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January Newsletter 2017

Dear Parents

Happy New Year!

Welcome to 2017 at Droxford Junior School! We hope you had an enjoyable, fun-filled, Christmas holiday. Our aim for your holidays is to enjoy time with family and friends, recharge batteries and recuperate. However, if you are ever at a loss for ideas please use our website for ideas of enrichment activities.

<http://droxfordjunior.co.uk/enrichment-tasks/>

Towards SATs in May there may be some additional, specific tasks set by our Year 6 teachers for homework. In school we aim to motivate and inspire and are dedicated to make your child's learning enjoyable and enriching! My vision for Droxford Junior School is that we provide outstanding opportunities for all our children to excel. We welcome any support from yourselves to enrich the learning in any way and look forward to working in partnership with parents, governors, staff, our village community in order for our children to flourish!

Thank you to everyone who attended the lovely Christmas Services and to all the children and staff who worked so hard behind the scenes. We all feel very proud to be working here at our lovely school. There are photographs that can be found on the evening echo website...

<http://southerndailyecho.newsprints.co.uk/search/scu/p/u/253356/1/nativity%202016>

Reminder - Writing workshop for parents – 6-7pm Wednesday 11th January 2017

The aim of the workshop is to show parents how we teach writing in school from the transition from Year 2 all the way through to Year 7. This will include our teaching and learning strategies and how we ensure high quality progression and attainment up to the end of the Year 6 tests. If you haven't done so already please email the school office or use the slip at the end of the newsletter to let us know if you will be attending.

Attendance.

We understand the need to take the first available hospital or urgent medical/dental appointments but please try to arrange any non-urgent appointments outside of school hours. But as a statutory reminder...

"Parents do not have the right or entitlement to take a pupil out of school for the purposes of a family holiday during term time" (HCC)



Shakespeare Rewired

We are very excited to be welcoming the Blue Sky Theatre Company into school on January 16th. The company will be holding two 'Shakespeare Rewired' workshops based on A Midsummer Night's Dream, where children will watch a highly entertaining and interactive version of the play. This is an amazing opportunity for the children to experience live theatre with professional actors and use it as a springboard for their writing. This visit will begin the unit on A Midsummer Night's Dream for Years 3 and 4 and Years 5 and 6 will study Shakespeare later in the year.

We would like to thank the William Collins Charity who has very generously funded this workshop.

'Drox' electric kit car.

The 2017 racing season beckons!

We are looking for a new team of interested **Year 5** children and parents. If **you and your child** would be interested in taking part in the project please complete the reply slip or email the school office.

It is essential that families commit to attending practice sessions and the two racing events:

Saturday 11th March 2016 – HMS Excellent, Portsmouth

Sunday 9th July 2016 – Goodwood race track.

There will be a half an hour planning meeting for **just** interested **parents** on Monday 9th January at 6:00pm. This will be to schedule dates and allocate tasks. We will need parents to join either the technical team or the administration team. Commitment to the whole two term project is key and extremely welcomed!

Snow

In the (rare) event of snow please ensure that children have a change of shoes (walking boots or wellies in separate bag). If the playground is not too slushy and safe they will be able to play outside and possibly on the field!

Information regarding emergency school closures can be found from the school website. If we need to close the school information will be on the website, and we will email/text parents. There is a link on our website www.droxfordjunior.co.uk from the parent's page (emergency closures) to www.hants.gov.uk/education/schoolclosures/ which will list all school closures in Hampshire.

School Dinners

The cost of lunches is £2.10 per day. Total cost for the first half of Spring Term will be £67.20 and the second half will be £63.00. If your child is in Year 4 and going to Runways End please deduct £6.30. If you wish to pay by cheque please make it payable to 'HCC'.

Parents evening This term's parent & child consultations will be on Wednesday 15th and Thursday 16th February. Details of which will be made available in a separate communication.



Cyberbullying

In school the children are taught about keeping safe whilst using the internet. There is a really useful government website that offers advice to parents.

You may wish to share this guidance from the above website with your child:

1. **Safe:** Keep safe by being careful not to give out personal information when you're chatting or posting online. Personal information includes your email address, phone number and password.
2. **Meet:** Meeting someone you have only been in touch with online can be dangerous. Only do so with your parents' or carers' permission and even then only when they can be present. Remember online friends are still strangers even if you have been talking to them for a long time.
3. **Accepting:** Accepting emails, messages, or opening files, images or texts from people you don't know or trust can lead to problems – they may contain viruses or nasty messages!
4. **Reliable:** Someone online might lie about who they are and information on the internet may not be true. Always check information by looking at other websites, in books, or with someone who knows. If you like chatting online it's best to only chat to your real world friends and family.
5. **Tell:** Tell a parent, carer or a trusted adult if someone, or something, makes you feel uncomfortable or worried, or if you or someone you know is being bullied online.

The following websites offer good advice to children and parents:

www.saferinternet.org.uk/advice-and-resources/parents-and-carers/safety-tools-on-online-services

www.thinkuknow.co.uk/8_10/control/social/

Our new Safeguarding policy (available to view this half term) will have more guidance for parents to access. We will also be hosting a day of e-safety workshops in March. Details of which will follow shortly.

Finally, I believe this will be a highly successful term for all our children and have every confidence it will be. The staff at this school are highly committed, creative and talented and will do their utmost for all children to achieve!

Once again I wish you all a very **Happy and successful New Year!**

Yours sincerely



Matthew Dampier
Headteacher



Writing workshop for parents 6-7pm Wednesday 11th January 2017

Child's Name Learning Base

Name of parent:

I will be attending the workshop for parents

Signed:..... Date:.....

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The Drox - Greenpower Goblin kit car project 2017 – Year 5

We would like to take part in the after school / weekend project.

Child's Name

Learning Base

Name of parent:

I will be attending the meeting for parents on Monday 9th January at 6:00pm

Signed:..... Date:.....

