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DURHAM COUNTY COUNCIL
Aycliffe Village Primary
School
Aycliffe Village
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January 2017 Letter to Parents/Carers

I would like to wish you all a very Happy New Year and welcome everyone back to school for the new term. I would also like to take this opportunity to thank the PTA for all their hard work during 2016 in raising much needed funds for the school. They have raised an incredible amount of money. Thank you, also, to parents, grandparents and others in the local community for supporting their events.

Thank you for contribution to the excellent M&M Production. All of the pupils enjoyed the afternoon.

EYFS Equipment

The PTA recently contributed to some playground equipment in the Early Years' area. This equipment has now been installed. The youngest children will develop their co-ordination skills and gross motor skills when using the equipment.

Start of the School Day

Pupils arriving before the bell should proceed up to the yard to come into school with their class.

For pupils who arrive on site by 08.55, two minutes will be allowed for pupils to walk up to join their class on the yard. The gate is to be closed at 08.57 by pupils from the Year 5 class.

If pupils arrive after the gate closes, the Teacher at the gate or Teaching Assistant at the gate is to bring the pupils round to their respective entrance. As the TA moves around the school to the KS2 and KS1 entrances they are to ensure that no pupils are left outside the school building in the yard or on the pathways.

For pupils who arrive after 09.00 they are to report directly to the school office from the driveway and not enter the yard without supervision. These pupils will be recorded as late and if this is persistent, letters will be sent to parents.

Parents' afternoon

We are holding our parent consultations in the week of the 13th - 16th February. These will be held after the school day finishes. These consultations are very important. All parents and carers are requested to come and talk with the class teacher about their child's progress. Year 5 and Year 6 pupils are encouraged to partake in the consultation. Your child's teacher will contact you to arrange times to attend.

Germany Meeting

In preparation for our visit to Germany, Mrs. Brown, Miss Peel and Mrs. Byrne would like to invite all parents and pupils along to a meeting on Wednesday 1st March at 6.00pm. This will give us the opportunity to distribute all the necessary paperwork for the collective passport, parental consent forms, and payment cards and to discuss our plans for activities and excursions during our stay.

Ofsted Inspection

There were many positive points identified by the inspectors within the report following our recent inspection. The wide range of curricular opportunities and the behaviour of the pupils were mentioned as being strengths. However, there were some areas that have been judged as requiring improvement.

We have identified areas that need development and we are working hard as a school community to ensure that we can put the required changes in place as speedily and as efficiently as possible.

The official report will be posted on the School Website when we receive clearance from Ofsted to make it a public document.

Ford Castle Meeting

In preparation for the residential visit to Ford Castle, Mr. Gargan and Miss. Richmond would like to invite all parents and pupils to a meeting on 6th February 2017 at 6.00pm. We will be sharing information about the centre, the planned itinerary and travel information. We hope to see as many of the parents and pupils as we can at the meeting.

Health & Safety

During the winter months, if children come to school wearing wellies or boots please send in normal school shoes to change into (not slippers) as the floors become very wet and slippery.

Parking and dropping off outside school.

We respectfully ask that you abide by the traffic notices outside school when dropping pupils off at school and parking to collect them at the end of the school day. The restrictions are there to keep all children safe as they enter and leave school. To help avoid congestion, please park as far away from the school as possible and walk a short distance.

Contact Information

If you have changed your mobile number or address over the holidays, please remember to pass on your new contact details to Mrs. Dolan in order to update our records.

As usual, if anyone would like to discuss any of the issues raised here, with me or any member of staff, please don't hesitate to contact us.

Yours sincerely,

Mr J.P.Gargan.
Head Teacher
