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Grindleford Primary School Newsletter

4th January 2017

Spring Term 3

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



Welcome back to our third term of the school year. I hope you all had a very happy Christmas and New Year break, it feels a long way away already! Thank you so much to everyone who sent best wishes and gifts to school and staff before Christmas, they were much appreciated.

As you can see from the diary dates list, this is again due to be another exciting and busy term. There are lots of exciting events happening for the children and yourselves so please keep the dates safe! I have tried to give as much advance warning as possible, so please check all the diary pages as they run until next September!

Obviously more dates may be added to our diary as time goes on. We will add these to the large calendar on the front page of the website, so please check there as well.

Au Revoir and Welcome

As you will be aware from the website, we bid a very fond farewell to Mrs Callis before Christmas. It was Mrs Callis' wishes that she slipped away quietly without a collection or a fuss. Unfortunately, developing shingles made this a reality, albeit a painful one.

Mrs Callis had worked at school in various roles since September 1998—a huge 18 years—and will be sorely missed. I know that you will all join with me in wishing her bon voyage as she prepares for life in hotter climates!



As Mrs Callis leaves us, Mrs Beccy Ibbotson joins us. Again, I am sure you will join me in wishing Mrs Ibbotson a very warm welcome to the school.

Mrs Ibbotson will be in the front office from 8.45am until 3.30pm on Monday and Tuesday; 8.45am until 3.00pm on a Wednesday; from 9.00am until 1.00pm on a Thursday and 9.00am until 12.30pm on a Friday.

THANK YOU!

Thank you so much to St Helen's Church for allowing us to finish the Christmas term on such a lovely note.

A special thank you also to The Maynard for inviting the whole school up again to make Christmas puddings. The children were very well behaved and lunch, as always, was delicious.

A thank you also to The Sir William for running a decoration competition for the children and being very generous with their prizes.

The biggest thank you must go to our PTA volunteers for organising a superb Secret Santa stall again. Thank you for all the lovely donated gifts and I hope that you all thoroughly enjoyed opening your surprises on Christmas Day—I know that I did! Also a big thank you for organising the family afternoon at Thornbridge Outdoor Centre—much fun was had by all accounts.

Our next massive fundraiser is the Gallop—Look out for ways in which you can help! Saturday 11th March.





Spring Term 3—Continued



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:

Monday 16th January—

- Change4Life Conference—4x Y5, Matlock ARC, 12.00—3.00pm

Thursday 19th or 26th January—

- Sports Hall Athletics, Y5/6 at HVC, 1.30-3.15—TBC

Wednesday 25th January—

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

Thursday 2nd February—

- Fencing Taster Session, 10-11am

Tuesday 7th February—

- SAFER INTERNET DAY

Wednesday 22nd February—

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

Week beginning 27th February—

- Parent's Evening Week

Thursday 2nd March—

- World Book Day

Week beginning 6th March—

- Gallop baking week!

Thursday 9th March—

- High 5 Netball, 1.30-3.30pm at HVC—TBC

Saturday 11th March—

- Gallop

Thursday 16th March—

- Gymnastics with Cl 1

The School Website

For those parents new to the school, every class has a 'blog' section on the website where you can find exciting news, photographs and events that have happened within the classrooms. If you go to the school website, the class blogs are down the right hand side of the screen. You can also find them by searching for class1.blog, class2.blog or class3.blog.

The school website has a **calendar** on the home screen which will be updated regularly with new events and dates as they get added to the school diary. The website also contains access to medical forms, trip forms and so on, if you click on the office button (instead of the drop down menu) it will take you to the relevant forms. Whilst I know it sometimes feels like a chore to keep filling in the same information on trip forms, it is very important that we have the correct details for the **actual day of the trip**. Whilst I dearly hope the situation will never arise, please remember that if an emergency does occur, it may not be a member of school staff (who know you and know who else to get in touch with if you don't answer the phone etc) who has to do the ringing around, it may be a member of the emergency services.

We always try our best to get as much information out to you as early as we can, either through newsletters like this one where the diary dates are written down, through the website or the text message system. Sometimes, as is life, exciting events may crop up at short notice so I apologise for that now!

If you are not receiving text messages from school and are expecting to, please pop into the school office to check whether our recorded contact details are correct or not.

Uniform

At the start of a new year it is always a good idea to check your uniform labels to see whether the names have faded or are still readable. Please make sure that all items (including PE kit and maybe even shoes!) are labelled clearly and still fit. If we find any items of clothing with a name in we will return it to your child. If clothing does not have a name then it goes into lost property or can be taken by someone else by mistake.

You can order new uniform online by going to www.schooltrends.co.uk and clicking on the 'Parents' area. Then just search for Grindleford and take it from there. Alternatively you can pop into the school office and fill in an order form at school.

We also have some 'sew on' logo badges in stock at school for £1. These can be added to clothing bought from other clothing retailers. Please check with the school uniform policy or pop in and see us before purchasing clothing that you wish to put a school logo on. Our uniform policy is on the school website under the 'Information' tab.

Peripatetic Music Opportunities

We have lots of music teachers who come into school and offer various instrument lessons for the children. This is set up as a contract between parents and the music teachers themselves, school merely provide the environment for the lessons to take place. Currently we offer Guitar, Piano, Woodwind and Penny Whistle. If your child is interested in starting to learn an instrument please pop into school and we will pass your details on. **Obviously these lessons require payments.**

Spring Term 3– *Continued*

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

Friday 9th June—

- Carnival Disco—TBC

Saturday 10th June—

- Grindleford Carnival—TBC

Wed 14-Fri 16th June—

- White Hall Trip—Class 3

Thursday 15th June—

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

After-School Clubs

Monday:

- *Micro:Bits Club* - 3.20 till 4.15pm. Class 3 only due to the nature of the work. Maximum of 10. To begin Monday 9th January and run until February half term.
- *Lego Club* - For people who would like to play with lego! From 3.20 to 4.15pm. To begin 9th January and run until February half term.

Tuesday:

- *Cooking Club* - All children welcome. Maximum of 10. From 3.20 to 4.15pm. To begin Tuesday 10th January and will run until February half term.
- (RuggerEds will be back after February half term when the weather should hopefully be picking up again)*

Wednesday:

- *Running Club* - For people who are prepared to work on **long distance running** only. From 3.20 to 4.15pm. To begin 11th January and run until February half term.
- *Class 1 Club* - A mixture of creative activities for Class 1 pupils only. From 3.20 to 4.15pm. To begin 11th January and run until February half term.

Thursday:

- *Artist Club* - Open to anyone who wants to learn about different artists and try to create pieces of art in their styles. To begin 12th January and will run until February half term.

Please note the different days of some of the regular clubs and also that some clubs have a MAXIMUM attendance. This is due to the level of adult support required for the activities planned. The clubs will be filled on a first come, first served basis. Please get in touch with Mrs Ibbotson to get your child's name put down to avoid any confusion.

*Any changes to the above information will be sent out either through text alerts or a letter. As always a **big thank you** must go to the staff who run these clubs in their own free time. Any children not making the 'Right Choices' during after school clubs will be asked not to attend.*

Different clubs will be run throughout the year.

Thank you.



Diary Dates: - Continued!

Friday 16th June—

- Infant Sport's Day 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 September 2017 to 20th October 2017
- 30th October 2017 to 19th December 2017
- 2nd January 2018 to 16th February 2018
- 26th February 2018 to 23rd March 2018
- 9th April 2018 to 25th May 2018
- 4th June 2018 to 20th July 2018
- **4th and 5th September 2017—INSET days**
- **2nd January 2018—INSET day**

Security Reminder



Please may I take this opportunity to remind parents about before school rules. As you know there will be a member of staff out on duty at 8.45am each morning. [Until this time parents are responsible for their own child/ren.](#)

In previous years some children were being dropped off before 8.45am without any supervision. Please can you ensure that this situation does not happen, either by staying with your child/ren till 8.45am or arranging for another parent to keep an eye on them for you.

After school, as soon as your child has been passed over to you from their classteacher, they become your responsibility. Please do not allow them to go into the trim trail or climb the climbing wall unless you are directly supervising them. Again, we have had instances where the children have been allowed to use the school grounds unsupervised and have become lost, hurt themselves or indeed climbed on our neighbours garage roof. I am sure that I can count on you for your continued help to avoid these situations from happening again.

Sickness/Absence

Our school is committed to promoting the welfare of your child through regular school attendance. We know that every day lost to education can have a serious impact on your child's attainment and overall progress in school. Please ensure that your child arrives at school promptly for a 8.55am start.

If your child is ill or needs to be absent from school due to medical appointments etc then please contact school as soon as possible. If we do not hear from you we will then try to contact you to make sure that everything is ok or to make sure a dinner is booked etc.

If your child is ill we will often ask what the symptoms are. This is not us being nosy but trying to work out if there is a pattern of illness going around and also what symptoms we need to look out for within school.

If your child has had sickness or diarrhoea, please follow the Health Protection Agency advice on Infection Control in Schools, which is to **stay away from school for 48 hours after the last bout of illness.** This document can be found on our website if you click on the 'Office' tab.

Picking Up and Dropping Off

Please ensure that if someone else is picking up or dropping off your child/ren that you inform school.

You can either talk to the classteacher, email info@grindlefordprimaryschool.co.uk or leave a message on the answer phone if you cannot get through. This situation includes if a play date has been arranged or even if you are just running a bit late getting back from work and have arranged a friend to cover for ten minutes.

The bottom line is that we are not allowed to let a child go home with another parent or child unless we have heard from their own parent. Please help us to avoid any misunderstandings and to keep your children safe.



Beginning Reception Education—September 2017—TIME IS RUNNING OUT!

Do you need to apply for a school Reception place for September 2017? Or do you know anyone in the village who will need to apply?

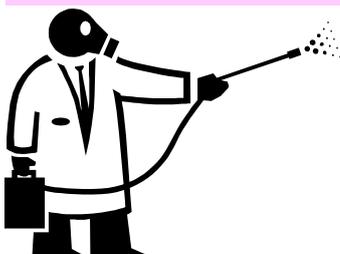
If your child was born between **1st September 2012 and 31st August 2013** then they will be due to start Reception in September 2017. Applications can be made online at www.derbyshire.gov.uk/admissions and the system has been open since the **14th November 2016**. The application process **closes at midnight on the 15th January 2017**. A placement letter will then be sent out to you during April 2017.

Everyone, regardless of which school they wish to go to, has to apply by this deadline. Please spread the word to ensure that nobody misses out. Thank you.

Spaces available

Due to house/job moves we do now have a little bit of breathing space within our school numbers. If you know of anybody who really wants to come to our school and hasn't tried as we were previously full, then please don't hesitate to ask them to get in touch whilst places are available.

Headlice!



Coming soon to a head near you.....or hopefully not!

As with any environment filled with children, head lice are a potential visitor. To help keep these unwanted pests at bay please do regular checks of your child's scalp. If found treat immediately to prevent their spread. There is a wealth of advice online: the NHS Choices pages are particularly useful.

<http://www.nhs.uk/conditions/head-lice/Pages/Introduction.aspx>

We ask that any long hair (male or female) is tied up to help prevent their spread. The best treatment is to comb through wet hair with conditioner on it, using a proper head lice comb. If this action is repeated every time the hair is washed then any adult head lice are combed out and eggs do not have time to settle. If head lice are found, then all clothing, hoods, bed sheets etc (as well as all members of the family being treated) need to be washed to prevent re-infection. As soon as we are alerted to an outbreak, we will send a text out to all parents to check and treat.

It only takes **one** family **not** to check their children's hair when a text is sent out and the efforts of everyone else are wasted.

PLEASE can we all pull together to help keep these creatures out of our school.



School Dinners



As you know we have all our meals cooked on site by Emma and they are 'Gold Award Standard' gorgeous!

Please can I remind parents that you are required to give 2 weeks notice (in writing please) if you wish to change from school dinners to sandwiches or sandwiches to dinners.

Emma has to order her food two weeks in advance therefore requires two weeks notice of changes.

Any dinners that have been ordered but not eaten will unfortunately have to be paid for, as the ingredients will have already been ordered and costed. If you know your child will not be in school please inform school before **10am**. Thank you.





Free School Meals—Class 2 and Class 3 pupils—Are you entitled?

In these difficult financial times, we want to make sure you're getting all the help you're due. A lot of people don't claim free school meals even though they're entitled. You don't need to worry about other children knowing your child gets free school meals, only the school and catering staff will know. However, you could save £400 a year for each child and your children will benefit from a good hot meal at lunchtime. The school will benefit too – we'll get the pupil premium of £1,300 a year from the government for each child on free school meals.

Your child may be able to get free school meals if you get any of the following:

- Income Support
- Income-based Jobseeker's Allowance
- Income-related Employment and Support Allowance
- Support under Part VI of the Immigration and Asylum Act 1999
- The Guarantee element of State Pension Credit
- Child Tax Credit (provided you're not also entitled to Working Tax Credit* and have an annual gross income of no more than £16,190)
- *You can get this help if you get Working Tax Credit and you are in the four week 'run-on' period where your WTC is due to stop because you have stopped work or reduced your hours
- Universal Credit (NB this benefit is only just being introduced in Derbyshire – see our [Universal Credit information](#)).

You will not be eligible if you are claiming Working Tax Credits.

Lunch Time Theme Meals

Sometimes we are treated to Theme Days when a special menu is followed and all our children are invited to take part. I advertise them in school assemblies and there is usually a poster displayed on the front door of the school. If sandwich children would like a dinner, all you have to do is ring up and book them in! The next one is on Thursday 26th January and is a special Chinese menu to celebrate 'Chinese New Year'. This is followed by 'Friendship Day' on Friday 10th February and a special 'World Book Day' menu on Thursday 2nd March.

Would you like to help out?

It was lovely to see how many of our parents, carers and friends of the school helped out with the children's learning during last year. The majority of help centred around hearing children to read, although it can be tailored to people's strengths e.g. Cooking, art and design etc. If you would like to help out in any of the classes, then please pop in to see the class teachers or myself and we'll see what we can work out.

