

ESKDALE NEWSLETTER



Summer Term Newsletter

Dear Parent/Carer,

Welcome back to the start of the summer term! I hope that you all have had the opportunity for some quality family time over the Easter holiday. This term is typically our busiest time of the year and we all look forward to lots of exciting opportunities for the children of Eskdale Junior School.

Netball Competition at George Spencer

Right at the end of last term Miss Groves took our netballers to a competition at George Spencer Academy. The children have been preparing for a number of weeks with Miss Groves and Miss Hackett and I'm told the children put in a huge amount of effort! Well done to all those pupils who took part and many thanks to both Miss Groves and Miss Hackett for supporting the children.

Attendance

The spring term is always a challenging time for maintaining high levels of attendance due to the number of illnesses that fly around. That said (and despite a slight dip at the end of the first half of the spring term) you have helped us maintain high levels of attendance at 96.5% by the end of last term. It would be wonderful if we could push this to 97% (our school target) Please continue to send your son or daughter to school unless they are absolutely too unwell to attend. Thank you



New Members of Staff

Eskdale welcomes three new starters to our team this term. Mrs Palmer joins our teaching assistant team and parents Ms Heath and Mrs Owen join our midday supervisor team. Both have made a great start and are looking forward to supporting our children.

Y4 Trip Beaumanor Hall

Y4 had their World War Two unit of work enriched with a visit to Beaumanor Hall early this half term. Pupils looked the part, dressed as evacuees and took part in code breaking, making identity cards, shopping for rations and surviving an 'air raid' in a shelter. Many thanks to members of staff Mrs Bennett, Miss Graves, Mrs Hunter, Mrs Neylon, Mrs Jackson, Mrs Huntley who arranged the visit and to those volunteers who also accompanied pupils on a rather soggy day in Leicestershire!



Y3 Theatre Trip Alice in Wonderland

Earlier this week pupils had their Reading curriculum enriched with a visit to the Theatre Royal in Nottingham to watch a stage adaptation of the Lewis Carroll classic story. Our Y3 children had a fantastic time! Many thanks to Mrs Dorn and Miss Hackett for organising this visit and to the huge number of adults involved in supporting the children.



Eskdale Reading Raffle

The House captains were awarded the reading raffle trophy on behalf of Clumber House for the most reads in the Make Time to Read Month of March. The house will now vote for what their collective reward will be. Well done Clumber.



Severn Trent Assembly

It was a pleasure to welcome Chloe from Severn Trent Water earlier this week to talk to the children in assembly about the work that they do in maintaining our water supply and highlighting the need to only flush certain items down the toilet to ensure that we reduce pollution. A fabulous assembly and we promised as a school to change our flushing habits!

Y5 Trip Yorkshire Sculpture Park

Y5 headed north to West Bretton, Yorkshire to have their Art curriculum enriched with a visit to the Yorkshire Sculpture Park. Whilst there, pupils learnt about abstract sculpture and looked at texture and form in sculpture. This will act as an inspiration for their own work this



Reminders!

Please see attached Diary Dates for this term.

You may have seen in the news over the Easter break that there remains unrest between teaching unions and the government about the most recent pay offer for teachers. This has resulted in the National Education Union (NEU) announcing more strike days for the summer term. At this stage we are aware of two dates below:

Thursday 27th April: NEU Strike Day – school closed to children

Monday 1st May: BANK HOLIDAY-school is closed

Tuesday 2nd May: NEU Strike Day – school closed to children

Monday 8th May: BANK HOLIDAY – Kings Coronation school is closed

Friday 26th May: INSET day school closed to children/Children break up for half term

Yours sincerely,
R Scruton