolk.sch.uk with your contact details and The Friends will be in touch.

DATES LIST 2023/24

February	
Tues 13th	Parent consultations, 15:30 – 18:00 (online)
Wed 14th	SENCO Parent Consultation day, appointments available upon request (see letter from Mrs Lamb); Year 4 Valentines Movie Night 15:15 - 17:30
Fri 16th	Term ends; Non-school uniform for Norman House Team, including an item of yellow
19th – 23rd February	HALF TERM
Mon 26th	Term starts for everyone
Tues 27th	Safety Around Dogs Assembly visitor

Thu 29th	Y4, Y5 & Y6 Football competition, 10:00
March	
Fri 1st	Friends' Mother's/Special Lady Day shop p.m; Horsford Cross Country 14:00; Friends' Y5/6 Disco 18:00 – 19:30
Mon 4th – Wed 6th	Group A@Hilltop Residential
Wed 6th – Fri 8th	Group B@Hilltop Residential
Fri 8th	Cross Country@Old Catton, 14:00
w/c 11th	SCIENCE WEEK
Wed 13th	DJS choir performing at the Spring Celebration Festival @Norwich Cathedral 5pm
Fri 15th	RED NOSE DAY fundraiser – suggested donation of £1 – non-school uniform wearing red
Mon 18th	Y2 DIS/Y4 DJS Maths collaboration event tbc
Wed 20th	Samba Music Performance – evening (more details to follow)
Wed 27th	End of Term; 15:15 – 16:00 Parent/carer after school opportunity to look at children's books; ASC Y6 football match@Cringleford
Thu 28th	INSET for staff EASTER HOLIDAY 28th March – 12th April
April	
Fri 19th	Y3/4 disco 18:00 – 19:30
Tues 23rd	NORWICH SCHOOL FESTIVAL OF MATHEMATICS CHALLENGES Year 4 group of 4 pupils @Norwich School a.m
Wed 24th	Year 5 group of 4 pupils @Norwich School a.m
Thu 25th	Year 6 group of 4 pupils @Norwich School Y4,Y5,Y6 Netball Competition @Neatherd High, 10:00
May	
Wed 1st	Class Photos
Thu 9th	Y4, Y5 Basketball@UEA, 10:00
Mon 13th – Fri 17th	Year 6 KS2 SATS week
Fri 17th	Y5/6 disco
27th – 31st May	HALF TERM
June	
Mon 3rd – Wed 5th	Year 6@Eaton Vale Residential
Thu 6th	Year 5/6 mixed Cricket@Horsford, 10:00

Tues 11th	Year 4 LEGO STEM workshops in the hall (drag race cars, towers & bridges)
Fri 21st	Year 3/4 mini tennis competition@Easton, 10:00
Mon 24th	City Sports, Field Finals, 3:30 – 6:00pm
Tues 25th	City Sports, Track Heats, 1:00 – 5:30pm
Thu 27th	City Sports, Track Finals, 1:30 – 5:30pm
Fri 28th	KS2 Panathlon competition@THS, 10:00
July	
Thu 4th	Y6 Team Building Transition Festival@THS, 10:00
Wed 10th – Thu 11th	Year 6 Transition days@THS
Fri 12th	Year 5 STEM day@THS; Y6 Leavers' disco TBC
Mon 15th	Reports go home
Fri 19th	Year 6 Leavers' Service@St Margaret's Church@9:30; Last day of the school year.

Please see the Norfolk County Council 2023/24 School Calendar for further details.