King Street Primary & Pre - School

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26th April 2024

Dear Parent/carers,

There have been lots of decisions made in school this week about ideas and events for this year and beyond. We have made the decision that we will be opening 2-year-old provision as part of our Nursery from September 2024. We are working alongside the local Authority and other providers to develop the provision and ensure that it will offer fantastic opportunities to all. We do not yet have the finer details confirmed but should have this information very soon so if you, or family members, are interested in this provision, please look out for more details in the coming weeks. We initially expect to offer 5 places. We are offering this provision due to the current government childcare initiative where children will be eligible for funded provision. Central and local government recognise that it is an ambitious offer and that more places need to be created to ensure the offer can be met.

This week we have also been finalising our Year 4/5 residential to Newcastle and now have all venues and activities confirmed. We are awaiting some final confirmation on travel arrangements and then will send all information out to families. It definitely promises to be an action packed 2 days and they will be ready for the weekend when they return!

If your child is attending a residential visit this term (year 4, 5 or 6), please ensure you are up to dates with payments as we need to make payments to providers.

This week Year 5 had a Space engineer to talk to them about space and his job role. They were fascinated to hear his stories and facts and it was lovely to have someone with such enthusiasm who could inspire our children. The heard all about a VE6 underwater drone and what this can explore. Year 5 and 6 also had a careers workshop where they listened to how he went on the journey from librarian to engineer. It certainly gave the children something to think about.

**Fundraising**

We are doing very well with the Tesco ‘Blue Token’ scheme and currently have similar votes to another primary school. Please help us to win the competition by telling your friends and family to vote for us. The children would appreciate it as the money always goes towards providing better things for them. Thank you.

**Childhood illnesses**

We continue to have lots of children with sore throats and temperatures around school and would ask that if your child has a high temperate, you keep them at home until they are better as viruses are spreading quite quickly when children return to school and their temperate is still high as this suggests they are still fighting the infection.

We have also been advised by the Local Authority health trust that whooping cough is on the increase in the area. We currently do not have any cases of whooping cough but the NHS advise that if you suspect this in your child, they should see a GP. We would always hope that, by this time of year, all the coughs and colds have receded but this year they definitely seem persistent!

**Lateness**

We are noticing an increase in the number of children who are regularly late and are not arriving at school until 9am. Please be reminded that the school day begins at 8:45am and registers are taken immediately. We do expect all children in by this time. The school doors open at 8:30am to allow children to have a more relaxed start to their day and they can benefit from the additional reading activities that we offer in this first 15 minutes (as part of our ongoing commitment to developing all children into confident and fluent readers). Please do ensure your child arrives on time.

**Internet safety**

As technology develops we always aim to help parents keep up to date with the platforms and sites that children may be using. There is currently a rise in the number of children who are accessing sites with AI or using AI as part of the platform. These sites usually have an age expectation of 13 years. Please ensure that your child is aware that many of the social media and gaming sites are for 13 years+. It made headline news this week that children as young as 3 years old are being groomed and abused online (often seen in their own bedrooms) because they are accessing sites unsupervised. We always give our children the knowledge and skills to block and report any unwanted attention online and hope you can reinforce this message at home to help keep our children safe.

As always, if you have any concerns or queries, please speak to a member of staff on the yard or speak to the school office.

**Upcoming diary dates:**

Monday 13th- Thursday 16th May- Year 6 SATs

Friday 24th May 2024- school closes for half term break

Tuesday 4th June- school reopens for teaching

Thursday 13th June- Fathers day event (9am)

Friday 14th June- dress down day- bring a chocolate donation for the school fair.

Friday 28th June- Dress down day- bring a bottle donation for the school fair.

Thursday 4th July- School summer fair (3.30pm)

Monday 8th July- KS2 Sports day

Tuesday 9th July- Reception/KS1 Sports day

Friday 19th July – school closes for summer break

The 2045-25 academic year begins on Wednesday 4th September 2024.

Joanne Bromley

Head Teacher