



DARELL PRIMARY AND NURSERY SCHOOL

Newsletter 16, 17.01.2020

Headteacher's Letter

Dear Parents and Carers,

It has been a really busy week at school with so much fantastic learning being shared. Learning highlights have included: Nursery children getting to grips with construction with bricks, spades & trowels, Reception playing games to tell the time, incredible writing in Year 1 & 2 based on their new class books, Year 3 producing some wonderful sentences to convince the Selfish Giant to be less selfish, Year 4 investigating states of matter, Year 5 proving Aristotle's theory of a spherical Earth and Year 6 creating a calm atmosphere in their descriptive writing. What a busy week of learning! It has also been great to see all of our clubs restart this week and see how many children take part in the broad extracurricular offer at Darell. With clubs and class trips now in full swing, please do ensure that you login to your Arbor account to make any necessary payments for these activities.

A point that was missed from last week's newsletter was to congratulate Mr Fitzgerald on the birth of his baby daughter Pearl Elizabeth Fitzgerald who was born on 27th December weighing 6lbs 9oz. We would like to send our congratulations as a school to Mr Fitzgerald and are looking forward to welcoming him back to school next week.

Finally, please do see the attached notice regarding attendance and punctuality. As a school our attendance target is 96.8%. Currently our attendance this academic year is 95.8%. We are always looking to work in partnership with you and believe that open communication is key. If a child's attendance does fall below 95% we will contact you to discuss their attendance and see if there is any support that we can provide. We value high attendance across the school and look forward to working with you in partnership to maintain this.

We hope you have a relaxing and enjoyable weekend,

Mr Porter & Mr Gilbert

Updates from the Office team

Lost Property

Please could you make sure your children's uniform and PE kit are clearly named. As many of the items handed into lost property have no names and make it impossible to return.

Trading Cards

Children have been bringing a number of different trading cards into school to trade with each other.



Children are welcome to bring in trading cards but only on Fridays.

Nut Free School



Can we remind all parents and carers that we are a **Nut Free School**. Please be especially careful when using chocolate spread and chocolate filled crepes, as often it is chocolate and hazelnut. We have several children that suffer from nut allergies and sitting next to someone who has eaten nuts could be enough to cause a reaction we thank you in advance for your co-operation.

Punctuality

The school is open for a soft start from 8.45 for the children. Please make sure your child is in school by 8.55, before the gates close or they will be marked in as late. Also, please collect your child promptly after school, KS1 pick up 3.15pm and KS2 3.25pm thank you.

Parking

A polite reminder that parking is not permitted on the yellow zigzag lines surrounding the school. There is plenty of free parking surrounding the school within a short walking distance.

Please can we ask that whilst driving around the school area you keep your speed to a minimum.

Upcoming diary dates:

Wednesday, 22nd January:

- **Darell v Thompson House Football Match**

Friday, 24th January:

- **Science Museum Trip Year 5**

Letters/Communications sent out this week:

- **EFL Kids Cup Football Tournament Year 6**
- **Darell V Thompson House Football Match Year 5/6**
- **Medical Information Letter Whole School**
- **Thames Explorer Trip Letter Year 2**
- **Natural History Museum Trip Year 3**
- **Updated Club and Activities List**
- **Attendance poster**
- **"Being a Parent" flyer**

New Events:

TRAILBLAZER Mental Health

We are very proud at Darell to be part of the Trailblazer project for Richmond as part of the Green paper on Mental Health with the aim of 'Transforming mental health provision for children and young people in schools'. We will be helping to shape what this support will look like in schools. We will have access to a Mental Health Support Team (MHST) who will provide additional expertise, capacity and support to help us treat mild to moderate mental health issues and support mental health & wellbeing. All good news for schools!

We will be running a Parent programme on 'Being a Parent' - run by parents for parents to bring up happy, co-operative and confident children. Please let the office know if you are interested

Please see the attached flyer for further information

Star of the Week:

Mozart: Neil – for good turn taking and working well with others

Newton: Alfie – for taking ownership of his learning, especially in choosing time

Packham: Alice – for amazing speaking and listening and the retelling the story of Jack and the Beanstalk

Peake: Judi – for her amazing writing this week and being resilient

Weir: Hannah – for showing good understanding of subtracting 2 digit numbers

Simmonds: Vivian – for helping her friends with their learning

Thunberg: Leila – for her beautiful English work

Malala: David – for his engagement in all our learning activities

Darwin: Aboodi – for his enthusiasm in our learning

Attenborough: Maisie – for her fabulous descriptive writing

Parks: Assiah – for amazing vocabulary during English lessons

Mandela: James – for his progress in English and maths

Attendance:

Overall, school attendance last week was 94.8%our target is 96.8%.

Well done to Peake Class for the highest attendance with 92.7% last week. Best for punctuality was Simmonds, Weir, Thunberg and Mandela Class (with 0 late). Let's do our best for next week!

Maths Challenge:

Last week's Maths Challenge 1 winner was Sophia from Darwin Class, well done!

Last week's Maths Challenge 2 winner was David from Malala Class, well done!

Please see the attachment with the newsletter for next week's Maths Challenge.