



Weekly Bulletin 1 – Friday 26th January 2018

Dear Parents and Carers,

This half term is particularly short and the half term break will be with us in only two weeks – quite a frightening thought! Please make sure that you book your parents evening appointments for the last week of the half term and don't forget that we have holiday clubs taking place in school for 4 days – Monday to Thursday.

Friday 26th and Saturday 27th January - Digital Leaders at the BETT Show

Four of our digital leaders are spending the weekend in London with myself, Mr Knighton, Mr Mordue and Mrs Tatham. During their time at the BETT show, they will have an action packed day, presenting on various stands, and also demonstrating apps and resources. We also hope that they will help us decide which new resources we need for school! Last year, our Digital Leaders were able to trial equipment from 'Now Press Play'. As a result of their enthusiasm, we have now just purchased these resources and all classes will be using them soon – headphones worn by all children which tell a story that the children act out. Let's see what we purchase this year as a result of the persuasiveness of the Digital Leaders!

Monday 29th January 2018 - KS2 Choir and Snappy Operas

The final rehearsal for 'The Itch Witch' will take place on Monday afternoon. I was so impressed with their rehearsal this week, that I have asked that the children perform it to the rest of the school at the end of the day on Monday. All children need to bring in their costumes on Monday so that they can all be checked. The nits should be in all black, the kids should have their own clothes (lots of colour and no brand names if possible) and the combs should all have a white top half and a black bottom half. Hopefully this is all clear.

We have also had a message that they have also managed to release a few more tickets for the event itself on Tuesday 6th February 2018 at the Gala theatre. However, these will no doubt be sold very quickly so please get your tickets as soon as possible if you have not done so already.

Tuesday 30th January 2018 – Year 2/3 Girls Football Tournament

Fourteen of our Year 2 & 3 girls will be competing in a football tournament at Sunderland AFC on Tuesday morning. All girls involved have been given a letter and form to complete. The bus has to leave at 8.55 a.m. prompt on Tuesday morning so they need to be in school for 8.45 a.m. please. They will have their dinner as usual, on their return to school at lunchtime. They will need to come to school in warm sports kit, and bring a drink of water with them. They will not need to bring their uniform in for the afternoon.

Parents' Evening Appointments

Booking is now open for parents' evening appointments through eSchools. Please make sure that you book your appointment before 4 pm on Thursday 1st February so that any unallocated appointments can be allocated. Thank you.

Disco Tickets

Tickets for the discos on Thursday 8th February are on sale from Monday morning at a cost of £2. Please send in your money with a child in a named enveloped and these will be distributed by the School Office.

Year 6 and Ford Castle

Forms will be given to the children next week – please make sure that these are returned promptly and definitely before the half term holiday.

Holiday Clubs

Please do not forget that we have our own school holiday clubs on Monday 12th and Tuesday 13th February which include a mixture of sports and arts and crafts activities for the day. On Wednesday 14th and Thursday 15th, Mr Graham is also holding sports holiday clubs in school. Please book in advance for these.

After School Club and Late Parents

We have an increasing number of parents who are arriving late to collect children on a regular basis. This is quite distressing for the children and causes issues for the staff who often have meetings or after school clubs to attend. Whilst we do completely understand that there are occasions when the inevitable happens, causing you to be late, we cannot have staff waiting with children on a daily basis. So, from now on, if you are more than 10 minutes late collecting your children at the end of the day, they will be put in After School Club and a charge will be applied.

Monday 5th February at 6 p.m. - Friends of the School Meeting

Friends of the School have their next meeting on Monday 5th February at 6 pm. We have a few forthcoming events which will be planned and organised and new faces will be warmly welcomed! Come and along and help support the school and your children.

Foundation Stage News (Nursery and Reception)

Thanks to those of you who have already offered to come into Foundation Stage to be a Surprise Storyteller. We'll get back to you to start this up after half term. If anyone else would like to volunteer, you will be most welcome. All it involves is popping in to school for 15 minutes at a time to suit you to read or tell a story to a large or small group in Nursery or Reception.

On Monday, we will be sending out a form for you to complete before you come to see your child's teacher/key worker for your appointment in the last week of half term. This will give us a little more information about your child's current interests at home and is also an opportunity to ask any specific questions about your child's progress and development which you would like to be addressed during the appointment. If these could be completed and returned by next Friday (2nd February) we would be most grateful.

Next week's stories in Nursery will be 'We're Going on a Bear Hunt', 'Where's my Teddy?', 'The Bear and the Piano', 'Whatever Next?' and 'Goldilocks and the Three Bears'.

Nursery and Reception children will be using Now>Press>Play to further explore the story of 'Goldilocks and the Three Bears' next Wednesday. We are so excited to be trying out this fantastic resource!

As you know, we are always on the hunt for loose parts to enhance the opportunities for imaginative play. We would love to collect some bits and pieces to use outdoors, so if you have any pieces of piping, guttering, any wheels, cable reels, tubes, building materials, pots and pans, or anything at all that the children could repurpose, please let us know!

As usual, if there is anything at all that you would like to discuss, please do not hesitate to contact me at school. Alternatively, you can email me at: j.davis@lanchesterep.net and I will do my best to reply as soon as possible.

Yours sincerely,

Jane Davis

Mrs Jane Davis
Head Teacher