



Reignhead Primary School

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Headteacher's Newsletter – Spring 2

Welcome back to what promises to be another exciting half term at Reignhead. I hope you've all had an enjoyable Christmas break and I wish each of our families a very happy 2018. I would especially like to welcome all our new families and hope that your children settle in quickly and enjoy life at our friendly school. As ever, this newsletter will tell you about some of the events that are due to take place at Reignhead over the next term and give you a few reminders too. Many of you will be interested to learn that we are planning on introducing a Reignhead APP in the very near future with the aim of improving communication with parents/carers further – watch this space! In the meantime, please continue to check our website for updates – you can find all our 'tweets' there and we post all our letters in the 'news' section.

Carole Stafford, Acting Headteacher

Assembly Themes

This half term we will be focussing on the Core Value of 'Be Determined'. We will be talking to children about the importance of working hard to achieve your personal goals and persevering no matter what!

RAF

Thank you to Reignhead and Friends for all the time, commitment and effort you have given over the past term helping with the Christmas Fair, the Spooky Disco and serving refreshments at the Christmas Performances and the Lantern Parade. These school events just would not be the same without our team of willing and able helpers! If you are interested in joining RAF and can spare some of your time then please contact Debbie Matthews in the office. All help is greatly appreciated.

Spelling

This week, children in Key Stage 2 (and some children in Key Stage 1) will bring home details of the spellings they will be learning in school over the next half term. Phonics and/or spelling are taught daily in school but spelling is something many children find difficult and so any additional support you can offer your child in learning these words is definitely time well spent! The spelling lists will also be published on the school website.

Staffing

We would like to welcome Mr Paul Wilkinson to the Key Stage 1 team. Mr Wilkinson is an experienced teacher who has taught in an outstanding school in London as well as overseas. He will be job-sharing with Mrs Taylor who is reducing her working hours to two days per week. Ms Natalie Grant is joining the Nursery team as a teaching assistant and I'm sure she will be a real asset. I'm also pleased to announce that we have two apprentices starting work with us this half term, Courtney Longden and Ellie Leach; they will also be working in the Foundation Stage.

Reading

Following our recent Ofsted inspection we're continuing to put reading 'at the heart of the school'! We've been lucky to meet three famous children's authors; all our children from Foundation Stage to Year 6 enjoy story time at the end of each day and we're putting a key non-fiction text at the centre of our wider curriculum. The children have also been thoroughly enjoying competing with each other in their Poetry Slam! Our annual Bookfair will take place in March as will World Book Day.

'Be the BEST to Achieve Success for All'

We have more plans in place and would also welcome any ideas you have as parents. In the meantime, please continue to read with your child as often as possible to develop accuracy, fluency and understanding. Thank you.

Parking

The areas outside our school gates are very busy both before and after school and unfortunately there have been a number of incidences of inconsiderate parking recently. I am genuinely concerned about the safety of adults and children, especially now that it is darker and visibility is compromised. If you do need to drive to school, please use the car park on Platts Drive in the first instance. If this car park is full, cars must not stop or park on the yellow zigzag markings – these markings are outside the entrances of schools in order to give unobstructed views for both motorists and pedestrians. Cars should also not be parked on pathways or grass verges during drop off and collection times. Finally, please remember that parents/carers are not permitted to use the staff car park for dropping off children in the morning. This includes dropping off children at Breakfast Club

Attendance

Well done to Evie in Year 4 who won the Attendance Board competition. Evie created a wonderful design which allows the class with the highest attendance to fly its flag at the top of a mountain! You can see the winning design at the entrance to the hall.

In the meantime, please demonstrate your commitment to your child's education by not taking holidays during term time and by arranging non-urgent medical appointments out of school hours. Please also ensure your child arrives in school on time – children really don't like being late and many find it very unsettling arriving in class after their friends.

Important Dates

- Monday January 8th:** New term begins
- Thursday January 11th:** Year 1 Phonics Parents' Meeting at 9am OR 3:15pm
- Monday January 15th:** Year 6 SATS Parents' Meeting at 5pm
- Wednesday January 17th:** Reception/FS2 Parents' Meeting at 9am OR 3:15pm
- Thursday January 18th:** Year 2 Parents' Meeting at 9am OR 3:15pm
- Wednesday January 24th:** Work Sharing Assembly Y5/6 Mrs Dunn
- Thursday January 25th:** Y3/4 Gymnastic Competition at Westfield
- Tuesday January 30th:** Year 1/2 Learning Together at 1:30pm
- Wednesday January 31st:** Work Sharing Assembly Y3/4 Miss Wells
- Wednesday January 31st:** FS2 Learning Together at 1:30pm
- Tuesday February 6th:** Y5/6 Learning Together at 1:30pm
- Wednesday February 7th:** Work Sharing Assembly Y5/6 Mr McArthur
- Wednesday February 14th:** Work Sharing Assembly Y1/2 Mrs Knutsen
- Wednesday February 14th:** Year 3/4 Learning Together
- Thursday February 15th:** Y1/2 Mini Athletics at Westfield
- Friday February 16th:** Foodbank Collection Day
- Monday February 19th to Friday February 23rd inclusive:** half term break
- Monday February 26th to Friday March 2nd:** Year 2 Whirlow Residential
- Wednesday March 7th:** Work Sharing Assembly Y5/6 Mrs Rahman/Mrs Fairfax
- Wednesday March 14th:** Work Sharing Assembly Y1/2 Mrs Taylor/Mr Wilkinson
- Tuesday March 20th:** Parents' Evening
- Wednesday March 21st:** Work Sharing Assembly Y3/4 Mr Adlington
- Thursday March 22nd:** Parents' Evening
- Thursday March 29th:** Easter Celebrations, FS/KS1 at 9:15am and KS2 at 2:15pm
- Thursday March 29th:** End of term