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Grindleford Primary School Newsletter

8 February 2017

Spring Term 4



Special Events and Dates:

INSET

- **Monday 5th September 2016**
- **Tuesday 6th September 2016**
- **Tuesday 3rd January 2017**
- **Monday 24th April 2017**
- **Friday 23rd June 2017**

Term Dates—2016/2017

Autumn 1—

Mon 5th Sept to Fri 21st Oct

Half Term—

Mon 24th Oct to Fri 28th Oct

Autumn 2—

Mon 31st Oct to Tues 20th Dec

Christmas Break—

Wed 21st Dec to Mon 2nd Jan

(Tues 3rd January—INSET)

Spring 3—

Tues 3rd Jan to Fri 10th Feb

Half Term—

Mon 13th Feb to Fri 17th Feb

Spring 4—

Mon 20th Feb to Fri 7th April

Easter—

Mon 10th April to Fri 21st April

(Mon 24th April—INSET)

Summer 5—

Mon 24th April to Fri 26th May

How quickly has this term gone? It has been a very busy term, with lots of new and exciting things happening, like the formation of our brilliant Change4Life Champions and our new Sport's Crew. We are now looking forward to half term and a long run down to the Easter break. As usual, I have tried to give as much advance notice as possible with dates that are already pencilled into the diary, so please keep the dates safe—they run until next September!

The Grindleford Gallop 2017

It is nearly that time of year again! The Gallop is happening on Saturday 11th March and was sold out within an amazing 6 minutes! Thank you to everyone who has returned their slip with offers of help. Any help on the actual day is much appreciated and can be from a couple of hours to the full day—it is entirely up to you! The more hands that help, the lighter the work.

We will be doing school baking during the run up to the Gallop to help out with tray bakes, but if you fancy having a quick bake at home please feel free!

This is our biggest school fundraiser and brings in at least £7,000 profit for the school every year! This means that we don't have to do extra fundraising throughout the year, therefore one day of help is a massive bonus.

The children have completed T-Shirt designs, which will be voted for after half term. They will be displayed in the hall and **everyone** is very welcome to come into school and cast their vote. The winner will be announced afterwards.



One of the suggestions we received last year, from the PTA questionnaire, was for the school to support a charity by engaging the children in some fundraising activities and inspiring them to think about others and how we can help other people.

As you know we have chosen to raise money for a very local charity, The Thomas Theyer Foundation, which is based in Chapel.

About the Charity:

Thomas had just celebrated his 18th birthday a month before he died whilst out running in July 2013. Thomas' main passion was running, he was a member of Buxton Running Club and he usually ran every day.

Thomas' mum, dad and sister have set up The Thomas Theyer Foundation because they "want Thomas not to be forgotten and to do some good in his name".

The Thomas Theyer Foundation is currently raising funds to build two lodges at the White Hall Outdoor Centre just outside Buxton. The lodges will provide young people, with different needs, to enjoy a break and participate in the great activities at the centre.

The lodges may be used by school groups or by families in need of respite breaks. The overall aim is to provide the opportunity for young people or families, who may have special requirements or difficult life circumstances, to benefit from a place to stay and enjoy outdoor activities.

So why have we chosen this charity?

**Special Events and Dates:****Term Dates—Continued****Half Term—**

Mon 29th May to Fri 2nd June

Summer 6—

Mon 5th June to Fri 21st July.

Diary Dates:**Wednesday 8th February—**

- Dance Festival at The Winding Wheel

Wednesday 22nd February—

- Rainbow Assembly
- PTA Meeting at The Sir William, 7.30pm, All Welcome.

Thursday 23rd February—

- Climbing Competition at The Mini Works, Sheffield

Week beginning 27th February—

- Parent's Evening Week

Thursday 2nd March—

- World Book Day

Saturday 4th March—

- Carnival Fundraiser

Week beginning 6th March—

- Gallop baking week!

Thursday 9th March—

- Rick Spencer to do tag Rugby with Class 3
- High 5 Netball, 1.30-3.30pm at HVC—TBC

Saturday 11th March—

- Gallop

Thursday 16th March—

- Tag Rugby with Class 3
- Gymnastics with Class 1

Thomas Theyer Foundation—Continued

We feel that as a school we have some natural links to this charity;

- It is very local. Thomas grew up in Chapel and his family still live there
- The running connection is important. Thomas loved running and we know a lot of our children and their parents run
- The Grindleford Gallop is a major fundraiser for us and we think the runners who enter the gallop will be delighted that we are supporting this charity because of the running link
- White Hall is somewhere we know well as our pupils visit and enjoy outdoor activities at this great centre

The charity was suggested by a parent but as soon as I saw the name I knew who it was all about. Thomas and his sister went to the primary school where I used to teach in Chapel and I spent many a happy hour talking to Thomas and enjoying his company. I remember Thomas and his family extremely well and would love the school to enable me to help honour this outstanding young person.

What are we going to do?

As a school we have already taken up the Thomas Challenge and, through Popcorn sales and Hot Chocolate, we have already raised £145.75. The Challenge is to raise £1000 in 12 months. If the charity manage to get 300+ people to take the challenge they will have raised enough money to get the projects in place. School Council are already working alongside The Sport's Crew to finalise some really good challenges within school to raise yet more money.

PTA have agreed to a donation towards The Thomas Theyer Foundation and are advertising the Charity through the Gallop.

What can you do?

Please take a look for more information about the Foundation at www.thomastheyerfoundation.org.uk. I hope that you will agree that this is a really worthwhile cause for the school to support and get behind us in fundraising as much as we can.

Could you take up the Thomas Challenge?

Thank you in advance for your support and help.

CONGRATULATIONS!

I cannot find the words to describe how proud I am of the work your children are producing at the moment. Not just their normal everyday work, but all the effort that they are putting in to extra projects around the school.

This was highlighted recently when we were asked at very short notice if we would participate in a Dance Festival at The Winding Wheel Theatre in Chesterfield. We were asked on the 16th January and the event was last night. This gave the children a very short three weeks to pull something together. I must admit I was very unsure about whether they could choose a song, develop a dance, practice it to theatre quality and not fall out (!) in that short time, but 10 Y5/6s have managed it!! The dance has been worked on in their own free time and with the minimum of adult support—It has been all their own work and is absolutely fabulous. I was incredibly proud to be at the festival with them and for them to represent the school in such a pupil led, enthusiastic way.

Well done 'Salute To The Army Kids'.



Diary Dates: - Continued!

Wednesday 22nd March—

- PTA at The Sir William Hotel, 7.30pm. All very welcome

Friday 24th March—

- RED NOSE DAY
- St Helen's Posie making for Mother's day—TBC

Friday 7th April—

- Easter Egg Competition
- Easter Egg Hunt

Monday 24th April—

- INSET day

Monday 1st May—

- MAY DAY

Wednesday 3rd May—

- PTA at The Sir William Hotel, 7.30pm—All very welcome

Friday 5th May—

- Quad Kids, KS2 at HVC, 1.30-3.30pm—TBC

Week beginning 8th May—

- SATs week

Wednesday 24th May—

- Group/Class and Whole School photos, 9am.

Friday 26th May—

- Rounders Tournament, 1.30-3.30pm at HVC—TBC

Sunday 4th June—

- Carnival Opening Ceremony

Friday 9th June—

- Carnival Disco

Saturday 10th June—

- Grindleford Carnival

Wed 14-Fri 16th June—

- White Hall Trip—Class 3

EASTER EXTRAVAGANZA

Oh yes! It is that time of year again! I hope you have all been thinking up your eggseedingly good egg puns for this years competition! The idea is to think up the



best egg pun you can and then design it using an empty egg shell. In previous competitions we have had.....

.....JeggwardDaleggSheffield Uniteggand Eggice in Wonderland or was it Alice in Egglard?! Do you get the idea?

The standard of entries is usually eggstreamly high and very difficult to judge. All eggs should be brought into school for first thing on Friday 7th April, where secret voting will take place. Prizes will then be awarded during the Great Easter Egg Hunt in the afternoon—will anyone find the elusive Golden Egg token this year?!

The eggs should be **the children's own work**, unless you want to enter your efforts into the 'Family' section. The categories for entrance are:

Class 1 - 1st, 2nd, 3rd, Class 2—1st, 2nd, 3rd, Class 3—1st, 2nd, 3rd and Groups/Families—1st, 2nd, 3rd.

KITCHEN REFURBISHMENT

As some of you may remember from back in the mists of time (2013/4) it was announced in the local press that DCC had allocated £18,000 to our school for a kitchen refurbishment. At long last (after a lot of Governor pressure) these plans are finally starting to fall into place!

This work will entail new wiring and distribution boxes; all the old cupboards and storage areas being removed and replaced with stainless steel; the sterilising unit to be replaced by a new dishwasher and washing machine; a new fridge and freezer—the list goes on!

Emma should be in her new kitchen hopefully in the Summer term. We are all very excited and can't wait for the project to be finally completed.

GARDENING CLUB

Gardening Club will be starting again (alongside Cookery Club) after half term. In previous years the club has been extremely successful and the children have managed to harvest lots of crops which Emma, our school cook, has managed to add to our school dinners.

If you are starting work on your own allotments and gardens and have some spare bedding plants or seedlings that we can use in our vegetable garden or borders, we would be very grateful.

The children love to plant out, weed and water during lunchtimes (sometimes they water the staff as well!) and really enjoyed seeing the full cycle of growth last year.

**Diary Dates: - Continued!****Thursday 15th June—**

- Tri Golf Competition, 1.30-3.30 at HVC—TBC

Friday 16th June—

- Infant Sport's at HVC—TBC

Friday 23rd June—

- INSET

Wednesday 5th July—

- KS2 Sports Day at EIS, 10.30-2.30pm
- PTA at The Sir William Hotel, 7.30pm. All very welcome

Thursday 13th July—

- Whole School Sports Afternoon

Friday 14th July—

- Y6 Leaver's Meal

Monday 17th July—

- KS2 Performance—afternoon and evening shows

Tuesday 18th July—

- KS2 Performance—evening show

Thursday 20th July—

- Whole School summer trip out

Friday 21st July—

- Leaver's Assembly
- Sports Afternoon

Term Dates—2017/2018

- 4th Sept to 20th Oct
- 30th Oct to 19th Dec
- 2nd Jan to 16th Feb
- 26th Feb to 23rd March
- 9th April to 25th May
- 4th June to 20th July
- 4th and 5th Sept—INSET days
- 2nd January 2018—INSET day

FOREST SCHOOL — CLASS 1

It is Class 1's second time to take part in Forest School sessions next term. They will be going up to the woods every Monday afternoon all the way to when we break up for the Easter Holiday.

The weather is still a bit changeable, so they will need a full Forest School kit in school, complete with gloves and woolly hats. Hopefully, as the weather starts to get a bit warmer, we can start to strip off a few layers!

DOLLY CLOTHES — Can you help?

Class 1 are apparently desperate for some dolly clothes. It seems that we have a few of our dollies who are feeling the current nip in the air!! Obviously, we cannot have that.

If you have got any dolly clothes hanging around or indeed are up for making a few, they would need to be big enough to fit a doll who goes in a push chair—about 30cm in height.

All contributions will be greatly appreciated.

TISSUES

Due to the distinct lack of snow and a good cold weather snap, we are still struggling with hideous cold germs that nobody seems to be able to shift.

If you are going shopping and feel kind enough to pop an extra box/pack of tissues in your trolley, we would be eternally grateful.

WORLD BOOK DAY

World book day is 20 years old this year and we would like all the children to join in with our celebrations.

We have set a theme for this year as 'at the seaside'. This ties in to this year's Carnival theme, thus costumes may be used twice!

The children can come in to school in fancy dress linked to this theme on Thursday March 2nd for a cost of £1 which will go towards our Thomas Theyer Challenge.

The usual World Book Day tokens will be given out to all the children and are redeemable at certain book stores. These offer the children the chance to pick up one of the World Book Day £1 books or can be used to receive £1 off any book.

If the children would like to bring in a favourite story or book for the day, they are more than welcome to. We will be doing lots of book related activities throughout the

BLOGS

As you know our website holds a wide variety of information, especially the blogs which show what the day-to-day working of the school is like. It is lovely to be able to share with you what we are doing in school, **but it would also be very nice to hear your comments too**. Please feel free to comment on any of the class blogs or any of the main events—it makes blogging very worthwhile and rewarding when the staff and children can see that people are reading about what they are doing and taking time out of very busy lives to comment.