



Newsletter November 2018 *Respectful, Responsible, Resilient*

November has been a very busy month with lots of exciting learning, events and visitors into school. As the children have been working hard in all areas of their learning and we look forward to an exciting end of term with the preparation for Christmas and the end of another year.

Our School Values

We have been working with staff and pupils to look at our school values. These are the key values that we wish to promote and install in our children through our school ethos, learning, achievements and in the wider life of the school. Our school mission is that all children learn with a happy heart and positive relationships. Our school values are:

Respectful

Towards myself, and others

Responsible

For my learning, for my actions and for the wider world

Resilient

To be able to deal with the ups and downs of life

Over the course of this year we will be working together to promote our school values. We have now introduced our Values Awards each week during our whole school assembly where we celebrate children in each class who have demonstrated our values.

Travelling to School

For those that have to drive to school, please park only within marked bays and avoid parking in the marked bus bays. Also be considerate to other drivers entering and exiting the parking area.

Wet Weather

During wet weather children should make their way into the school canteen through the **canteen doors (facing BHS)**.

To relieve congestion we would appreciate if parents and carers could drop off their children at the door and not enter the canteen. Thank you

Christmas Jumper Day

This will be on Friday 14th December. Children can come to school wearing their Christmas jumpers or something festive for a donation of £1. All proceeds go to Save the Children

Christmas Fayre

Thank you to everyone who supported our Christmas Fayre and to FDPS for all their hard work in organising the event. The night was a huge success and we raised £1350.

Clothing

It is vital that children come to school with adequate clothing for the season. Please ensure that your child has a warm and waterproof coat with them everyday. As the temperature becomes chillier we advise that children also have a hat, gloves and a scarf to keep them warm and cosy.

Christmas Performances

Our children have been busy beginning to prepare for a variety of Christmas performances. A separate letter has been sent out with timings of all Christmas events. We look forward to welcoming you all to our performances.

In-service Day

Our school staff had a very busy two days during our recent in-service days. On Thursday staff attended a whole cluster session at Berwickshire High School focusing on developing our learning and teaching approaches to the Broad General Education. On Friday staff took part in our Growing in Confidence programme developing our understanding of attachment theory and building resilience.

Duns Primary is a Rights Respecting School



Article 28: Children have the right to an education

Class Assemblies

Over the course of this year each class will be leading an assembly showcasing their fantastic learning to which all parents, carers, family and friends are warmly invited. Our assemblies take place on Wednesday afternoons at 2:30pm. Parents are invited to join the staff from 2.00pm for tea and coffees and a blether. Below is a list of dates for class assemblies this year.

Wednesday 5th Dec 2018- P4

Wednesday 30th Jan 2019- P6A

Wednesday 6th Feb 2019 - P4/5

Wednesday 27th Feb 2019- P3B

Wednesday 6th Mar 2019- P6B

Wednesday 13th Mar 2019- P7B

Wednesday 15th May 2019- P3A

Wednesday 22nd May 2019- P2A & P2B

Wednesday 29th May 2019- P1A & P1B

Wednesday 26th June 2019- P7 Leavers Assembly.

Education City

Our school has just subscribed to Education City. This is an online learning website which covers Literacy, Numeracy, Science, French and Computing. Each child has home access to Education City and they have been issued with their individual log ins. Children can choose learning activities and teachers can allocate tasks also.

Severe Weather

Arrangements

A new protocol has been announced by Scottish Borders Council to be put in place for situations when adverse weather impacts on schools, replacing the Resilient Schools Policy. The new protocol has been established after it became clear following recent severe weather events that Resilient Schools was no longer sustainable as significantly fewer teachers lived within walking distance of schools than in 2010, when the policy was developed. A separate letter has been sent out

Parent Drop-ins

We are delighted to host Parent Drop-in sessions in our Community room upstairs once a month. Karen Lerpiniere from Parentspace is available for confidential advice and support every third Wednesday of the month. Any parent can join her for a coffee and chat. Before working for Parentspace Karen was a mental health specialist and now runs all sorts of workshops to promote well-being and emotional and social well-being. E.g. mindfulness
On 10th December she is running a Drop-in session at 6A (the old post office) from 1 until 3pm and the week after on Weds 17th December her sessions in Duns PS will start at 1.00pm until 3.00pm. Other dates will be every third Wednesday after that. The first session in the new year will be on Wednesday 16th January 2019.

Accessibility Pass

To ensure the safety of all our children please be reminded that the car park at the top of the hill is for staff only. There is **no access** to the road leading up to the swimming pool / school staff car-park **between 8:30 to 9:00am and 3:15 pm to 3:45 pm (Monday to Thursday) and 8:30 to 9:00am and 12:45 until 1:15pm (Friday).**

We appreciate that due to individual circumstances some people may require access to the top car park during drop off and pick up times and we will therefore be allocating accessibility passes to those who require them. Please contact a member of the Senior Leadership Team to discuss should you feel you require a pass.

St Andrews Day Holiday

A reminder that school is closed this **Monday 3rd September** for the St Andrews Day Holiday. We hope everyone enjoys the long weekend.



Newsletter November 2018 *Respectful, Responsible, Resilient*

Duns Primary is a Rights Respecting School



Article 28: Children have the right to an education