



THE ROBERT DRAKE PRIMARY SCHOOL

# NEWSLETTER

JUNE 2017

## FUNDRAISING NEWS

### Summer Fayre

The Summer Fayre was very well attended and raised the fantastic sum of just over **£6,000**.

Thank you to everybody who came along on the day, and especially to the fundraising team who have worked very hard over the last few months to make the day a success.

Thanks must also go to Castle Point Motors for sponsoring the event.

### Summer Raffle

The Summer Raffle was drawn at the Fayre. The top 3 prizes were won by the following people:

Mrs Rowe - Family Pass to Marsh Farm

Mr Player - Family Pass to Marsh Farm

Mrs Billington - Family Pass to Barleylands

### Non-Uniform / Cakes

Thank you very much to all parents for generously donating cakes and fruit for the non-uniform day. We raised **£260**, which was donated to The Breck Foundation.

## UNAUTHORISED ABSENCES

We would like to remind all parents and carers that the law does not give any entitlement to parents to remove their child from school during term-time for the purpose of a holiday. Headteachers may only grant leave of absence where an application has been made in advance and the headteacher considers that there are exceptional circumstances relating to the application. At this school all individual applications are considered by the Governing Body.

If an application is not authorised and the holiday is taken this will be recorded in the register as unauthorised. If the period of unauthorised absence is taken and it is for **5 consecutive days (10 sessions) or more** then we are duty bound to refer the case to the Missing in Education and Child Employment Service.

**The Missing in Education and Child Employment Service may issue a penalty notice to each of the parents of £60 for each child, to be paid in 28 days. If this penalty notice is not paid within this timescale it increases to £120. If this is not paid the Missing in Education and Child Employment Service will then instigate legal proceedings against you in the magistrates court, under the Education Act 1996 for failing to ensure your child attends school regularly.**

Please be aware that Penalty Notices have already been issued to parents and carers of children at the school.

## SCHOOL ROOF REPLACEMENT

We are pleased to report that, after ongoing problems with leaks, the Education Funding Agency has allocated funding to the school for part of the roof to be replaced. It is intended that the majority of the work will be done during the summer holiday. However, there will be some disruption during the last week of term. There will be no access to the school car park and the contractors will be putting up scaffolding around the building (during the weekend period) which may restrict access to some areas.

Please note there will be no extra-curricular activities during the last week of term and Little Musketeers will not take place on Friday 14<sup>th</sup> July.

As with any building or construction project things do not always run smoothly but we are hopeful that work will be completed by the time the children return to school in September.

## LETTINGS - SCHOOL HALL

We are now in a position to let the school hall at evenings and weekends. If you are aware of any organisations which are looking for premises to let please ask them to

## ***Fund-Raising Meeting***

*The next fund-raising meeting will be on **Friday 23rd June** at 2.00pm. All welcome.*

## ***Plant Sale***

*We would like to give our grateful thanks to Mrs Willett for organising a plant sale in order to raise funds for the school. Staff have agreed to purchase a camera for the school with the proceeds.*

## ***Adventure Island Tickets***

*Tickets are now on sale - further details have been circulated. The tickets are valid until December 2017, subject to park opening times.*

## ***GOVERNOR NEWS***

### ***Attendance***

*Attendance for May 2017 was 96.2%. This was lower than in previous months due to an outbreak of chickenpox and an increase in the number of pupils taking holiday in term time.*

contact Mrs Snow in the school office. Please be advised that the school hall would not be suitable for ball sports.

We are hopeful that by letting the school hall we will be able to generate some income that may be used for the benefit of all pupils at a time when school budgets are being cut.

## ***WATER BOTTLES, SUN HATS AND SUN CREAM***

Hopefully we will get some fine weather this term. Please could all parents and carers ensure that their child brings a water bottle (with drinking cap) and a sun hat to school each day. **These should be clearly named.** Parents and carers should also apply sun cream to their children before school each day, as an additional precaution, in order to protect them from the sun.

## ***SUNGLASSES***

Please note that children are only permitted to wear sunglasses at school if medical evidence can be provided to support the need for the glasses (e.g. a letter from the doctor / optician) or if they suffer from hayfever.

## ***SPORTS DAY - THURSDAY 8TH JUNE***

We are planning to hold Infant and Junior sports on **Thursday 8th June**. Infant Sports will begin at 9.30 am and Junior Sports at 1.30 pm. Please note that both events are weather permitting.

Further details about sports day have been circulated.

## ***SCHOOL CHESS CHAMPION 2017***

Congratulations to James (Y6), who is this year's School Chess Champion.

## ***MUSIC SUCCESS***

Congratulations to Luke (Y3) who has passed his Keyboard Initial Exam with distinction. Mrs Florish, the keyboard tutor said that his score of 98% was exceptional.

## ***SUMMER CONCERT***

The Summer Choir Concert will be held on **Thursday 13th July** at 6.00 pm. Tickets are available at a cost of £2.50 each. The allocation is four tickets per child. If the weather is favourable we hope to be able to hold the event outside. If the event is outside additional tickets will be available. Further details will be circulated soon.

## ***YEAR 6—SECONDARY SCHOOL TRANSITION DAYS***

Year 6 children who are transferring to Appleton, King John or Deanes secondary schools in September will be attending transition days on **Tuesday 27th June** and **Wednesday 28th June**. Children who will be going to selective schools will visit them on alternative dates as advised by the schools. Information about these visits will be sent to Year 6 parents and carers from the secondary school.

## ***THE APPLETON SCHOOL - 'GET READY FOR SECONDARY SCHOOL' PROGRAMME - YEAR 5***

All Year 5 pupils will take part in a workshop in school from 9.00 - 12.00 on **Wednesday 28th June**. A teacher and students from Appleton School will run the event, which will help prepare children for the transition to secondary school.

### ***VOUCHERS FOR SCHOOLS***

The school is collecting Sainsbury's vouchers once again this year. We would be grateful for any vouchers from families and friends by **Friday 16th June**. Thank you.

### ***SECONDARY OPEN DAYS***

For parents and carers of pupils currently in years 4 and 5, the following secondary school open day dates have been confirmed:

The King John School - Saturday 16th September 2017

Appleton School - Thursday 21st September 2017

The Deanes School - Tuesday 26th September 2017

### ***OPEN EVENING—THURSDAY 6TH JULY***

The Open Evening will be held on **Thursday 6th July** from 3.15 pm until 5.30 pm. There is no need to make an appointment. It is an excellent opportunity for your child to show you their work.

### ***DISTRICT SPORTS***

District sports will take place at the Deanes School on **Tuesday 11th July** at 9.00 am. Robert Drake is in the 'large schools' group this year. This event is weather permitting.

### ***SWIMMING GALA***

Selected children from Years 4, 5 and 6 will be taking part in the annual swimming gala at Runnymede Swimming Pool on **Wednesday 12th July**.

Unfortunately parents are not able to attend the gala as the capacity around and in the pool is restricted.

### ***PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT SESSIONS - SUMMER TERM***

The following Parental Involvement sessions will be held during the Summer Term:

Monday 26th June (am) - Years 5 and 6

Tuesday 20th June (pm) - EYFS

Parents and carers will be invited into school to work with their children during these sessions. Further details will be circulated nearer the time.

## ***CLASS ASSEMBLIES***

The following class assemblies is due to take place this term:

All Year 5 pupils - **Friday 16th June** at 9.00 am.

Miss Bradfield's class - **Friday 30th June** at 9.00 am.

Year 6 Leavers' Assembly - **Friday 21st July** at 9.00 am

All parents and carers of pupils in these classes are most welcome to attend. Tea and coffee will be available afterwards.

## ***EDUCATIONAL VISITS***

The following educational visits will take place this term:

12th — 16th June                      Y6 trip to Stubbers Adventure Centre

Tuesday 13th June                      Y5 trip to Sandford Mill

Wednesday 21st June                      Y3/4 trip to Belhus Park

Thursday 22nd June                      Y 1/2 trip to Tropical Wings

## ***NON-PUPIL DAY REMINDER AND END OF TERM***

Please note that **Friday 7th July** is a teacher training day and the school will be closed to pupils.

The summer term will finish on **Friday 21st July at 3.15 pm.** The new term starts on **Tuesday 5th September.**

The Governing Body of The Robert Drake Primary School is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment.