

Kexborough Primary School

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SEPTEMBER 2018 – NEWSLETTER

Diary Dates

28 th September 2018	8:00-10:00	Macmillan Coffee Morning
16 th October 2018	15:30-17:30	Parents Evening
17 th October 2018	15:30-18:00	Parents Evening
18 th October 2018	14:00-15:00	KS2 Harvest Festival (All Saints Church)
22 nd October 2018	8:30-16:30	Y5 Visit – Murton Park
26 th October 2018	15:30	Finish for October half term
5 th November 2018	All day	INSET Day
6 th November 2018	9:00	Children return to school
14 th November 2018	8:45 - 15:45	Y6 Visit – Crucial Crew
3 rd December 2018	13:45- 15:00	Coffee and Carols
4 th December 2018	9:30 - 10:45	Coffee and Carols
6 th December 2018	15:00 - 17:00	School Council Christmas Fair
12 th December 2018	12.00 - 1.00	Christmas Lunch
13 th December 2018	13:45	FS2 / KS1 Performance
14 th December 2018	9:30	FS2 / KS1 Performance
14 th December 2018	pm	FS2 / KS1 – Lamproom Pantomime
21 st December 2018	15:30	Finish for Christmas break

<u>Breakfast Club</u> A reminder that the cost for 'Breakfast Club' is now £2.50 per session.	<u>Dinner Money</u> Could parents / carers please ensure that dinner money accounts are kept in credit. We do have an online payment system. If you are unsure how to use this, please see Mrs Merryweather in the school office.
<u>Contact Details</u> If any of your contact details or telephone numbers have changed over the summer could you please inform staff in the school office as soon as possible to ensure that school records are up to date.	<u>Car Park</u> This is another reminder that the school car park is only for the use of staff and authorised visitors. The car park should not be used by parents / carers when dropping off or collecting children, unless in agreement with the school.

Educational Visits

Why pay voluntary contributions?

We do get lots of questions about why we ask for contributions for school visits and how the visit and school may be affected by non contribution.

"Voluntary" contributions...

As part of the learning within our curriculum we want to be able to provide our children with experiences outside of the classroom. These carefully chosen opportunities provide excitement and motivation for learning which then continues into the classroom. Sadly, we can't afford to fund these experiences solely from the school budget which is why we ask for voluntary contributions. As we feel these experiences are so important for the children, we do commit to striving to ensure that the amount requested from parents and carers is capped at £10. This means that we subsidise some educational visits by up to £15 per child. In 2017 / 2018 subsidising school visits (to enable us to implement the £10 limit) cost the school £6000. We do feel that this is "money well spent" but this is the upper limit of money that we can allocate from the school budget to ensure that all other spending commitments are met.

We do rely on voluntary contributions to allow educational visits to go ahead.

Why is it called a voluntary contribution?

We **have to** call it voluntary because we cannot exclude children from our curriculum. If contributions are not received from a parent/carer we cannot exclude their child from the visits. These are the rules which govern us. We cannot and would not individually penalise a child's education.

So, if sufficient voluntary contributions are not received, we have two choices...

- 1. We cancel trips and the wider experience cannot be offered.
- 2. We have to further subsidise the visits which means money being taken from somewhere else in the budget.

We recognise the financial challenges that we are facing within the current climate and school is not immune to these. Fundraising obviously also helps with the experiences that we provide children and we are immensely grateful for your support and generosity when we host these events. However, within this current climate, to allow us to continue to provide experiences of educational visits we do have to rely on voluntary contributions.

Thank you for you continued support with this matter.

HEADLICE

We have already had some reported cases of headlice. Could we please ask all parents/ carers to check their child's hair regularly and to treat immediately if headlice are found. It must also be ensured that the full course of treatment is administered, which can take up to two weeks. A leaflet is available in the school office with guidance around dealing with and treating headlice.