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Headteacher: Mrs E Orland

Newsletter - Friday 13th November 2020

Children in Need

We've had a lovely day today marking this year's Children in Need. The children looked wonderful in their outfits. We will let you know how much we raised next week as the donations have to be quarantined before counting can take place. Thank you very much for your support.

Staffing Update

As I am sure you are aware we have a couple of members of staff not able to attend school at the moment. This has predominantly been due to the Covid Test and Trace and the requirements for self-isolation on different family units, however we have today received notification that a member of our school community has tested positive. Please see the accompanying letter which we have been asked to share with you on behalf of the DfE.

As you will see from the attached letter, the DfE has provided us with direct advice and guidance and are happy that we are safe to continue as normal, and that currently, we have sufficient numbers of staff to ensure that we can continue to run safely with all year groups in school.

Following advice from NYCC, I will be changing my working timetable from this week. I will now work alternate weeks, instead of alternate days, to minimise the risk of cross-infection between the two schools. This then allows for a 48 hour break between the schools at the weekend. I can still be contacted by telephone or by emailing admin@danby.n-yorks.sch.uk at any time during school hours regardless of which school I am working in. Next week I will be at Danby School.

If you need to contact the school urgently outside of normal school hours please do so via the admin email and someone will get back to you as soon as possible.

Parent Guidance

The Department for Education has updated their guidance again for parents and carers on [what they need to know about early years providers, schools and colleges during the coronavirus \(COVID-19\) outbreak](#). This update provides information on the national restrictions that came into force on 5 November, the latest advice for clinically extremely vulnerable children and young people and advice on the use of face coverings in education settings. Please follow the link in blue above to see this document.

PTFA (Parents, Teachers, Friends Association) News

Bag2School

Thank you to everyone who donated bags to the Bag2School initiative. We received a cheque for £69.00 for PTFA funds which is very much appreciated.

AGM

The AGM that was scheduled to take place via Zoom last week, was unable to go ahead due to a lack of participants. This is a requirement of the Charities Commission and to enable the PTFA to continue to function, we do need to hold an annual AGM. We will be rescheduling within the next few weeks and would really appreciate your support. It is a short meeting to report on last year's fundraising and to elect new members. If you are interested in becoming the Chair of the PTFA or a member, please speak to Sarah Buckworth or Anna Newham for further details.

The PTFA is such an important part of our school community providing additional financial support to support your child's learning and school resources. Last year, the PTFA financially supported the following for Danby School:

- ⅓ contribution to the cost of the Y3/4 residential trip to Peat Rigg
- Covering the cost of transport and tickets for the Christmas Theatre Trip to Scarborough and the Y6 leavers trip to York Maze
- Water tray for the EYFS outdoor learning area

So far this year, the PTFA have been able to pay just over £2,000 for the KS2 interactive white board to enhance the children's learning in the juniors. This has been worth its weight in gold at this time of increased virtual learning.

We usually have lots of fun organising events leading up to Christmas within school but sadly are unable to do this this year due to the pandemic. We are trying to think of some ways we can still fundraise for school safely and would appreciate any ideas anyone may have. Please email any ideas to admin@danby.n-yorks.sch.uk.

School Photographs

Just a reminder that the school photographer is scheduled to come into school on the morning of Monday 16th November. We have carried out a full risk assessment and are happy that any risks will be minimal. Unfortunately we will be unable to have family group photos taken this year involving younger siblings not currently at school. If you would prefer that your child/children did not have their photo taken please email Sarah on admin@danby.n-yorks.sch.uk before Monday.

Have a good weekend and stay safe.

Liz Orland
Headteacher