

SCHOOL NEWS

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Eid

Yesterday we sent home the proofs for the Eid cards for you to look at and decide whether you would like to make a purchase. This is entirely optional but a lovely opportunity for us all to embrace this festival celebrated by so many of our families. As with the Christmas cards, any purchases made will raise funds for the school. Any orders need to be returned to school by next Thursday, at the latest, in order for us to have them printed and ready for you on our return after half term.

Ramadan

When we come back after half term, Ramadan will be underway and we appreciate this affects some of our older pupils. It was agreed with governors last year that only children in Years 5 and 6 will be permitted to fast whilst in school. Some parents choose to take their children home for the lunchtime period if they are fasting. We ask that this is done every day and not sporadically. We have sent a letter home today to our Y5 and 6 pupils and ask you to inform us if your child will be fasting and whether or not they will be going home at lunchtime. This needs to be returned to school by the end of next week.

Red, White and Blue Day

Next Friday, 27th May, we will be holding a special day to celebrate the Queen's ninetieth birthday. We are asking the children to come to school wearing red, white and blue clothes - not school uniform. Different year groups will be holding their own activities and, keeping in the party spirit, all children will have a drink and a biscuit. We would also like to combine the day with a PTA donation day as we begin our run up to the Summer Family Evening. As well as wearing red, white and blue we are asking the children to bring in a £1 donation which will be put towards a raffle cash prize. The raffle is always popular at the fair so your support with this new initiative is much appreciated.

Upcoming PTA dress down days

On Friday 17th June (the first Friday after half term) we will be holding a silly socks day in exchange for a decorated jar of sweets. The sweets must be in wrappers. If you are providing Halal sweets, could you mark the jar clearly. We will let you know about further days in the next newsletter.

Second Hand School Uniform

We will be holding a second hand uniform stall at the Summer Fair. The PTA have requested that you keep any items of uniform that you no longer need and ensure they are washed and ready for the stall if you wish to donate. We will be giving a date for the clothes to be brought in. Please do not donate anything that you would not be prepared to buy yourself. Many thanks.



Holidays and Attendance

A letter has also been sent home today regarding attendance and holiday requests.

Please read it carefully as there is new information regarding persistent absence as well as for periods of extended holiday.

Summer Holiday Club

I have been approached by a number of parents regarding the provision of a holiday club during the summer. We have been very pleased with the provision for our new breakfast and after school club and so I have asked Kidzone whether this is something they could offer. We have agreed that due to the on site hours of our caretaker, the club could be run for the first 3 weeks of the holiday between 8am and 4pm. In order to gauge whether this would have the necessary uptake, please visit the PARENTS area on the website using your log-in and respond to the survey if you are interested.

Website log-in

After a successful trial, we will now be using our website to book parents evenings, after school clubs and to reserve tickets for performances. There are around 80 parents who still haven't returned their website agreement form and so don't have a password. Please ensure you do this to ensure you can access all the website has to offer. The form has been attached to this newsletter should you need it.

Remember parents are welcome to contribute to forums, both on the homepage and in the parent area of the website.

It is also worth remembering that it is possible to download the School Spider App, which once you have selected our school, allows you to see at a glance all the latest items added to the website. This includes the latest newsletter, photos, diary dates and blog contributions.

Castleton Residential

The Y5 children enjoyed a two day residential trip to Castleton this week. They were able to cover a range of Geography Skills as well complete a long walk in the area. They did brilliantly well.

My thanks to the staff who gave up their time to make this happen and Mrs Collins who expertly organised the trip.

Kind regards,

Cathy Beddows and the
Etchells staff

