

11th May 2021

NEWSLETTER



STARBECK
PRIMARY ACADEMY

Dear Parents & Carers,



CAPTAIN TOM 100 CHALLENGE

Thank you all so much for making the Captain Tom 100 Challenge a huge success! To date we have raised a fantastic total of **£2271.55** – What an amazing achievement. The effort and enthusiasm from all children as well as from our team here was wonderful to see. We had 100 Star Jumps, Sandcastles, Goals, Minutes of Dance, Seeds Planted and the challenge even linked into maths, with our Year 4 estimating 100 cm in a special Maths challenge. As you know, the money will be split between our school PTA charity and the Sir Tom charities. The money will go towards further vital computing equipment to enhance teaching and learning for all children. We will shortly be ordering some new tablets for each class to use for filming & photographs which are now a key part of day to day learning for all year groups. Thank you again for your generosity.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE DURING TERM TIME

Please could I remind all parents and carers of the national regulations for requests of leave of absence during term time. The education regulations state that applications for leave must be made in advance by the parent or carer with whom the child lives and can only be authorised by the school in exceptional circumstances. Each application is considered individually by the school. Examples of 'exceptional circumstances' include:

- Service personnel returning from active deployment.
- Where inflexibility of parents' leave or working arrangement is part of the organisational or company policy (evidenced by written confirmation from the company).
- Where leave is recommended as part of a parents' or child's rehabilitation from medical or emotional problems. Evidence must be provided.
- When a family needs to spend time together to support each other during or after a crisis.

Please note: Headteachers would not be expected to class term time holidays as exceptional. Parents/carers must obtain the school's permission before making any arrangements, otherwise the absence will be recorded as unauthorised and a penalty notice/fine may be issued. If you do require an application form for leave or to discuss a specific request, please speak to our admin team via the school office. Applications should be completed at least 6 weeks in advance.

YEAR 3 KNARESBOROUGH WALKING TRIP

It was so nice to see the return of outdoor educational visits this half term. Year 3 went on an outing to the woods and riverside scenery of Knaresborough. This linked to their learning in History, Geography and Art with children creating wild artwork in the woodland on the way to Knaresborough, exploring the riverside for geographical features and creating maps and they even squeezed in time for an ice cream by the riverside.

All the class followed our school expectations and behaved beautifully, showing great manners to members of the public and following our expectations around safe distancing. A wonderful day.



11th May 2021

NEWSLETTER



STARBECK
PRIMARY ACADEMY

PARKING @ SCHOOL

I have been asked again by our Police Community Support Team to kindly ask parents to follow highway rules and regulations when parking at drop off and collection times. Please do not mount kerbs and pavements at speed when children are walking on the footpaths, park on restricted areas or block the driveways of local residents. Our friends at the Methodist Church, which is just below our school, have kindly offered that should parents have difficulty finding place to park at the time of drop-off or collection, you may use their carpark and take the very short walk up to school (however please do not park for longer periods of time there).

NATIONAL MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS WEEK

By now you will I'm sure be aware that we are all about positive mental health and wellbeing at Starbeck Primary. This week is National Mental Health Awareness Week and the theme for this year's week is 'nature'. Recent National Trust research found a link between feeling connected to nature and having improved wellbeing.

Outdoor learning is rooted within our curriculum as well as a range of other extra-curricular activities such as our weekly 'Wellbeing Wednesdays' assemblies and our Curriculum Stars. As an example, our Reception class have completed one of their Starbeck Stars which is 'To look after a plant.' After germinating a bean seed at school, the class looked at the developing shoots and talked about what the

seedling would need to help it grow. They then took the bean plant home in a cup with a challenge to pot the bean into soil or compost and see if they could help it grow. The children are excited about their bean growth and have been sharing lots of positive photos and news about their success!

If you would like to read more about Mental Health Awareness week, follow the link below:

<https://www.mentalhealth.org.uk/campaigns/mental-health-awareness-week>

PE KITS

After the periods of lockdown and absence from school that we have had, we would like to remind parents and carers that all children from Reception to Year 6 should have a PE kit in school each week. This should consist of black shorts, black or white T shirt and pumps/trainers - all in a PE bag. Football kits should not be worn for PE please. In addition, please provide a plain sweatshirt or hoodie to wear in cooler weather for outdoor PE. In order to keep our time focused on learning during PE sessions, please do check with your children that they have their kit ready and with them each week. Thank you for your support.

Yours sincerely,

Mr G de Castro-Morland

Headteacher

