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# Grindleford Primary School Newsletter

15th January 2018

## Spring Term 3

### ***Special Events and Dates:***

#### INSET

- ***Friday 22nd June 2018***
- ***1x INSET TBC***

#### ***Term Dates—2017/2018***

##### **Spring 3—**

Tues 2nd Jan to Fri 16th Feb

##### **Half Term—**

Mon 19th Feb to Fri 23rd Feb

##### **Spring 4—**

Mon 26th Feb to Fri 23rd March

##### **Easter—**

Mon 26th March to Fri 6th April

##### **Summer 5—**

Mon 9th April to Fri 25th May

##### **Half Term—**

Mon 28th May to Fri 1st June

##### **Summer 6—**

Mon 4th June to Fri 20th July.

Welcome back to our third term of the school year. I hope you all had a very happy Christmas and New Year break. 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 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.

#### **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 massive thank you must go to Chatsworth House for inviting us to go and see their Dickensian Christmas rooms. What a magical end of term.

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.

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 17th March 2018.**

#### **CHARITY OF THE YEAR**

Thank you so much to Terry and Helen at The Sir William. They have very generously decided to name us as their Charity of 2018 and therefore whatever fundraising that happens in the pub, we will get the charity donation.


Already, The Grindleford Singers have raised a substantial donation for us from their carol singing evening before Christmas.

#### **FILM CLUB**


The Sir William has also set up a film club where they have a license to show really up to date films, some of which are still in the cinemas now. Due to the conditions of the licence they are not allowed to charge a fee for watching the films, but can ask for donations, all of which will come to School! So if you fancy watching a film, either Wednesday night or Saturday mornings, and put in a couple of pounds for the pleasure, it will be US that benefits from your generosity.

#### **World Book Day**

This year's dress up theme will be '**Wild Things**' to again tie in with Grindleford Carnival and hopefully save money/doubling up on costumes.



# Spring Term 3—Continued



## ***Special Events and Dates:***

### **Diary Dates:**

#### **Wednesday 17th January—**

- Young Voices Concert 2—9pm

#### **Friday 19th January—**

- Class 3 Drumming Concert, 9.15—9.45am—all welcome

#### **Tuesday 23rd January—**

- Class 3 trip to Stockport Air Raid Shelters

#### **Tuesday 6th February—**

- SAFER INTERNET DAY

#### **Wednesday 7th February—**

- Gymnastics Competition at HVC 4-6pm

#### **Friday 9th February—**

- Class 2 Mini Basketball Competition at HVC, 1-3.30pm—TBC

#### **Thursday 1st March—**

- WORLD BOOK DAY—Theme of 'Wild Things'

#### **Week beginning 5th March—**

- Parent's Evening Week

#### **Thursday 8th March—**

- Motivational talk by Rob Jebb and Jon Morgan—TBC

#### **Week beginning 12th March—**

- Gallop baking week!

#### **Saturday 17th March—**

- GALLOP

#### **Friday 23rd March—**

- RED NOSE DAY
- Easter Egg Competition
- Easter Egg Hunt

## **Changes to our School day**

You may or may not have noticed that we have had a slight change round of our school routine. We now begin the day with our first lesson, instead of assembly. I think this decision was driven by me talking too much and therefore assemblies taking too long (oops!). Anyway, assembly now happens at 10am and finishes at break-time.

Obviously this means that your children arriving at school promptly is even more important than it was previously as they will now be missing the start of their maths teaching for the day. Please try to ensure that your child/ren are in school for an 8.55am start.

Also, to try to avoid congestion, please can parents avoid using the front door, unless they specifically require advice from staff or Mrs Ibbotson. No children should be inside school until they come in with their classes when the whistle has gone. They should keep their bags with them on the yard. There is a box for letters for Mrs Ibbotson in the back porch to save parents from walking through school.

## **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](mailto: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.

## **The School Website**

The school website has a **lots of information** on the home screen, including a calendar which will be updated regularly with new events and dates as they get added to the school diary. Please check out the class blogs to see what your children have been up to!

## **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](http://www.schooltrends.co.uk) and clicking on the 'Parents' area. Then just search for Grindleford and take it from there.

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.

# Spring Term 3– *Continued*

## Diary Dates: - Continued!

Friday 20th April—

- Class 2 Cheerleading at HVC—pm—TBC

Friday 4th May—

- Cluster KS2 Swimming Gala at Hathersage Pool—10-12pm—TBC

Monday 7th May—

- MAY DAY

Friday 11th May—

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

Week beginning 14th May—

- SATs week

Wednesday 23rd May—

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

Tuesday 5th June—

- WORLD ENVIRONMENT DAY
- Maybe a Secret Squirrel Y6 treat day—TBC

Wednesday 6th June—Thursday 7th June—

- Class 2 at Castleton Youth Hostel

Sunday 10th June—

- Carnival Opening Ceremony

Wednesday 13th June—Friday 15th June—

- Class 3 at White hall Residential

Friday 15th June—

- KS1 Sports Day at HVC—TBC
- Carnival Disco in School

Saturday 16th June—

- Carnival Day

Friday 22nd June—

- INSET DAY

## After-School Clubs

### Monday:

- *Construction Club* - For people who would like to play with lego, knex etc! From 3.20 to 4.15pm. To begin 8th January and run until February half term.
- *Maths Booster Type Club* - For Class 3 people who would like a bit of extra help with any aspects of their maths work they are finding a bit tricky. From 3.20 to 4.15pm. To begin 8th January and run until February half term.

### Tuesday:

- *Chess Club* - All children welcome, who want to play or learn how to play chess. From 3.20 to 4.15pm. To begin 9<sup>th</sup> 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*

*Running Club will also be back after February half term when the weather should hopefully be a bit better and lighter evenings – Note the **proposed** change to a TUESDAY.*

### Wednesday:

- *Cooking Club* - All children welcome. Maximum of 10, **£1 per week** to cover ingredients please. From 3.20 to 4.15pm. To begin 10th January and will 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 11th 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!

### Monday 25th June—

- Y6 Lady Manner's Maths Day

### Friday 29th June—

- Y6 Lady Manner's Science Day

### Tuesday 3rd July—

- Y6 Lady Manner's Language Day

### Wednesday 4th July—

- KS2 Sports Day at EIS, 10.30-2.30pm

- Y6 Transition Day at Lady manner's.

### Friday 6th July—

- Sports afternoon—TBC

### Friday 13th July—

- Y6 Leaver's Meal

### Monday 16th July—

- KS2 Performance—afternoon and evening shows

### Tuesday 17th July—

- KS2 Performance—evening show

### Thursday 19th July—

- Whole School summer trip out

### Friday 20th July—

- Leaver's Assembly
- Sports Afternoon

### Term Dates—2018/2019

- 3rd September 2018 to 26 October 2018
- 5 November 2018 to 21 December 2018
- 7th January 2019 to 15 February 2019
- 25th February 2019 to 12th April 2019
- 29th April 2019 to 24th May 2019
- 3rd June 2019 to 22nd July 2019

## 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.

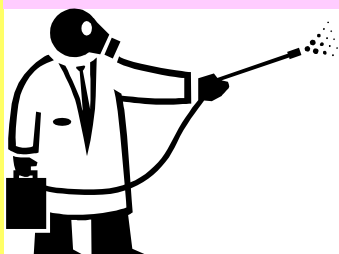
If your child is ill we will often ask what the symptoms are. This is not us being nosy but trying to work out if there is a pattern of illness going around and also what symptoms we need to look out for within school.

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.

## 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. If your child does not want to tie their hair back, then please have it cut. 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.

## 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, Band, Cello, Violin, 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.**