



Sunnyfields Primary School

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Spring 2
March 2017

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Welcome to Spring 2

We are now just over half way through the academic year. It has been an academic year which has seen the children and staff working so hard in class to continue to make good progress and have fun; something which is so important in primary school.

The school, staff and governors continue to ensure that the school is continually improving.

This six week half term is packed full of learning opportunities. In addition to the packed academic timetable children will get the opportunity to dress up for World Book Day, Year 4 children will be visiting Doncaster Dome to listen to the Royal Philharmonic Orchestra, Leopard and Jaguar class will visit the Roald Dahl Museum in

Buckinghamshire after winning a nationwide competition and EYFS are planning a visit to Cannon Hall Farm. Extra-curricular clubs start from 6th March and include a new Den Building Club and Rugby Club. Key Stage 2 will also have the opportunity to represent the school in numerous sporting events including three football events which will be hosted at Sunnyfields over the next two weeks and a cheerleading competition in Sheffield.

In school, Miss Lumley has organised an 'Arts Week' which will take place from 20th March—24th March 2017. All children will be working with a junk percussion musician, joining Chris Connaughton (professional actor and story teller) for a drama workshop, participating in

whole school singing and working collaboratively on a school mural.

Reading is a big priority in school this year. Therefore, you will notice changes to the school library and after chatting to your child, changes to the way reading is taught in school. We are looking for some VIPs to come in to school and read to the classes. So if you fancy surprising your child and joining us in school to read to the class please let your child's class teacher know!

Year 6 are also extremely busy as they are now in the final period of teaching as they approach their Key Stage 2 tests.

As you read and digest everything that your child will be doing this half term, I would like to take the opportunity to thank you for your ongoing support.

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Dates for your diary

- * Friday 3rd March 2017
Open Day
- * Friday 24th March 2017
Comic Relief .
- * Y6 SATs week is on **8th May -11th May 2017**
- * Friday 26th May 2017
INSET Day
- * Monday 5th June 2017
INSET Day

The feedback from parents regarding the new arrangements for collecting children after school has been really positive. Thank you for your support.

However, the school must remind all adults who drop off and pick up children of the school's expectations.

School drop off and Pick up

- Parents should not drop children off on the yellow zig zag lines. This is a strict no parking zone.
- Both staff car parks are for staff use only during school hours.
- Access to the school via the driveway next to the site manager's bungalow

is strictly prohibited. This is for vehicle access only. There is no pedestrian access via the driveway.

- All visitors must sign in and out at the main reception when visiting the school, including visiting assemblies.
- Please consider our neighbours when parking.

The Junior Leadership Team

We are the Junior Leadership Team.



We are working hard to try and make school better so that pupils will enjoy it more. Every Thursday, we meet to discuss children's issues from each class. We talk about how

we could solve any problems or make any suggestions come to life. We also get given jobs from teachers that will help them hear the pupil voice. Some examples include organising an anti-littering campaign, helping Miss Raynor organise maths in school and organising food hampers to donate to homeless people.

One of the ways that we have made an impact on the school is by providing more playground equipment. We began by speaking to our classes and found that in

every single class children wanted more equipment. We then wrote to the Friends of Sunnyfields and asked them to pay for some games. We even looked in the catalogue, chose the games and worked out the cost ourselves. We have also carried out research in school to find out what children thought about school. We looked at their answers and have responded by organising assemblies throughout the year where children have the opportunity to share their thoughts and ideas. We like to think that through our hard work, children in school feel as though they have more of a voice.

What to do if you or your child has a concern about school?

The school wants exactly the same things as you do for your child. Therefore, we want your child to be happy, safe, secure and making progress. However, sometimes things don't always go as well as expected. When this happens it is really important that this is communicated to the school so that we can do something about it.

The first point of contact is the class teacher or teaching assistant. They will be able to listen to your concerns and then identify the next steps.

The second point of contact is Mrs. Hides who is employed by the school to support parents. Mrs. Hides can be found in the main school office or can be contacted via email.

Julie.hides@sunnyfields.doncaster.sch.uk

The third point of contact is Mr. Richardson, Mr. Crosby or Miss. Walden. They will be able to support you and your child if your original concern was not addressed by the class teacher.

Children can also share their concerns in confidence with Mrs. Hides by posting a message in the 'Worry Box' which is located outside Mrs. Hides' office. These concerns are followed up by members of staff.

At break times and lunchtimes we have Playground Leaders on duty. The Playground Leaders are sensible older children who have been chosen by Mr. MacConnachie to help lead playground games and ensure that children are never lonely.

Therefore, as a school we have many different ways of supporting your child with concerns in school.

However, in the multi-media world

that we live in our children may have concerns that extend beyond the school day. We work with children in school to ensure that they know how to stay safe online and how to conduct themselves online. As technology advances at such a pace, you may also have concerns about how to keep your children to stay safe online. To support you with this the school has arranged for Amy Simister, Doncaster Council Online Safety Officer, to visit the school on 28th March 2017 to provide information and training for parents. This training event will be held after school hours. Miss Cheesmond (Computing Coordinator) will be sending a letter out about this in the next two weeks.

Have you heard about the Head Teacher Tea Party?

Each half term children are nominated by their class teacher to attend the Head Teacher Tea Party with Mr. Richardson.

Teachers use the tea party to celebrate children who are trying really hard or are making a real effort in class.

Once Mr. Richardson receives the nominations he writes to each pupil and sends them a personal invite through the post. The children respond in writing to accept the invitation.

The idea for the Head Teacher Tea Party came from our Junior Leadership Team several years ago who wanted a special reward that didn't involve having to stand up in assembly.



Our talented basketball players.

What can we do to support children read?

We are always looking at ways that we can help our children progress even further. The best way to do this is to ensure that school and home work closely alongside each other.

The school is focused on ensuring that children develop a love of reading while at primary school.

We do lots of things that you may not be aware of that you might want to do at home. The children who are more confident in class and have a stronger understanding of writing are children that are good readers.

Towards the end of each day every class has story time with their class teacher. The teachers read a class book over a period of several weeks allowing children the time to enjoy being read to. Some of our older children invest in the same book as the class reader to follow as the adult reads. You may have read to your child when they were younger but we have found that our older children love it too. **Have you**

considered reading or sharing a book with your child at home?

We have reading areas in each classroom with books that are linked to the class topic. Children have time to explore these books freely and then share their interest with friends.

We have strengthened links with Scawthorpe Library to ensure that our children make use of this great community resource. Throughout the half term our Foundation Stage children visit the library to choose a book that they take home for a short period. We are hoping to take some of our older children to the library in the spring term. **Is your child a member of a library?**

We listen to the children regularly in school through guided reading activities. For our younger children we listen to them read more regularly. Reading regularly at home really improves the child's fluency and understanding. We really appreciate the time that families put in to listening to their child read.

Tiger Class take action to support plastic recycling

Tiger Class are on a mission after being inspired by Sky News' Ocean Rescue appeal. The children have tweeted and written to the Mayor of Doncaster (Ros Jones) and the Chief Executive of the Council (Jo Miller) to ask for some support in raising the awareness of the need to reuse and recycle a greater amount of plastic as currently a large amount of it ends up in our oceans. Mr. Crosby has worked hard to

inspire the children and ensure that they can write for a purpose. This has resulted in several Twitter exchanges with the Chief Executive and a visit from a member of the Council team to donate additional

recycling bins.

Jo Miller and Ros Jones will be visiting the school in March to meet Tiger Class. We are so proud of our children and the work they do to ensure that Sunnyfields retains its reputation for having well mannered, hard working, polite and passionate children.



The work of the Governing Body



Martin Hobbs
Chair of Governors

Last half term, I visited the school to complete several spot checks on the Single Central Record. The SCR is a record of all the staff and volunteers (including governors) that work at Sunnyfields. It evidences that the school has made the statutory checks to ensure that staff have criminal record checks and are suitably qualified to work with children.

I attended a pupil progress meeting to check the progress of children in Mr. Crosby's class. I have also joined Mr. Richardson to complete a joint observation of one of the teaching staff.

I have met with Mr. MacConnachie and have arranged for a new rugby coach to work alongside the staff to provide an extra-curricular rugby club for the new spring term.

Julie Hides



SEND Governor
Leopard Class Governor

During the first spring half term, I joined Miss Walden and Miss Brownson for a Special Educational Needs and Disability (SEND) learning walk - we looked at how SEND pupils are supported in KS1.

I also met with Miss Walden to look at individual case studies and discuss the SEND tracking document. This is a document that allows the leaders of the school to ensure that all children are making progress.

I also attended the SEND staff development meeting which was held on 8th February. The staff looked at how some children need additional support with fine motor skills, the importance of staff to recognise a child's primary need and finally, how Lego Therapy can support children with different needs.



Lorraine Flint
Disadvantaged Pupils Governor-
Panther Class Governor

I met with Mr Crosby to learn about how teachers are looking at spending the allotted Pupil Premium budget, to help children to raise achievement. This meeting was part of the regular times when we are looking at how the children can then improve their work in maths, reading and writing.

I am impressed by the positive atmosphere in the school, where all the staff and children celebrate achievement in all areas of school life. This environment generally helps children to 'have a go' and to think creatively in their learning and so do better. I have regularly visited Panther class and seen this happen.

The school is very lucky having such hard working dedicated staff who are providing a wide range of clubs to enrich our children's education.

Gaynor Bellamy



Literacy Governor
EYFS Class Governor

Spring 1 was a busy half term for Governors filled with meetings and school visits. As EYFS Governor, I was able to be involved in all EYFS teacher observations and meet with Mrs Hammond to ensure that targets and objectives for the school year are being met.

Similarly, as Literacy Governor, I carried out my termly meeting with Ms Garner which involved a detailed tour of all classrooms again to ensure objectives are met. Our focus this term was on reading.

I had the pleasure of joining Leopard class on their trip to Austerfield. Not only does this allow me to spend time with the children but enables me to ensure important school policies/procedures are carried out such as safeguarding and behaviour. A fabulous time was had by all!