

Autumn 4, 2017

Dear Parents and Carers,

School Snacks

A few parents new to us have asked about the school snacks at break time. Our children are fantastic with their choices of snack during morning breaks but just as a reminder the School Kitchen provides snacks and drinks that meet the School Food Standards. Snacks are 20p each and include drinks as well as healthier versions of flapjack, cookies, etc.

If you wish to send your child with their own snacks from home then our school food policy recommends that children bring in fruit, dried fruit, vegetables (e.g. carrot sticks), plain biscuits or cereal bars that are not chocolate or yoghurt based. Most cheese based snacks such as Cheese Strings are fine.

Many parents wish to send in a drink, however fruit juices are only recommended alongside a main meal due to the level of sugar and the effect of fruit acids on teeth. We would recommend water, however a very low sugar flavoured water is acceptable.

We aim to ensure children know about healthy options through this system. However, we know that reducing higher sugar based snacks/drinks has proven impact on pupils' concentration and focus in class especially in our school. This benefit cannot be underestimated as a calm and focused class learns at a much greater rate with fewer losses of concentration.

If you are unsure about your snacks just ask. Please note that if a child is bringing snacks to school that do not meet the School Food Standards then we will offer an alternative and ask them not to bring it in again. Thank you for your support.

Pupil with Nut and Peanut Allergy

Parents of a child in Y2/3 have asked us to remind you that their child has a severe peanut and nut allergy. The allergic reaction can vary in severity but in this case we need to be extremely careful with the foods this pupil comes in to contact with. There is a possibility that such contact, even at a minor level, could lead to ANAPHYLAXIS which unless treated immediately can be life threatening.

As many of you will already know peanuts and nuts may be present within many foods - even where they are not listed in the ingredients there is often there is a note saying that food may have been prepared in a factory containing nuts.

For the safety and care of our pupils, we would ask that you check the ingredients of any food you provide for snack or for packed lunch to ensure there are no peanuts or nuts present. The more careful you are the more we can protect the health and wellbeing of our pupils. Thank you for your support with this matter.

Nursery Provision and 30 Hours Entitlement

The opportunity for working parents to take up 30 hours of Nursery education has been a success this year and we will be continuing to provide that option in the future for a limited number of pupils. If you are interested in taking up the 30-hour offer then please contact the school and we will discuss the options you have. We have a 30-hour funding section on our website at www.pilsleyprimary.co.uk for further information.

The vast majority of places in our Nursery will remain at the current 15-hour entitlement that all children have. This year we have been extremely busy and the Nursery is very nearly full. If you have not yet put

your child on our list for a Nursery place for 2018/19 or beyond we would suggest that you do this ASAP so that we plan for your child in the future.

Toys

We know that children enjoy bringing a toy to school and for many it works as a comfort. Please understand that we simply cannot keep an eye on each and every toy in school. Some will get lost, some will get broken and therefore we would highly recommend that any toy a child brings to school is not precious or important to them.

Recently, we have had a number of pupils bringing in superhero masks, shields, swords, etc. These are super toys for the home but are not suitable for school as they cause play to become quickly overly physical. This often leads to upset and someone getting hurt when it could be easily be avoided. Thank you for your support in this.

Relief Mid-day Supervisor Vacancies and a Play Leader

We are advertising for two relief mid-day supervisor posts within school as well as a lunchtime Play Leader role. Please visit the Derbyshire County Council Jobs website for further details and how to apply.

<https://jobs.derbyshire.gov.uk/searchresults.asp>

If you would like to know any more information about this role please do not hesitate to contact the school office.

Diary Dates / School Events

17 th November	Year 6 Bikeability and Children in Need Spots and Stripes Day
20 th November	Foundation 2 height, weight and hearing with school health
4 th December	Foundation 2 to Year 4 Flu Immunisations
4 th December	KS2 Christmas concert dress rehearsal
5 th December	KS2 Christmas concerts
12 th December	F1, F2 and KS1 Christmas concert dress rehearsals
13 th December	F1 and F2 Christmas concert
14 th December	KS1 Christmas concert
15 th December	Reception, KS1 and KS2 Christmas Parties
19 th December	Last day of term

2018

2 nd January	INSET Day – school closed
3 rd January	Pupils return to school
16 th February	Last day of term
26 th February	Pupils return to school
23 rd March	Last day of term
9 th April	Pupils return to school
7 th May	May Day Bank Holiday (one day)
25 th May	Last day of term
4 th June	Pupils return to school
20 th July	Last day of term