Drayton CE Junior School

NEWSLETTER Spring 6 2024

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

Dear Parents/Carers,
Our second half of the Spring Term may be a short one, but we've certainly packed rather a lot in! It has been a real treat to have so many outdoor activities – football, cross country, Hilltop residential, etc…. Not only does this make learning more fun, it's good for our physical and mental health. Bikeability for Y4s is coming up, along with trips to Norwich School and Langley, so please do check out the dates list as well as keep an eye on your emails. Summer Term planning is already upon us in school as we look forward to continuing to provide the children with rich, memory making curriculum experiences. Not long to go until Y6 rocket making week – Where did that year go?!!!
Best wishes, Mrs Read



What has been happening at Drayton Juniors?



HILLTOP RESIDENTIAL: What an amazing week full of adventurous outdoor learning activities at Hilltop for our Y4s!!! The children experienced so many new activities, were incredibly brave and supportive of each other, and their behaviour was exemplary according to our hardworking staff team who made the residential possible. A massive thank you to them. Hopefully you've sorted out their washing…or lack of it...by now. Hilltop has been provisionally booked for next year's Y3s w/c 3rd March 2025

CROSS COUNTRY: The Schools' Winter XC season came to an end at Catton Park on Friday 8th March on a gloriously sunny day. As usual, all runners put their all into the hilly trail lap, one even finishing with a few cartwheels! After a recount Drayton boys' team came 3rd overall with the girls' team achieving 4th which

are both brilliant team achievements. Super well done to all runners who participated in any of the six races – your HT commendation was very well deserved!

FOOTBALL: Last week was definitely one to enjoy if you love football at Drayton Juniors: our Girls' team drew against Colman on Monday; Y6 boys' pulled off a mighty win against Ashleigh on Tuesday, and our Y5 boys' splendidly won their semi-final match against Firside on Wednesday, qualifying for next month's cup final at The Nest on Wednesday 17th April. Well done all & good luck Y5 boys! We cannot wait. A big thank you to Mrs Finch, Mr Lambourne and Mr Arden for all of their time and commitment.

SPRING FESTIVAL: Norwich Cathedral was the stunning setting last Wednesday evening for the DJS choir to perform as part of the Spring Festival. It was such a treat for the children to admire the building while listening to the choristers and organ being played. The choir performed with other local schools. We do hope that the parents/carers who experienced the occasion enjoyed themselves – Mrs Leigh and Mrs Lambourne raved about the performance the next day. Thank you to them both.

SCIENCE WEEK: Has your child spoken to you about 'The Pendulum Challenge?' As part of last week's Science week all classes at Drayton enjoyed exploring the challenge, with the grand final due to take place this week. There were some tense moments in the classrooms, stopwatches in demand, with a great deal of experimentation. Our Science Ambassadors provided some great hands on science activities in the hall over lunchtime, generating plenty of scientific talk, just as the Ogden Trust wanted. A thank you to them for the resources and to Mrs Woollsey for bringing it all together.

RED NOSE DAY: Well done and thank you to School Council who organised Friday's Red Nose Day charity fundraiser. Over £300 was raised as part of our non-uniform day which is absolutely brilliant news! Thank you for supporting such a worthwhile cause.

FESTIVAL OF READING: This week our Festival of Reading is well underway with a host of posters up around school detailing a week's timetable of fun, reading based activities. Great work Mrs Hone! Maybe try telling each other stories on the way to school on Wednesday as it's Oral Storytelling Day. You could have a bit of fun by changing the ending to well known tales or even creating your own stories interweaving 3 random objects into the yarn. Thursday is World Poetry Day, an ideal time to have a bit of fun with words, expressing emotions or even performing poetry with actions and percussion. Friday is comfy clothes, non uniform day, a day to relax and read to chill with friends before the weekend.



DJS Information Update

SCHOOL PAYMENTS: From June 2024 Drayton Juniors will be going cashless, using 'School Money' for all money transfers by parents/carers. This means that the school will no longer accept cheques for payments or cash. Further details will be shared next half term so please continue to check your emails for notifications.

schoolmoney

AFTER SCHOOL DROP IN: Next Wednesday (27th) parents/carers are warmly invited to visit their child/ren's classroom/s from 15:15 until 16:00 to look their children's books, look at work displayed, etc…With parent/carer consultations being online last term, it is hoped that this will be a good opportunity for children to share what they've been doing in school, with a chance to celebrate successes and see progress for yourselves.



SCHOOL UNIFORM: Thank you to everyone who ensures that their children are appropriately dressed in school uniform, especially on PE days. Please be reminded that children should be wearing school colours at all times, including their PE kit. Sweatshirts must be blue/navy. If your child has outgrown items of school uniform then donations are readily accepted. Please send them into the school office and we can then distribute to families that may need support. (Remove name labels please or they could return to you!)

EDENRED VOUNCHERS: For parents/carers who have been in receipt of Edenred vouchers, it is regrettable that Norfolk County Council have announced that the April Eden Red vouchers

will be the last ones that the school will be able to send out and that the scheme has now ended. This is unfortunately out of our control, but we do understand that this is disappointing. Drayton Juniors is able to provide access to Foodbank vouchers, so please do speak to a member of staff if you are in need.

SWIMMING POOL: In recent weeks the school building, including the swimming pool, has been inspected by DfE representatives as well as those employed by the local authority. Both have confirmed that updating/replacing the swimming pool changing rooms is a much needed development project. To do this, we will need access to a grant or make a bid for significant funding. Can you help? Do you know of any organisations that the school could apply to? Drayton Junior's swimming pool is a great community resource and investment in it will benefit so many. Please let the premises office know if you have any useful contacts: premises@draytonjunior.norfolk.sch.uk Thank you

STAFFING UPDATE: Welcome to the cleaning team Mrs Padwicke, who joined Drayton Juniors last week.

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. Thank you to those who have donated already – Good Luck Alfie!
https://fundraise.cancerresearchuk.org/page/alfies-race-for-life-490686

ATTENDANCE: Whole school this year so far: 95.25**%** - persistent absence 11.9%

Year 3	Year 4	Year 5	Year 6
95.33 %	94.98 %	96.12%	94.51 %
Persistent Absence			
8.9%	15.6%	7%	16.5%

What is persistent absence? A pupil becomes a 'persistent absentee' (PA) when they miss 10% or more schooling across the school year for whatever reason.

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:

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

March	
Mon 18th	Festival of Reading week begins; Y2 DIS/Y4 DJS Maths collaboration event tbc
Wed 20th	World Oral Storytelling Day; Y5 group deliver Collective Worship; Evening: Samba Band Music Performance – letters sent home to musicians involved.
Thur 21st	World Poetry Day

Fri 22nd	Non-uniform/comfy reading clothes day for all – 101 Ways to Read a Book; Mr Canham's (SCITT Teacher) last day in 3S
Mon 25th	Autism Acceptance Week in schools
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	
Tues 16th & Wed 17th	Y4 Bikeability begins (see separate letter)
Wed 17th	Y5 Boys' Football cup final@The Nest v St William's Primary
Thur 18th	Year 3 group of 4 pupils @Norwich School a.m
Fri 19th	School Council meeting with Drayton Parish Council; 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
Mon 29th	SCITT Teacher starts in 5H
May	
Wed 1st	Class Photos
Thu 9th	Y4, Y5 Basketball@UEA, 10:00
Thur 9th & Fri 10th	No crossing patrol on School Road
Mon 13th – Fri 17th	Year 6 KS2 SATS week
Fri 17th	Y5/6 disco
Tues 21st	Y2 Sept 2024 forms deadline
Thur 23rd	iRock Assembly p.m
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
Fri 7th	Y6 Maths Group@ Langley
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	
Tues 2nd	3:30 – 4:15 DJS Summer Music Concert for parents: choir, musicians, Samba Band
Thu 4th	Y6 Team Building Transition Festival@THS, 10:00
Wed 10th – Thu 11th	Year 6 Transition days@THS
Fri 12th	SCITT Teacher last day in 5H; Year 5 STEM day@THS; Y6 Leavers' disco
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.