

# Great Dalby Primary School Newsletter



December 2018

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## *Dear Parents*

It has been lovely to return from my maternity leave to see the children and yourselves; 145 smiling faces certainly made leaving Otto at home easier. Thank you for your kind words and warm welcomes on the playground each morning too. On my return I have been greeted with children whom have grown and progressed superbly in their academic achievements and personal goals. I'm sure it doesn't seem like two minutes since you were welcomed back by Mrs Corner after October half term and who'd have imagined the difference 8 weeks can make. I have seen some of the work produced by KS2 around World War One and it shows a real empathy and understanding of that part of our history. It has also been fantastic to hear some of our KS1 children read aloud and I am amazed by their progress and enthusiasm for books in such a short space of time. As always, our Foundation Stage children have quickly become part of the Great Dalby family and it has been great to get to know our youngest children and I look forward to getting to know our new parents in the New Year too.

The recent Christmas performances by our Foundation and KS1 children reflected their experiences in school so far. Every song was performed with great enthusiasm, every line was delivered with clarity and confidence and every child smiled and enjoyed playing their part. I am sure everyone who watched the performances would agree they were wonderful and possibly the best ever! The KS2 Carol Services told the Christmas Story beautifully and our children filled the church with wonderful song. December has also seen our choir perform at the Melton Christmas light switch on, huge thanks goes to Mrs Corner for her time and commitment to the performances and club.

Mrs Corner and I will continue to share the role of Head teacher until Easter as I complete my phased return to work. We jointly look forward to leading our fantastic school into 2019 and we will continue to make every decision with the children's best interests at heart as we strive for the children we teach to be the best they can be. With that in mind I look forward to the future and exciting times ahead.

On behalf of myself, Mrs Corner and the Great Dalby team I wish everyone a fantastic Christmas and a peaceful New Year and I look forward to welcoming everyone back on Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> January 2019.

*Mrs Lucy Anderson*

## **Friends of Great Dalby**

Our Friends of Great Dalby have been working tirelessly in the run up to Christmas; running a very successful and exciting Christmas Bazaar, providing the Elf-shelf and serving refreshments at all of our Christmas performances; not forgetting a number of super raffles. We are very grateful for the time and effort they put into our school and look forward to hearing their fundraising total in the New Year. Thank you very much.

## **Uniform**

We believe that our children are proud to wear their Great Dalby uniform so we would like the children to take pride in their appearance. May I remind everyone our school uniform is grey trousers or shorts for boys with a white polo shirt or shirt and a red Great Dalby jumper or fleece. For girls, the uniform is grey trousers, skirt or dress or a red checked dress with a white polo shirt and red Great Dalby jumper or fleece. Shoes should be black. There is still some donated uniform available at the school office for free.

Please can we remind you that there is no nail varnish or make-up to be worn in school and long hair should be tied back.

## PE Kit

The children continue to be outside for PE as much as possible. With this in mind please provide your child with warm outdoor clothing consisting of either a black or navy blue track-suit. School track-suits are available from the office, however many supermarkets sell plain jogging bottoms and sweaters. They will need outdoor trainers.

## Parking

We recognise that parking is an ongoing issue and we continue to work with the local Police in an attempt to ease the congestion and dangerous driving outside of school. You are welcome to use the pub car park, which has been kindly offered to support the problem, and walk up to school. Also, please be cautious when driving at the beginning and end of the day; do not drive on the kerb as this is extremely dangerous and could cause serious injuries to children and their families. If you have any suggestions of how we can move forward with this please let us know.

## Fundraising

Thank you for donations to Jeans for Genes, the Poppy Appeal and Children in Need. We have raised a combined total of over £500 for these charities and have received letters of gratitude from each organisation.

## Staffing update

Mr Hackett will leave Metcalf Multisports and Great Dalby Primary School on Friday to travel in Australia. We thank him for his enthusiasm, care and expertise and wish him well. Mr Green, who has spent some time shadowing Mr Hackett in his role, will be taking over in the New Year. Mrs Marriot will be leaving our midday team and we will welcome Mrs McNaughton to the team in January. Sadly Mrs Fryer is ill but we do hope to see her return in the New Year.

## Nuts

**We are an allergy aware school.** We have a number of children in school with severe allergies to various things, including nuts and sesame, and as a result **NO NUTS** are allowed in school in any form. This is a zero tolerance request; it may be fatal for a child with an allergy to come into contact with nuts. Please check labels on spreads and snack bars. Also, if nuts have been consumed before school we would be grateful if your children could wash their hands before coming on to the school site. Thank you for your cooperation in advance.

## KS2 Carol Service

We would like to say a huge thank you to the children and families who joined us for the annual evening carol service. We recognise that it's falls at the end of a long term however it's a very special event and we are grateful for the time given and commitment shown by those who attended. We hope you enjoyed the service and left feeling full of Christmas cheer!

## Diary Dates

Tuesday 8<sup>th</sup> January – Children return to school

Friday 15<sup>th</sup> February – School closes for half term

Monday 25<sup>th</sup> February – School reopens

Wednesday 27<sup>th</sup> February – Parent consultation on Relationship and Sex Education

