



## DARELL PRIMARY AND NURSERY SCHOOL

### **Newsletter 20, 14<sup>th</sup> February 2020**

#### **Headteacher's Letter:**

Dear Parents and Carers,

As this half term draws to a close, we have taken some time out to reflect on what makes this school such a great place to be. Firstly, we would like to thank each and every one of the children who continue to be a credit to all of you. Today I had a visit from a senior member of the local authority who commented on the calm and focussed behaviour throughout the school. This week we also had a visit from a tutor from Roehampton University who said that she was extremely impressed with how confidently all the children had spoken during her visit. This is particularly pleasing as developing the quality of our children's talk is an ongoing focus throughout the school. The staff at Darell are also exceptional and we would like to say a thank you to all of them; from lunchtime staff to business managers, TAs to teachers who work tirelessly to give your children the best experiences that they can. Finally I would like to thank you for your challenge and support. As a school we are constantly looking to improve and we always welcome constructive feedback. I would also like to thank the volunteers who have been coming into school to listen to readers or run clubs.

In recent weeks, we have introduced some rewards for positive behaviour and we thought it would be useful to let you know what they are. There is now a Green Card that can be given by any member of staff to a child that is displaying positive behaviours around the school. This could be related to their learning or their support of others and is in line with a desire for every child to 'make a difference' with small and larger gestures. We have also introduced a Playground Stars certificate that rewards positive behaviour at break and lunchtime. I know that over 50 of these have already been issued!

On a personal note, my final countdown has begun and there is only six school weeks until I take up my substantive headteacher position. I am really excited about the prospect and look forward to working alongside you to make Darell the best school that it possibly can be.

Have a lovely half term,

Joe Porter & Paul Gilbert

#### **Office updates:**

##### **Clubs**

We have some new clubs running after half term. For further information please see the updated clubs list attached.

## Parents Evening

Parent's evening appointments are available to book now. Please log into your Arbor account and book your appointment.

## Sayers Croft Residential trip

A polite reminder that the next instalment of £50.00 will be due by Friday, 28<sup>th</sup> February. All payments to be made via Arbor parent portal.

## School Meals

Can we kindly ask you to top up your school meal accounts so your balance remains in credit. We do ask you to pay a half term in advance where possible.

## Upcoming diary dates for the following week:

### Monday, 24<sup>th</sup> February:

- **All pupils back to school**

### Wednesday, 26<sup>th</sup> February:

- **Y5/6 Netball Tournament**

## Letters/communications sent home:

- **Y5/6 Netball Tournament (selected pupils)**
- **Managing your child's fears and worries work shop**
- **Updated Clubs and Activities List**
- **Redz Street Dance Flyer**
- **Medical Letter**
- **Book Event Letter**

## Star of the Week

**Mozart: Archie** – for trying hard and having a go

**Newton: Alfie** – for reading 4 books in one day, on his own

**Packham: Freya** – for using and applying her phonics in lots of beautiful independent writing

**Peake: Jack** – for working hard on improving his handwriting

**Weir: Kole** – for his enthusiasm on our trip to the River Thames

**Simmonds: Oya** – for speaking more English and starting to read and write with more independence

**Malala: Ruby** – for her attitude to learning, striving for excellence at all times

**Thunberg: Whole Class** – for their commitment to reading daily at home

**Darwin: Cameron** – for his excellent effort with his work and super manners

**Attenborough: Cordelle** –for his fabulous commitment on his writing

**Parks: Leona** – for a constantly positive attitude towards learning

**Mandela: Jack** – for his fantastic writing and improving at following instructions

**Maths Challenge:**

Last week's Maths Challenge 1 winner was Cameron from Darwin Class Well done!

Last week's Maths Challenge 2 winner was Paige from Mandela Class Well done!

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

**Attendance:**

Overall, school attendance last week was 93% our target is 96.8%.

Well done to Simmonds Class for the highest attendance with 97.9% last week. Best for punctuality was Packham, Peake, Simmonds, Malala, Thunberg and Attenborough Class (with 1 late). Let's do our best for next week!