



25.05.23 Summer Half-Term - Newsletter

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Dear Families,

As we approach the end of another incredible academic year, I wanted to express my appreciation and admiration for all of you. The journey we've embarked on together as a school community has been nothing short of amazing - not unlike other years, it's true, but the first where Covid hasn't been a driving force of sorts!.

First and foremost, I want to send a big shout-out to you, our fantastic families. Your trust and support have been invaluable in creating a nurturing and inspiring learning environment for your children. Thank you for being such wonderful partners on this educational journey - children spend approximately 10% of their lives in school, so we understand just how important your support and guidance is. Be assured, that their success is very much a partnership, and one that we feel lucky to have you involved in.

And to our incredible children, I have to say, you've truly outdone yourselves this year. Your hard work, dedication, and enthusiasm have been a joy to witness. It's been a privilege to watch you grow and flourish in so many ways.

One thing that has truly stood out is the confidence you've displayed. You've tackled challenges with a can-do attitude, pushed yourselves to try new things, and embraced opportunities for personal and academic growth. Your confidence has been contagious, inspiring others around you to believe in themselves too - our Year 6s who leave at the end of their Dringhouses experience, leave a legacy of EY children who have looked up to you and who have enjoyed your help and support and warmth as they begin their journey here.

And it doesn't stop there! All of our pupils - your curiosity has been a driving force behind your accomplishments. Your thirst for knowledge, your eagerness to explore new ideas, and your willingness to ask thought-provoking questions have made our classrooms come alive. Your curiosity has been the spark that ignites a love of learning.

And let's not forget about the incredible creativity you've shown. Whether it's been through art, music, writing, or problem-solving, you've brought your unique talents and ideas to the table. Your creativity has added colour, joy, and innovation to our school community. To end the year with the melodies of Matilda the musical drifting through the corridors has been an incredible experience, and one that the community have benefitted from, and can be proud of.

Last but certainly not least, the sense of community we've fostered together has been truly heartwarming. Your kindness, support, and empathy for one another have created a warm and inclusive environment where everyone feels valued and respected. It's a testament to the incredible individuals you are.

As we bring this academic year to a close, I encourage each and every one of you to hold onto these amazing qualities. Let your confidence continue to soar, your curiosity keep driving your thirst for knowledge, your creativity to keep shining, and your sense of community to flourish.

And to our staff - the hard-working, community-minded, creative, and compassionate team, infinite thanks for everything that this year has brought. The team here at Dringhouses Primary is so skilled, and so kind - a genuine and authentic group of leaders, every one. Thank you all for everything you have done, and continue to do - the school is great through your collective greatness.

Thank you all for making this year truly special. Enjoy a well-deserved summer filled with laughter, relaxation, and new adventures.

See you on the playground,



Ben Sutton | **Headteacher**



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2. Well being Watch



Moving on and change can be a challenge for a lot of us...

Each child will understandably have different emotions bubbling at the thought of moving into the summer holidays and then a change of some type when they come back.

This wellbeing watch is just a reminder of some of the tools the children have learnt over the year/s to help them manage their emotions.

Here's our top 5 strategies - how many of these have you done today?

1. **Breathe**- easy but soooo effective. Breathe in for a count of 5 while scrunching your shoulders up, hold for 4; breathe out for 7 and release your shoulders. Repeat as many times as you need to.
2. **Gratitude**- the more you practise being thankful for the little things - the easier it will be and the more you will notice the things to be grateful for.
3. **Kindness**- being kind releases dopamine in our brains which can give us a feeling of euphoria
4. **Affirmations**- tell your brain what it needs to hear e.g 'I am calm' or 'I am safe.'
5. **Nature** - go for a walk/run/paddle/play outdoors - hug a tree or roll down a grassy hill.

Take care and Have a wonderful Summer,
Clare x



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3. YORK HOLIDAY ACTIVITIES AND FOOD PROGRAMME:

A range of holiday activity schemes will be available for children and young people during the Christmas, Easter and Summer school holidays. Details of events and activities can be found on the [Holiday Activities and Food Yor-OK webpage](#).

The sessions will include a variety of fun activities, including sports, music, arts and other exciting opportunities to learn and develop skills, alongside a nutritious meal each day. They are being provided to targeted children as part of the government's expanded [Holiday Activities and Food \(HAF\) programme](#) which is being delivered across the City of York area.

Manchester United and England Footballer Marcus Rashford spreads the word about the [Holiday Activities and Food \(HAF\) programme](#):

<https://www.york.gov.uk/HAF>

4. KIDS EAT FREE!

Some useful sites to direct you towards places that are doing kids eat free initiatives during the holidays!

<https://moneysavingcentral.co.uk/kids-eat-free>

<https://www.york.gov.uk/ChildrenAndFamilies>



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5. Whole school dates:

[Term Dates LINK](#)

Inset days	
Inset day1	4/9/23
Inset day2	27/10/23
Inset day3	8/1/24
Inset day4	8/4/24
Inset day5	22/7/24

Open Days - new starters	
1	19/10/2023
	16/11/2023
2	14/03/2024
3	20/06/2024

Reports	
End of year reports out to parents	15/07/2023
Spring Progress Report	19/03/2024
Aut Progress Report	07/11/2023

Parents' Meetings	
Autumn	14/11/2023
	16/11/2023
Spring	19/03/2024

School Events	
Sports day	11/07/2024



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Y6 leavers assembly	19/07/2024
EY nativity	06 and 07/12/2023
KS1 Nativity	13 and 14/12/2023
Christingle	15/12/2023
Y6 End of year production	TBA
Harvest - church	25/10/2023
Chistmas - church	20/12/2023
KS2 Spring Concert	21/03/2024
Easter - church	20/03/2024
World book day	07/03/2024
Children in Need	17/11/2023
Y4 Camp out	TBA
Y5 Residential	11/03/2024
Y6 Residential	06/11/2023
Summer concert	11/07/2024

For phase specific dates, please see individual newsletters.



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6. FODS (PTA)

Thanks you ALL again, for all of your support so far with the OPAL play project. We've seen such amazing changes over the second half of this year, and your donations of equipment and toys have been fundamental, alongside the PTA funding that supports the project. We're looking forward to even more developments next year...more equipment, more games, more FUN!



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