

Sheep Dip Lane Primary School

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Sheep Dip Lane
PRIMARY SCHOOL

Newsletter No 1: Friday 9th September 2016

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope that you've all had a good summer. Thank you from myself and all of the staff for your very generous presents, cards, thanks and good wishes at the end of the Summer Term, they are much appreciated.

A lot of work has taken place over the summer holidays including a new outdoor reading area in our quad, a new ICT network and Wi-Fi system to support learning in classes on laptops and iPads. We have spent a lot of money on lots of beautiful new resources including new book packs for new topic themes to enhance our learning. Thank you to all the staff who worked so hard during the holidays to reorganise and sort everything out so we're all ready for the start of another exciting school year!

The children have come back really well and ready to learn; they all look so smart in their new school uniforms! It's nice to see so many children wearing proper school shoes too, which are much better for supporting their feet. Thank you. A special welcome to our new children in the foundation stage, we hope they will all be very happy at Sheep Dip.

Holiday Requests ~ Please note, following Government regulations, all holidays will be classed as unauthorised; we will not grant any leave of absence during term time unless there are very exceptional circumstances. If you go ahead with the holiday when unauthorised, you may receive a Fixed Penalty Notice issued through the Local Authority. Per child, this will be £60 if paid within 21 days; payment after this time but within 28 days is £120. If parents do not inform us, then a visit may be made to the home by the Education Welfare Officer to establish the reason for absence. The fine will go ahead if the house is unoccupied unless the parents have dated medical evidence for the period of absence.

Parents are requested to seriously consider the effect that taking children out of school has on their education.

Parents who wish to take children on holiday at times other than during school holidays must make their request in writing (via a Leave of Absence Request Form, available from Reception).

School Attendance ~ School starts at 8.55am, with children coming into school at 8.35am. It is really important that your child attends school on time each day unless they are ill or they have an authorised absence. If your child has a medical appointment, please bring their appointment card to the School Office to be photocopied for their records so that they may be given a medical mark. If your child is ill, please ring the School Office before 09:30am to tell us why they are absent and how long they are likely to be away from school. Thank you. Any child with attendance below 90% will now be classed as a persistent absentee under the latest Local Authority guidance. The gates will be closed at 9.00am, a child will be classed as late after that time.

Staff news: A very warm welcome to our new staff Miss Maynard in the Year 1/2 with Mrs Parkhurst. Also, a welcome back to Miss Scargill our Special Needs Lead and who is an additional member of staff who will support in Nursery and Reception. Miss Edwards resigned her position at school during the holidays as she will be joining the educational psychology team, school is advertising her post and we will keep you updated on newly appointed staff.

Visits ~ **Year 5/6 visit** to Leicester National Space Centre ~ **Wednesday 21st September**. The children set off at 08:30am and are due to return that afternoon at 4.30pm. Our KS1 & Y5/6 children have a visit from the Star Dome on 15th September you will receive trip letters from your class teachers, please return consent slips as soon as possible. Thank you also for your support. We have an author 'Eamonn Reilly' visiting our school on 12th September.

Special Events ~ We have our annual MacMillan Coffee morning on Friday 30th September and Roald Dahl Day on 13th September which is a dress up as one of his character's event, we will have such fun sharing his books and activities throughout the school that day.

PE Kit: Please ensure that your child/ren has their PE kit on the following days:

Days	Class
Monday	5/6 Miss Edwards (Indoor PE) 5/6 Miss Barker (Indoor PE) Year 1 Mrs Auld (outdoor PE) Year 1/2 Miss Maynard (outdoor PE)
Tuesday	Year 1 Mrs Auld (Indoor PE) Year 2 Mrs Steeper (Indoor PE) Year 3/4 Miss Haxell (outdoor PE) 5/6 Miss Edwards (Outdoor PE) 5/6 Miss Barker (Outdoor PE)
Wednesday	Year 3 Mrs Knifton (Indoor PE) Year 3/4 Miss Haxell (Indoor PE)
Thursday	Year 2 Mrs Steeper (outdoor PE) Year 1/2 Miss Maynard (Indoor PE) Year 3 Mrs Knifton (outdoor PE) Year 4/5 Mrs Towndrow (Indoor PE) FS2 Mrs Sparrow/Mrs Matthews (Indoor PE)
Friday	Year 4/5 Mrs Towndrow (outdoor PE) FS2 Mrs Sparrow/Mrs Matthews (Indoor PE)

Indoor PE kit:

Girls Black leotard or white t shirt and black shorts/skirt.

Boys White t shirt and black shorts.

Bare feet or black plimsolls whilst working in the Hall

Outdoor PE kit: Clothing as above, with extra jumper/tracksuit depending on time of year. During winter months, please be aware that clothing may become muddy. Trainers / football boots are allowed.

Jewellery – Please could the children only wear stud earrings to school and if they wish, a watch; all other jewellery should be kept safe at home, thank you.

Celebration Assemblies~ We will continue to hold our assembly each Friday morning from 09:00a.m. where we celebrate attendance and learning achievement awards for KS1 and then KS2. Parents/carers will receive a secret phone call from school if your child/ren have been nominated for an award due to excellent learning that week. We appreciate attendance at these events is difficult due to work commitments, if you require more notice please let admin know and we will arrange for the award at the following assembly to give two weeks' notice.

Dogs on site ~ Can we remind everyone that dogs are not permitted on site for health and safety, many thanks for supporting us to keep the children safe.

Safety before and after school ~ To keep the children safe before school and after collecting your child please don't allow them to climb on any equipment on our playground or swing on the football posts. For their safety they need to stay close to you. If your child comes on a scooter/bicycle to school they need to come in through the Broadwater Drive entrance or if they are in FS dismount at the gates and wheel their scooter or Bicycle to the racks. No riding in the playgrounds!

PTA ~ We are on the look out for any volunteers for our parent teacher group which support school events and fund raising for special resources for the children each year. This year this has supported new role play furniture for foundation stage. If you are interested in joining please see Miss Graham our admin manager for information.

With many thanks for your continued support and here's to another exciting year!

Mrs Faye Parish

Head Teacher