



# Windermere Primary School

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## Newsletter 13



Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope you enjoyed a super half term. Looking at the diary for the coming weeks we are going to be very busy.

Preparations for the end of year performance are underway. All year groups will be involved in the production, so information about tickets will be sent out shortly.

### Sports Day

When we were looking at the diary dates we discovered a potential clash between our Sports Day and the District Sports' reserve date. It was therefore decided that to avoid a problem we would reschedule our own sports day to **WEDNESDAY 25<sup>th</sup> JUNE**. I do hope that many of you will be able to join us for the afternoon's events.

### Year 5/6 Afternoon Tea

I forgot to add the date for the Year 5 and 6 Afternoon Tea to the diary dates last time. This will be on Friday, 11<sup>th</sup> July at 2.45pm.

### Diary Dates 2014/15

I know many of you enjoyed the slightly extended summer half term holiday, but next year – like this year – the end of the summer term is part way through a week. Therefore we have decided that NEXT YEAR school will finish at 2pm on Friday 17<sup>th</sup> July 2015.

As a result of this the summer half term will be a week only. I would like to take this opportunity to remind you that due to changes in the law last September, parents are no longer permitted to take term time holidays. Any absences other than for illness will be treated as unauthorised unless there are *exceptional* circumstances. Where pupils are repeatedly absent for illness, the School Nurse may contact the GP for further information. Pupils who are absent from the school for an extended period of time may be taken off roll and will need to reapply for a school place through the admissions system.

Please look at the accompanying calendar to see key events such as assemblies next year. Obviously not all of them are written on the calendar yet, and some may need to be changed nearer to the time, but wherever possible we will keep to the dates given.

### **Consultation Evenings**

There will also be changes to the way consultation evenings are arranged. Many parents are keen to have appointments immediately after school and just a few like to return later in the evening. The late consultation evening is very tiring for the staff, appointments sometimes run as late as 9pm, after which the school needs to be locked up and staff have to travel home, which can be half an hour or more away. As a result they are not as fresh for the following day as we would like. Therefore we will be trialling a new system in the autumn term.

There will be two consultation evenings as currently. They will both start immediately after school i.e. 3.40pm and they will run until 7pm with a short refreshment break half way through. The two evenings will be in consecutive weeks as shown on the planner. We will consult with parents and staff after the autumn meetings to see if it has been an improvement.

### **Parents' forum**

Many of you will know that the governors meet with parents during the year to get their views on school policies and activities. This term we are meeting on Friday 20<sup>th</sup> June at 9am and the focus will be the proposed school uniform for KS2. We would like to see as many parents as possible at this meeting so that we can explain why we want to make the change and what it will involve for parents.

### **Staff Changes**

With so much still around the corner for this term, it seems incredible that we are already organising arrangements for next year.

Change is always difficult, but we also recognise the need for our staff to gain experience in other educational settings as their own careers progress. Mrs Bennett joined us two years ago and is a much valued member of our staff team. However, at the end of this academic year she will be leaving us to take up a post in a special school in Hemel Hempstead. I am sure all the children in Year 1 and Year 2 will carry fond memories of her with them; she will be missed by us all.

Mrs Bennett's position as Year 1 class teacher will be taken up by Mrs Alger. Pupils and parents in Reception will have an opportunity to meet Mrs Alger later this term.

The staffing arrangements for next year are:

**Reception:** Mrs Martindale

**Year 1:** Mrs Alger

**Year 2:** Miss Clark

**Year 3:** Miss Scott

**Year 4:** Miss Willmer

**Year 5:** Mr Harries

**Year 6:** Mrs Thomas

PPA cover will continue to be provided by Mrs A Baskerville, Mrs Edwards and Mrs Wiggins.

## **Sports Provision and Clubs**

We already offer a wide range of sporting activities both in curriculum time and also after school. However, some of this has been limited to KS2. Next year some of the sports provision for KS2 will be provided by coaches from outside the school. They are sports specialists and will be able to offer additional expertise to our school PE. In addition to this they will be providing two after school clubs. One will be specifically for Years 3 and 4 and the other will be for Years 1 and 2. Full details about all the after school clubs on offer will be sent out later this term.

## **Last Inset Day**

The final inset day of the year is **FRIDAY, 27<sup>th</sup> JUNE**. The school will be closed to pupils. Please make sure that you have this date in your diary or on your calendar. Several children turned up at school last time, despite reminders in the newsletter and sent out by text. This is a very uncomfortable and potentially dangerous situation for the children.

Mrs D Raftery  
Headteacher