

Newsletter – January 17

Welcome Back, We hope you all had a wonderful Christmas and a Happy New Year.

The first couple of weeks back at school have been very positive. Children and staff alike have all settled back in to their routines and have made a wonderful start on learning their new topics. Many year groups have already been on a visit and over the next few weeks more are due to take place. At East Dene Primary we view visits as an integral part of learning. The visits we plan for our children not only support the curriculum but also ensure that learning gets off to a fantastic start, with the children being fully motivated and inspired to learn.

Attendance

Our attendance target for this academic year is 97% - this is the national average for schools.

School day starts at 8:45 please make sure your children are in school by this time, the register is taken at 9am. If your child is not going to be in school please ring the office (01709 512202) before 9.15am. If your child has an appointment please inform the class teacher at the beginning of the day and take medical evidence to the office. If your child is well enough to be in school but still needs medicine it can be given in school but you must fill in a medical form which you can get from the office.

We have the EWO monitoring all late arrivals and children who do not regularly attend school so please make sure your child is at school whenever possible. Holidays in term time will not be authorised but if you are taking a holiday you must fill in a Leave of Absence form which you will find outside the office.

Exciting News!!!!

Our New Playground Development is starting to go ahead next week, it should not have any effect on dropping off or picking up your children.

SAFETY - Dropping off and picking up your children

Please be extra careful and mindful of other children and families when you are dropping off and picking up your children from school. Please **DO NOT** park outside the **School Gates** or on the **Zig Zag lines** as this puts the children in **danger**.

The **Car Park is for staff only**, parents must not use this just to nip into school. Please respect these simple rules.

School Procedure's in the event of Snow Closure

In the event of extreme inclement weather, such as when heavy snow fall develops overnight and continues into the following day, parents should take the following advice about the possibility of school closure.

Whenever possible, East Dene Primary School will remain open. However, we have to consider the safety of all our children and staff, some of whom travel a great distance into school each day.

Should the need arise, in severe weather a decision will be made as early as possible in the morning if the school is to be closed. A text message alert will be sent informing you of school closure. The local radio station 'Hallam FM' and Rother FM will also be contacted to ask them to broadcast the relevant information.

We ask parents not to ring the radio stations themselves as it blocks the lines and in some instances schools have not been able to get through to announce closures. The closure will also be announced on the school website www.eastdene.org

Please check for a text message or listen to the radio stations if heavy snow is falling or has fallen overnight.

Please do not telephone the school before 8:30am. If you do arrive at school please do not leave your children without confirming that the school is to remain open.

It is crucial that you inform us of any changes of phone numbers so that you receive all text messages.

Dinner Money

Please can we just ask that you pay your dinner money on a Monday morning in advance for the week. If you are having 1 or 2 dinners a week please give your child payment on that morning. Money should be in an envelope or money bag with your child's name and class clearly marked and given to your child's class teacher.

Please speak to the ladies in the office if you have any problems with this.

Important Dates for Your Diary

Monday 16th Jan – F2 – 'Enchanted Walk' to Clifton Park

Monday 16th Jan – Readathon starts in School – more info to follow

Thursday 19th Jan – KS1 Maths Parent Workshop 2:15-3:15 – See Miss Sheridan

Friday 20th Jan – Year 1 Sophie The Dinosaur & Workshop in school

Thursday 2nd Feb - Year 1 Read Write Inc Workshop for Parents – More info to follow

Thursday 2nd Feb – KS2 Parent Workshop Maths & Grammar 2:15 – 3:15 – See Miss Sheridan

Friday 17th February – Inset Day – No Children In School

Monday 20th – 24th February – School Closed Half Term

Monday 27th February – Children back in School

