

Dereham Church of England Junior Academy Headteacher: Mrs H. McCarney Littlefields, Dereham, Norfolk NR19 1BJ Tel: 01362 693876 Email: office@derehamjunior.dneat.org Web: www.derehamjunior.dneat.org



17th October 2018

Dear Parents and Carers,

The first half term has whizzed by and the children have been as fantastic as usual Year three have settled so well into school and all teachers are reporting that all new class are working hard! Next half term will be just as busy if not busier with numerous events coming up as well as a new topic and two RE weeks - we can't wait!

Just to round off the first half-term, below are a few things to bring to your attention:

Our Multi Use Games Area (MUGA) is nearing completion. By the time the children return after the half-term holiday, we hope it will be ready to use. This is part of our ongoing improvements to the school outside as well as inside. We're sure the children will love it!





We would like to remind you about our school website which holds a lot of school information. We are constantly looking to improve it and add things that we hope will be of interest to you. There is also quite a lot of curriculum information on there too, so you can find out even more about what's happening in school!

We want to make the most of our green spaces and garden areas in school and we desperately need some gardening help. If anyone is interested in maintaining our gardens (and even improving them), we would be willing to pay for your help - £7 an hour for around 8 - 10 hours a month. Please let the office know if you are interested.



Please look t the following page and our upcoming events section on the website for things that will be happening after half term. A few things to make you aware of in advance though:



The Open Morning on 13th November is for parents of children who are currently in year 2 (not our current parents) that we're sure would like to have a look round school before joining us next September. However, we will have an additional open morning for **all** parents on 8th January should anyone wish to come and see the school in action! We will keep you informed about exact times for this as we get closer to the time.



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Our first Parent Forum will take place Thursday 15th November 9.30 - 10.30 am. This is an event where we would like a group of parents to share their thoughts about a particular topic of school life with Mrs McCarney and Mr Dack. We think this will really help us move the school even further forward. We want to keep the numbers to no more than 20 people in order to make sure that conversation is possible. If you are interested in being part of this group, please contact the school office by Friday 2nd November. Our first topic to discuss... BEHAVIOUR!





As part of celebrating World Science Day on Saturday 10th November, we will be having our own Science Day on Friday 9th November in school. The children will be scientists for the day investigating all sorts of things scientific! We would like to invite you to join us in the middle of the afternoon between 1.45 - - 2.45 pm so that you can see what's been happening and get involved yourselves. Please note, no children will be allowed to leave early, not least because there may well be a lot of mess to clean up!

Upcoming dates for your diary

Here are some other things that will be happening next half term - more information to follow:

- 29/10/18 2/10/18 RE Week
- 31/10/18 School Photographs
- 9/11/18 Science day Parents invited for the afternoon (more details to follow)
- 12 16/11/18 Anti-bullying week
- 13/11/18 Open Morning for Year 2 Parents
- 15/11/18 2.15 3.15 Parent Forum Group (more details to follow)
- 16/11/18 Children in Need Day
- 28/11/18 Christmas Fair (more details to follow)
- 6/12/18 2.00 Lower School Christingle Service at St Nicholas Church
- 7/12/18 2.00 Upper School Christingle Service at St Nicholas Church
- 10 14/12/18 RE Week
- 13/12/18 10.00 11.30 Y4 Performance of Treasure Island (more details to follow)
- 14/12/18 Christmas Jumper Day (Save the Children)
- 18/12/18 3.15 School breaks up for Christmas Holidays



Finally, as promised, here are the results from the Parent Questionnaire that 263 of you complete over the course of the three parents' evenings we had early this term. We are immensely pleased that all areas have shown an improvement on the results from 2017 (in red), but we continually want to get better and better so will act on what you've told us.

Many thanks

	Strongly agree	Agree	Don't know	Disagree	Strongly disagree
1) My child is happy and enjoys school	53%	44%	2%	2%	1%
	38%	49%	4%	8%	1%
2) I feel welcome when I come into school	55%	42%	2%	1%	0%
	37%	53%	6%	3%	0%
3) I am satisfied with the progress my child is making at school	49%	42%	6%	2%	0%
	29%	59%	4%	5%	2%
4) My child is well looked after and safe while they are at school	56%	40%	3%	0%	0%
	37%	51%	9%	2%	1%
5) My child is taught well at Dereham Juniors	54%	42%	4%	1%	0%
	32%	57%	8%	1%	2%
6) My child receives adequate homework for their age	39%	46%	8%	6%	2%
	29%	49%	5%	14%	3%
7) This school works hard to promote good behaviour	44%	49%	6%	0%	0%
	32%	45%	18%	7%	1%
8) This school deals effectively with bullying	25%	31%	38%	5%	1%
	18%	23%	45%	12%	3%
9) There are sufficient extra-curricular activities available	38%	49%	6%	3%	0%
	10%	36%	25%	22%	6%
10) I get enough information about the curriculum	38%	47%	8%	6%	0%
	13%	47%	14%	24%	3%
11) This school is well led and managed	44%	47%	7%	2%	0%
	21%	51%	19%	7%	3%
12) This school responds well to any concern I raise	39%	40%	16%	4%	0%
	25%	45%	20%	7%	3%

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13) I receive valuable information from the school about my child's progress	40%	49%	6%	5%	0%
	18%	58%	5%	18%	1%
14) I feel able to support my child's learning at home	44%	49%	4%	2%	2%
	31%	56%	3%	10%	1%
15) I am happy to support the school by being involved in school life	42%	48%	8%	1%	0%
	25%	56%	17%	3%	1%
16) I would recommend Dereham Juniors to other parents	46%	45%	6%	2%	0%
	30%	48%	10%	8%	3%