



Autumn Term - Date: 22.10.21

Talking Head

As the saying goes - 'new term, new newsletter format, new you.' Or something like that.

What a first seven weeks back...poetry writing workshops, trips to far-flung places, photo-days, glorious sunshine, chucking it down rain...but still a lot of fun, and vibrancy whatever the weather. The Harvest Festival service at the church was a genuine joy - the readings, the songs; a real feeling of togetherness that we've not been physically able to experience until now. Long may it continue.!

It's been a long seven weeks, and we're all ready for the break here, as I'm sure you are too. Enjoy the break, rest-up and relax, while doing enjoyable things. See you back in a week, all in one piece, please!

Ben Sutton | **Headteacher**

Phones

Just a reminder - please can you make sure that those Year 6s who walk to school with their phones keep them out of sight, in a bag or pocket, as soon as they're on the school site. They must then put their phones in the classroom phone basket to safeguard all on the school site.

Any phones seen by staff on the playground/beyond the gates will be taken and returned to families at the end of the day from the school office.



Community Cares

Please make sure you know where your child is and who they're with when they're out and about without you.

It's an obvious one, but make sure you're talking to them about making the right choices - especially when they're out with friends, and where safety is concerned. There have been a few incidents in the community recently - particularly in the Leaside Park area that have involved older children (high school age), where things have become difficult and challenging.

All we'd advise is to make sure your children feel safe wherever they are going, and that they feel supported to talk about any situations that they've felt uncomfortable in.

We're following things up with the PCSO who supports school, alongside conversations with our children about keeping safe.



Email

Hello@dringhouses.co.uk is well and truly up and running.

Please use this for ANY communication with staff, unless they email you directly in response to something.

This email address is also ONLY for family contact, so Vikki and Kate don't have to sift through 1,000,000 spam emails to find yours!



Rail Safety

We've been contacted by Network Rail to make us aware of an increase in trespassing on railway lines in our local area. Please find an opportunity to watch the following film/quiz with your children and talk to them about the importance and urgency of railway safety and awareness.

Enter the email railsafety@learnliveuk.com into the 'I am registered' field when you first watch the videos. Primary school version: Age 7- 11 <https://learnliveuk.com/network-rail-primary-school-safety-talk/>

<https://learnliveuk.com/i-am-train-safe/>



Online Safety

Tik-Tok: we don't like it. You shouldn't like it. Discuss. Firm but also fair - TikTok has some really questionable content, including some deeply disturbing content that appears difficult for them to get rid of themselves.

We know that some children use it, but it would be irresponsible if we didn't proactively discourage its use within our community.

I had an email this week from someone who was deeply concerned to find that the child they knew at home was very different to their online personality - as found in the social media aspect of TikTok. I suppose the key question is how well do you know your child's online activity? Are your conversations with them enough; should you look at their accounts with them? YES. They are online citizens, but they're still under 12, and therefore need you to protect them in the same way that you would if you were in the city centre together. It's that simple - would you let someone verbally abuse your child? Would you let your child verbally abuse someone else? Without being there with them - how do you know if they're going through this online?

Worth checking. And then still delete TikTok. Replace it by randomly telling your child to do a dance at breakfast time.



BHM

October is Black History Month. We've got a fab display up opposite our new library (more on that later!) with some key figures in British Black History - Nicola Adams, Lemn Sissay, Naomi Campbell, Marcus Rashford, and Zadie Smith. However, we're thinking that actually, these people are important enough, and the idea behind BHM fundamental enough to simply maintain it as a Black British History display, and ditch the 'Month', updating the figures over the year.



Dates Ahead

Things coming up in the Dringhouses calendar next half-term:

W/B 1.11.21 - Mon/Thurs Parents' Meetings

Tues - UKS2 Trip to Wildlife Park

W/B 8.11.21 - Tues 9am, Wed 1.30pm, Thurs 3.45pm, Fri 1.30pm
Open Days

W/B 22.11.21 - Thurs LKS2 Magna Trip

W/B 29.11.21 - KS1 History Workshops

W/B 13.12.21 - Mon Secret Shopping Event (details to follow)

Wed Church Xmas Service

W/B 19.12.21 - Xmas Break



Covid Update

York Public Health have introduced a new precaution for **daily lateral flow testing of primary and secondary school aged children when they have been identified as a close or household contact of a positive case by NHS Test and Trace.**

Where possible, parents should ensure their child takes a daily lateral flow test while waiting for their PCR test result. Provided the lateral flow test is negative they can return to school. This is a temporary measure and will be reviewed every 2 weeks taking into account the rate of infection in schools and the roll-out of the COVID-19 vaccination programme. Lateral flow tests for this purpose can be collected from one of the council run collection centres, from a local pharmacy, or ordered online for home delivery.



**We must
keep on protecting
each other.**



HANDS



FACE



SPACE