



Drapers' Pyrgo
Priory School



Spring Term 2017 Newsletter for Parents, Friends and Governors

As a successful, eventful and enjoyable Spring Term nears its end, here are a few notifications and reminders for the upcoming Summer Term:

Mr Lucas's retirement and Mrs Becker's succession

As you know, Mr Lucas will officially retire as Head Teacher of our school from the end of the Spring Term and Mrs Becker will succeed him as the Principal of our school. Mrs Becker will endeavour to maintain the high standards of education and care that have been prevalent during Mr Lucas' tenure. We are sure that the vast majority of parents and children would like to join the staff and governors in wishing Mr Lucas a well-earned, restful yet active retirement. For many years, Mr Lucas has led our school with a deep commitment to ensuring that the children are happy, well-educated and, most of all, safe. He led the way in securing the school's future by negotiating our transition to academy status and securing a highly beneficial partnership with the Drapers' Multi Academy Trust. Thanks to Mr Lucas' vision and foresight, the school is now in good health, ready to face future challenges and continue to provide a holistic education for your children.

Other Farewells

At the end of this term, we will also say goodbye to Mr J Gregory and Miss S Williams. Mr Gregory is leaving to travel the world although we hope that he will return to our school at some future point, whilst Miss Williams has found a post elsewhere supporting early years children. We would like to extend our thanks to both Mr Gregory and Miss Williams for the commitment and dedication they have shown towards the children during their employment here, and wish them well for the future.

Welcomes

The vacancies created by Mr Gregory and Miss Williams' departures have been filled by Ms Carter, a valued current employee of ours, and Mrs Judd, an experienced practitioner, both of whom we are sure will provide excellent support to our children. We are also delighted to welcome Miss C Wing, Miss F Lilleystone, Miss S Weaver and Miss K Buttar who will commence employment as Mid-Day Assistants from the beginning of the Summer Term.

School Gates

In line with our safeguarding procedures, please be aware that all school gates will be locked from 08:45 each morning. The Governors have also made a decision that the gate from Sedgefield Crescent will be opened for access between 08:15 and 08:45 and from 14:45 to 15:20 and that only parents and children

of this school will be permitted to use this gate. In the interests of safety, this gate will no longer be available as a cut-through for pedestrians wishing to reach Settle Road and vice-versa. This arrangement will be kept under review.

SATS

Parents and carers of children in Y2 and Y6 will be aware that SATs tests will be held during the Summer Term. For children in Y6, all exams will be sat during the week beginning 8th May (although there is no test for writing as this is assessed over time with a judgement being made towards the end of the term). For children in Y2, the examination timetable is more flexible. I hope that you will have had the opportunity to attend one of our SATs meetings and that you are fully informed of arrangements, but if you require further help please speak to Mr Fogarty for Y6 or Mrs Caws for Y2 (or any of the teaching staff in those year groups). We try to ensure that the children are not unduly stressed by these exams, asking them only to try their hardest both in revising (for Y6 children) and during the tests themselves. Should your child be experiencing any stress on account of the SATs tests, please inform their class teacher so that we might settle their minds and support them through the process.

sQuid Reminder

Please check your child's account to ensure that outstanding debts are paid and that it is in credit for the commencement of the Summer Term. Infants will be charged 30p for a drink should they choose to order one.

Menus

The new dinner menus for April to October will be issued this week.

Snack Money

Snack money of £2 for the Infants is now due for the Summer Term.

After-School Clubs

Mr Ostermeyer will be commencing a range of sports clubs after Easter. A list of all after-school clubs will be sent home at the beginning of the new term.

Sport

Huge congratulations are due to our Y5 and 6 girls' football team who won the Harold Hill Cluster Girls' Football Competition in the last week of term, our boys' team who won the Harold Hill Cluster Boys' Football League and our tag-rugby team who came joint first in their Harold Hill Cluster competition.

Y6 Trip to Danbury

Please note that all monies for this trip need to be paid by the end of May 2017.

Sale of Uniform

After the Easter break, uniform items will be sold in the hall only on Monday mornings.

Fundraising

Our thanks are extended to everyone who attended our Scholastic Book Fair during the penultimate week of term. I am delighted to report that we sold more than £1,100 worth of books and stationery which will provide us with around £550 of credit with which to purchase further reading stock for the

school. We would also like to thank all the parents, children and staff who took part in our Red Nose Day fundraising events. This year, we collected £413.62 which will go towards the many worthy Red Nose Day charities. Also, our School Council's healthy snack bar has raised £95.62 over the term. The children will be taking a vote on proposals of how best to spend this money.

Easter Wishes

The staff and governors of our school would like to wish you and your children a peaceful and enjoyable Easter break.

SUMMER TERM DATES 2017

April 18th	School re opens to pupils
April 27th	YR 4 Trip to Lullingstone Roman Villa
April/May	KS1 SATS
May 8th	KS2 SATS Week
May 22nd	Art and Culture Week begins
May 24th	Tate Modern Workshop
May 26th	INSET DAY School closed to parents
Half term closure Monday 29th May – 2nd June 2017	
June 5th	School re opens to pupils
June 5/6th	Year 4 trip to Thriftwood
June 6th	Super Splash Heroes Y1 and 2
June 9th	Class /group photos
June 14th	Reception trip to Colchester Zoo
June 23rd	Music Festival - 7pm @Queens Theatre
June 30th	Year 3 trip to Peterborough Country Fair
July 3rd	Science and Engineering Week begins
July 4th	Proposed date for Country dancing festival
July 5th	Roots to Shoots Road Show – Cooking Experience
July 6th	Year 6 Production @Drapers' Academy
July 10-14th	Year 6 trip to Danbury
July 18th	Open Day and annual Art Exhibition
July 19th	Year 6 Graduation
July 21st	Class change day
July 21st	SCHOOL CLOSSES FOR SUMMER
September 6th	CHILDREN RETURN TO SCHOOL 6th SEPTEMBER 2017