Tuesday 17 October 2017

Dear Parents and Carers

As usual, it has been a busy and exciting time at Curbar and half term is soon upon us. I hope you all manage a well-deserved rest (if that’s possible!) and we look forward to seeing you after the break. School closes for the half term holiday on Thursday 19th October (staff training day on Friday 20 October). School reopens on Monday 30 October at 8:50am.

**Welcome**

Miss Julia Murray, a PGCE student from Sheffield Hallam University, is joining the school until Christmas. She will be based in class 1. Two Chesterfield College students, Eleanor Cunningham and Megan Pembleton will also be working with class 1 every Thursday.

**Attendance**

Our attendance for the school year so far is 98.5%. This is great and is above our target of 97%. A big thank you for also ensuring the children are arriving punctually. This has improved greatly at the start of the year and all the children are able to begin their learning promptly. We hope this continues.

**Important Stuff**

At the start of the year, many key school documents are updated, added to and approved by school leadership. The most relevant documents are listed below.

**Safeguarding** – a new child protection policy is available in school. Included in this is references to key personnel in school with regard to safeguarding including: Designated Safeguarding Lead – Mr Simon Beahan and Deputy Designated Safeguarding Lead – Miss Claudie Pattison.

**Teaching and Learning** - We have also updated our ‘Behaviour for Learning’ and ‘Teaching and Learning’ policies.

You should have also recently received a letter informing you of the school improvement priorities for the year. Please note that all of these documents are available for viewing on the school website.

**Safeguarding Links**

At a recent meeting I have been made aware of some useful links that contain up to date and useful information that support the safety and wellbeing of our children. I hope you find them useful.

CEOP Command – Child Exploitation and Online Protection Centre [www.ceop.police.uk](http://www.ceop.police.uk)

NSPCC - [www.nspcc.org.uk](http://www.nspcc.org.uk) This includes details about Childline and advice about how to stay safe online. Net-aware - [www.net-aware.org.uk](http://www.net-aware.org.uk) A guide to social networking and how to keep children safe.

**Pupil Parliamentarians**

Well done to our new Pupil Parliamentarians as voted for by their classmates. Miss Gregory has already met with them on several occasions! They are - Y6 Poppy F; Y5 Artemis T; Y4 – Mia B; Y3 – Francesca W; Y2 - Ruby W; Y1 - Jamie B; Reception representative – Farrah B.

**Curbar Commotion**

Thanks to the PTFA, especially Luci and Lewis, for organising the wonderful Curbar Commotion and raising over £1600 for school funds. Thanks to all the runners who took part and thanks to the army of cake bakers, tea makers and marshals who all volunteered their time and energy to make this event a continued success. Thank you.

**Curbar Muck In**

Following the success of last year’s ‘Muck In’, we have provisionally arranged a date for a pre winter Muck In/Out. Keep your diary free on Saturday 11 November. More details to follow.

**Parents Evening**

Monday 16 and Wednesday 18 October mark our first parents evening of the year. There will be an opportunity to talk to the class teacher and view your child’s books. Some of the governors will also be offering tea, coffee, biscuits and a chat.

**Travel Smart Week – 16 – 20 October 2016**

Travel Smart is where we encourage pupils to make the most of their school journey as a way to help them keep fit, beat traffic jams and reduce pollution, as well making sure they remember to travel safely too. As part of Travel Smart Week pupils will be ‘Going Wild’ for active and environmentally friendly travel in our super hero themed campaign. Pupils are encouraged to be ‘Striders’ and walk to school for all or part of the journey, or to join the ‘Wheelers’ travelling by bicycle or scooter. Those who can't stride or roll to school can be ‘Riders’ and travel to school by car share or taking the bus. For further information you can find out more about our Travel Smart Go Wild campaign at: <https://www.derbyshire.gov.uk/transport_roads/transport_plans/sustainable_travel/travel_smart/resources/travel_smart_week/default.asp>

**Healthy Snacks**

Have a break… have a piece of fruit! We want our children to live active and healthy lifestyles whenever we can. Children in class 1 will all receive a healthy snack in the morning and don’t need to bring one from home. However, for all those other children who would like a snack from home, we ask that it is a healthy option – this means no crisps or biscuits.

**PTFA events**

The PTFA AGM is set to take place on Friday 17 November at 7.30pm at the Derwentwater Arms. The Christmas Wreath making event is taking place on Thursday 23 November at 7.30pm at the Eating House. See the PTFA noticeboard for further information. The PTFA do an incredible job of supporting the school in many ways but with the main purpose of raising money for our school. They have recently supported funding for computing resources and school visits. Our main focus is now the raising of funds to renovate the pergola above the school yard. Please contact the PTFA if you think you can offer any help – it will be much appreciated.

**Lunchtime Support**

Last year the PTFA and school requested volunteers to help with lunchtime supervision so school staff can take children to use the MUGA more regularly. We are now looking for volunteers who can help on any day during the week but especially on a Monday, Thursday and Friday. Please sign up on the PTFA noticeboard in school if you are able to help for after half term.

**Sporting Success**

Congratulations to Y5/6 who recently won the small schools cluster football competition. Well done to all cross country runners who did Curbar proud and won the ‘Determination’ trophy. We have several runners who have been invited to the next Derbyshire event.

**Uniform Reminder**

We feel that our school uniform makes the children look very smart and enables them to feel part of the team. We ask that if children wear leggings or tights, they are a grey or navy so that they match the rest of the uniform. Likewise, we ask that they wear appropriate school shoes and bring trainers for PE. For health and safety purposes, we also request that children do not wear jewellery.

**Permission Slips and Payments**

We are fortunate that there are many exciting learning opportunities for the children to be involved in at Curbar. Many of these require a permission slip to be completed and some require a payment. We ask that you complete and return these promptly and by the date indicated on the letter. Likewise, we ask that dinner money is paid in advance.

**623 After School Club**

Well-done to 623 who recently had a successful OFSTED inspection.

**Website**

The school website is a useful source of information. You will also find a copy of all letters sent out. Just go to ‘Information’ on the homepage toolbar and click on ‘Useful letters’.

Kind regards

Mr Simon Beahan, Headteacher

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| Monday 30 October 2017 | Start of Autumn Term 2 – School Open to pupils |
| Thursday 2 November 2017 | Cluster Dodgeball Competition and Fun Festival for Y2/3/4 at Bakewell Junior School |
| Friday 3 November 2017 | Class newsletters to go home |
| Thursday 9 November 2017 | Shine Assembly – 9:10am  Cluster Sports Hall Athletics for Y5/6 at Matlock Arc |
| Friday 10 November 2017 | NSPCC Speak Out Stay Safe whole school assembly and class 3 workshop |
| Saturday 11 November 2017 | Curbar Muck In Day – details to follow |
| Monday 13 November 2017 | ANTI-BULLYING WEEK – ‘All different; All equal’  UK Parliament Week  Standards and Curriculum Governor Meeting – 6pm  Class 1 and 2 at village Hall for bowls session – pm |
| Tuesday 14 November 2017 | Flu immunisations in school: Reception – Year 4 |
| Wednesday 15 November 2017 | Individual photographs from 1.15pm onwards – families/siblings to attend after school |
| Thursday 16 November 2017 | Cluster Tag Rugby Competition and Fun Festival for Y5/6 at Longstone School |
| Friday 17 November 2017 | Children in Need fundraising (‘The Spotacular!’) inc. after school cake sale  ‘Doodlebug Day’- Maths/Art/Growth Mindset workshops in school.  PTFA AGM – 7.30pm at the Derwentwater Arms. |
| Monday 20 November 2017 | ROAD SAFETY WEEK |
| Wednesday 22 November 2017 | Class 3 to attend performance of ‘Oliver’ at LMS – 1:45 – 3:00pm |
| Friday 24 November 2017 | Fire Safety talk from Derbyshire Fire Service to classes 1 and 3. |
| Thursday 30 November 2017 | Online Safety talk at LMS for parents of children in class 3 – 6:00 – 7:00pm. |
| Friday 1 December 2017 | Children to watch Babbling Vagabonds performance of ‘Prince Stroppy Pants and the Christmas Caper’ at Cliff College - time TBC |
| Thursday 7 December 2017 | ‘Peter Pan’ – Whole School Pantomime Visit to Chesterfield |
| Monday 11 December 2017 | Full Governing Body Meeting – 7pm |
| Thursday 14 December 2017 | Christmas Nativity at All Saints Church – 2pm and 6pm |
| Friday 15 December 2017 | Citizenship of the Term Assembly – 9:10am  Christmas Dinner in school for children and staff  Save the Children fundraising day - Christmas Jumper Day!  Class 3 to attend LMS Christmas Concert – 1.30 – 2.30pm |
| Tuesday 20 December 2016 | Party Day!  End of Autumn Term - School closes for Christmas holiday |
| Christmas Holidays – Wednesday 20 December 2017 – Tuesday 2 January 2018 | |
| Tuesday 2 January 2018 | Whole School Training Day – School Closed to pupils |
| Wednesday 3 January 2018 | Start of Spring Term – School Open to pupils at 8:50am |