



DELVES LANE PRIMARY SCHOOL

Delves Lane, Consett, Co Durham, DH8 7ES

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LEARN, ACHIEVE, INSPIRE

Friday 7 February 2020

Dear Parent/Carer

Friday is here again and the days are flying by. We're pleased to see that the horrible bugs that were causing a lot of absences at the beginning of the year have finally gone, and that overall attendance is improving, thank you for your support.

We have a busy week ahead of us before we break up for the half term holidays on Friday 14 February. The children will have a week to re-charge their batteries (and drain yours) ready to return to us, fresh and eager to learn on Monday 24 February.

Parent Questionnaire

Please find attached the results from our latest Parent Survey. It's terrific to see so many positive comments from parents and carers regarding Delves Lane Primary School. We will also be using the comments and suggestions to further improve the school in the future so thank you so much to everyone who took the time to complete it. Please click on the link below.

<http://www.delveslaneprimary.durham.sch.uk/wp-content/uploads/sites/17/2020/02/Questionnaire-Feedback-to-Parents-Feb-2020-1.pdf>

REMINDER!!! Valentine's Disco's – Thursday 13 February 2020

We have plenty of tickets left for the discos, please pop into the school office to purchase yours. We would be grateful if you could collect your tickets by Monday if possible, so we know how many hot dogs to buy, thank you. Tickets are £2 which includes refreshments.

The fabulous DJ Glen is once again playing the children's favourite sounds at our Valentine's disco's on Thursday 13 February 2020. Admission to the disco's is by ticket only, which are priced at £2 per child. Refreshments will be served to the children, (hot dogs and juice). Please let us know if your child has any food allergies/special dietary requirements that we may not be aware of.

Children can if they wish, bring their disco clothes into school so they can change before 'boogieing on down'.

Disco for Classes 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 and 8

The first disco for classes 3, 4, 5, 6, 7 and 8, starts at 1:45pm until 2:45pm and children will return to their classes to be picked up at normal home time.

Disco for Classes 9, 10, 11, 12 and 13

*The second disco for classes 9, 10, 11, 12 and 13, starts at 3:00pm until 4:00pm and children MUST be collected from the junior hall doors at 4:00pm. **Please note: Children should be collected from school promptly after the disco unless you have given school prior consent for your child to walk home alone.***



After School Clubs

REMINDER - After School Clubs will be **cancelled on Thursday 13 February** because of the Valentine's Disco.

After School Childcare will be open as normal on Thursday 13 February. Thank you.

Year 3 Swimming

As we don't want the boys and girls in year 3 to miss out on all the Valentine fun, classes 7 and 8 **WILL NOT** be swimming on Thursday 13 February. The swimming sessions will be begin again when we return from half term holiday.

Attendance

Here is the class % for attendance this week.

Well done to Class 1 who achieved a fabulous 97.8% and Class 10 who have once again hit the amazing 100%!!!!

Class 1	97.8%
Class 2	98
Class 3	94.8
Class 4	92.4
Class 5	93.5
Class 6	97.5
Class 7	94.8
Class 8	91.8
Class 9	93.2
Class 10	100%
Class 11	96.4
Class 12	98.4
Class 13	91.1

Overall attendance for this week is 94.7% which is slightly lower than last week.

Parent and Carer Conduct

We are very proud and fortunate to have a very dedicated and supportive school community. At our school the staff, governors, parents and carers all recognise that the education of our children is a partnership between us. We expect our school community to respect our school ethos and set a good example of their own behaviour on school premises. In addition, we also expect our parents, carers and visitors to keep our children safe by adhering to the school's request to park safely outside the school gates during morning and afternoon collections. If permission has been granted by school, parents and carers must drive very carefully and safely into and out of the school premises.

Behaviour that will not be tolerated:

- Disruptive behaviour which interferes or threatens to interfere with any of the school's normal operation or activities anywhere on the school premises.
- Any inappropriate behaviour on the school premises.
- Using loud or offensive language or displaying temper.
- Threatening in any way, a member of staff, visitor, fellow parent/carer or child.

- Sending abusive or threatening emails or text/voicemail/phone messages or other written communications (including social media) to anyone within the school community.
- The use of physical, verbal or written aggression towards another adult or child. This includes physical punishment of your own child on school premises.
- Approaching someone else's child in order to discuss or chastise them because of the actions of this child towards their own child. (Such an approach to a child may be seen to be an assault on that child and may have legal consequences).

Thank you for your support and understanding with this matter.

Smoking and Conduct of Adults at the School Gate

We have received a number of complaints about adults smoking and using inappropriate language at the school gates. We would politely request that you please, please refrain from using bad language and smoking in areas where adults and children have to wait or pass by. We really do not want our little ones exposed to this language or cigarette smoke and would appreciate your help to keep their environment 'smoke free' as well as see good role models behaving appropriately. Thank you for your support. If you are concerned about the inappropriate behaviour of adults outside the school gates, please contact the Police on Tel 101. We have asked PSCO Liddle to be a regular presence outside school. He also has drop-ins arranged for after the holidays, if you wish to speak to him about any issues. The dates of the drop-ins will be published in next week's newsletter.

Plastic Bottle Tops

We need your help! Do you have any plastic bottle tops, any size and any colour. We would really appreciate your donations. They can be handed in to the school office or to your child's class teacher.

Photograph and Video Consent Form

If you haven't already done so, can you please return your child's photograph and video consent form by no later than next Friday 14 February 2020. **Unfortunately, if we have not received your annual consent form, we will not be able to share your child's achievements when we return after half term holiday.**

Dates for your Diary

Date	Event	Information
Monday 10 February	Swimming Gala	Identified Key Stage 2 Children – Parents will receive letters
Monday 10 February	DLPS Dance Festival	In house event
Thursday 13 February	Valentine's Themed Lunch	
Thursday 13 February	Valentine's Disco	This will be a ticketed event. Tickets will cost £2 per child. Event will take place in the Junior Hall. Children from Classes 3,4,5,6,7,8 Disco from 1.45 – 2.45pm Children from Classes 9,10,11,12,13 Disco from 3-4pm
Thursday 13 February	After School Clubs will be CANCELLED	After School Clubs cancelled because of the Valentine's Disco

		After School Childcare will be open as normal on Thursday 13 February.
Friday 14 February	Last day of half term	School closes today for half term holiday and will reopen on Monday 24 February.

OPAL Time/Muddy Uniform

We have had a number of reports that children are getting very muddy during outdoor play. We are happy for parents and carers to supply children with old clothes to wear when they are outdoors playing. Parents and carers can also supply waterproof trousers etc. if they wish.

We have also applied to the Ernest Cook Trust for a £500 grant for waterproofs and wellies. We will hear back about this in 6 to 8 weeks' time, but we are keeping our fingers crossed!

Bullying

Bullying is defined as:

'Behaviour by an individual or group, repeated over time, that intentionally hurts another individual or group either physically or emotionally'.

Bullying is defined on the gov.uk website and states that the four key characteristics of bullying are that it is:

- Repetitive and persistent;
- Intentionally harmful;
- Involving an imbalance of power;
- Causing feels of distress, fear, loneliness or lack of confidence.

We educate children through enrichment days and in Personal, Social and Emotional Education lessons. We will work together to educate our children about the definition of bullying. Any incidents of bullying are swiftly dealt with. More information can be found on our school website, where we have an Anti-Bullying Policy. Thank you.

Science News

Thank you to everyone who submitted an entry to this half term's science competition. We had dozens of fabulous acrostic poems and the science ambassadors found it very tricky to choose just one winner from each class. A huge well done to Alfie (C7), Lily (C9), Imogen (C10), Holly (C11) and Safia (C12) - your poems were the science ambassadors' favourites! These children were entered into a prize draw and the winner of the fantastic prize of tickets to watch a Sunderland match was... Lily! And well done to Milly (C11) whose poem caught the eye of Miss Jones and Mrs Woods! Keep a look out for the next competition shortly!

Y5 Plea for Resources (Class 11 & 12)

Please could we have any plastic bottles and cardboard boxes you have at home to make our rockets next week. Anything you can spare would be greatly appreciated! Thank you!

Autumn Term House Reward Trip (Krazy Kingdom)

This week all the boys and girls from Phoenix House took part in their reward trip to Krazy Kingdom to celebrate earning the most house points during the Autumn Term. The children had a great time playing with their friends and took full advantage of the wide range of facilities on offer such as ball pits, climbing walls, slides and a football zone. Throughout the trip, the children were excellent ambassadors for our school, particularly some of the older children who looked after both younger pupils and members of the public who were also using the facilities. Well done to all the children who took part in the visit and congratulations to Phoenix House for earning the most points last term. Keep up the good work!

Thank you for your continued support, it is much appreciated.

R Woods

Mrs R Woods
Head Teacher