



Summer Term 2 Newsletter

Hello everyone,

What a very hot end to the final term of this academic year. The children have enjoyed playing outside and have been very sensible during the heatwave. We had assemblies and class discussions about sun safety and it was good to see the children in sun hats and drinking lots of water. Mr Brown had his semi-retirement assembly yesterday and a staff party after school. Mr Wright and Miss Perkins leave us today and we wish them well in their new posts. We said farewell to our Y6 children this morning at our leaver's assemblies, with laughter, singing, dancing and some tears. We wish the children good luck in their secondary schools.

Lost property

We have had lost property out on the playgrounds for this last week. Any uniform not claimed will be recycled or sent to charity. Please make sure you have your child's name in their uniform for September.

Outdoor learning

We have had so many trips this summer term, both local walking events and further afield coach trips that I would fill this page listing them all. Thank you to parents and carers who have been volunteers on these trips. We can't run them without you.

All our residential trips- Y1/2 Wollaton, Y3/4 Kingswood and Y5/6 Lockerbrook have been very successful and given the children a range of new experiences. Great news...these will all be running again next year! These experiences are an important part of Dunkirk learning and we encourage as many children to take part as possible. A huge thank you to all the staff for organising these residential experiences and especially for those staff who take the children away and give up their evenings (and sleep!) as part of that.

Diary Dates

We return to school on Tuesday 3rd September 2019 for 8:55am prompt start.

'Meet the teaching team' parent sessions are on Tuesday 10th September 2019.

I will send out a full list of events/dates etc for the autumn term in September.

Looking back

It has been a very busy year, with a new curriculum, our OfSTED visit and the pleasing 'Good' outcome. We joined the Nottingham Schools Trust and have worked with different city schools. We have worked tirelessly to improve Dunkirk this year and been focused on our School Improvement Plan.

Priority 1. Raise Attainment of Reading through Improving Progress Outcomes

Phonics results have risen again and children are applying their learning across the curriculum. Our new Big Read sessions, where we teach reading as a whole class, are now fully established and staff have been improving reading fluency.

Priority 1 Raise Attainment in Writing through Improving Progress Outcomes Staff have had training to develop their subject knowledge. During the year, we have increased expectations of what the children write, how much they write and how often they write, including opportunities across the curriculum. Children love seeing their progress from their cold write through to their final hot write assessment pieces.

Priority 2. Improve Children's Understanding of their Learning Behaviours

We have worked with the children to help them understand positive learning behaviours so they are ready to learn and concentrate on their learning. Thank you to the school council for organising the pupil learning survey. We have also been looking at children being able to track their progress in a lesson, which is still at early stages. Dunkirk children, as always, have been a delight this school year. They have responded very positively to our new behaviour expectations and are enjoying PRIDE, especially the class tokens.

Priority 3. Enriched curriculum provides opportunities for the application of writing basic skills to accelerate learning

The new curriculum has been well received by staff and children. We have built in international links so that our curriculum reflects the global perspective of our school. We look to develop this further and re-organise resources to support more hands-on learning.

Priority 4. Improve the strategic leadership at all levels

The new Phase Leaders have been great at developing the quality of teaching and learning. The change to having a Deputy Head based solely at one campus has meant that children, staff and families feel more connected to the concept of Dunkirk being two different campuses.

Finally... I just wanted to say a huge thank you for everyone's support whilst my dad was in hospital. It has been a challenging time but it has made me feel cared for because staff, children and Dunkirk families have been so understanding and kind. My dad is now home, rehabilitating, and I look forward to bringing my mum and dad to the Christmas Fair (as they usually do), to see my Dunkirk school family and of course join in the raffle!

Have a relaxing summer break. As always, the children's summer homework is to get outside, play lots and enjoy themselves. There will be lots of hard work when they return in September.

See you all in September.

Heidi Hollis
Head Teacher