

Dear parents and carers,

At long last we have some spring weather – perfect timing for the Y3 residential trip to PGL in Caythorpe, Lincolnshire! The Y3 children have had a wonderful two nights and three days on their residential. They have been excellent role-models and shown all of our school values as they embarked on lots of new activities and experiences. As usual, our children were fantastic ambassadors for our school and received many compliments from others in the residential centre. Thanks, as ever, to our dedicated staff who led and supervised the children on their residential: Mr Stockham, Miss Luca, Miss Bartholomew, Mrs Biggin and Mrs Stanton.

Y3 Caythorpe trip – a message from Mr Stockham

“The children have been a credit to the school and their families. Self belief, kindness, respect and excellence have been plentiful. We were clearly the best school in the dining room and bedtimes were the earliest I have witnessed... even on the first night!

The children have each been challenged to tell their adults at home 10 amazing memories that they have made, we are sure that there will be many more!

We are extremely proud of every single child and wish them a restful weekend.”

Mr Jamie Stockham and the Caythorpe team.

Reading

Thank you for continuing to support reading at home. Remember we ask for every child to read and have their planner initialed by an adult five times per week. Children who do this receive 5 house points, as well as their name into the “hat” for a book prize every Friday in assembly.

ERIC time does not seem as popular at the end of the day so we will return it to mornings for term 6. ERIC time will continue at 3:15pm on Thursday 16th May and Thursday 23rd May.

This week’s winning reading classes were Clover for the second week in a row in EY / KS1 and Thistle class in KS2. Individual reading winners were Milly in Y2 and Daisy in Y3.

School lunches

A reminder to ensure you order your child’s Kingswood meal online before 8.30am each day OR provide them with a packed lunch each day. There are not usually spare hot meals in school and the office staff are having to make an increasing number of phone calls every day to ensure every child has a lunch.

Warmer weather

Now we are enjoying some warmer weather, please ensure your children are adequately prepared! Grey shorts / green gingham summer dresses / playsuits can be worn if you wish. Every child should have a refillable water bottle (containing only water – no squash / juice please) every day. Children should also bring a NAMED sun hat to school each day. Please put the “all-day” / long-lasting sun-cream on children in the morning before school as school staff cannot possibly apply sun-cream to all 450 children! If children have hay fever, please give anti-

histamines before school – we can only administer prescription medication in school with a signed consent form. Thank you for your understanding.

May Fayre

Next Friday, 17th May is our May Fayre! All events will be on the Key Stage Two playground with the gates re-opening at 4pm. There will be a mixture of stalls, games, hot food, cakes, drinks, a licensed bar and an ice-cream van! Most stalls are cash but the ice-cream van and the PTA also have a card reader which can be used. Our children are also singing and dancing during the fayre and it would be wonderful to have as many families as possible supporting the PTA in this fundraiser and social event.

Smartphones / online use

We continue to see a worrying number of incidents relating to children using smart phones and / or the internet inappropriately. This is really damaging to children's mental health and well-being and it is parents' responsibility to monitor this vigilantly at home. Please see the attached one page report from Ofcom regarding this important issue and some recent statistics, some of which I am sure you will agree are worrying. Sometimes parents / carers need to be the "bad guy" with regard to monitoring and limiting screen-time in order to protect children for the long-term.

Our current school policy is that only Year Six children can bring their phones to school (as a Y6 privilege) and leave them in a pouch in the office all day. We do not have the facilities to look after a phone for every child who owns one.

Y6 SATs

Finally, a special GOOD LUCK to our Year Six children who are completing their SATs (statutory assessment tests) next week. The children have been invited in for a free breakfast from 8:30am each day and we are sure every child will do their personal best – which is all we ask! The children have revised lots and worked very hard; they deserve a rest and downtime this weekend ahead of their busy week next week.

Wishing you all a lovely weekend.

Miss Lally

Letters home this week

Caythorpe return time – Y3 Caythorpe attendees only

No recorder club on Friday next week - Y2 recorder club only

SATS week information – Y6 only

Caythorpe safe arrival – Y3 residential trip attendees only

Permissions form reminder – Y6 residential trip attendees only

Attachments

Online safety – media use and attitudes report 2024