



**APRIL 2018**

## Note from the Principal

### Welcome back

I hope everyone had a lovely Easter break and ate lots of chocolate! Attendance was 92% on Monday and 95% on Tuesday. Well done to everyone who made it back on time, T-shirts will be given out again at the end of this term and approximately 75 children are on track to receive a GOLD T-shirt.

We have a very, very, very busy term ahead of us and there are lots of events taking place so please take the time to read this newsletter carefully. All year groups will be making visits this term, nursery are visiting the farm and Year 1 will be making a trip to Ilkley to take part in activities at Nell Bank. Doe Park trips start this term for children in key stage 2 and both Year 3 and Year 6 will be taking part in residential visits to Haworth and Ambleside.

One development that we are really excited about is the launch of our 'App'. On Thursday 12th April at 2.30pm in the school hall we will holding an information session and Mr Davis will be able to issue log on details. This feature will allow parents to message school and is free when connected to a Wi-Fi network. Please take the time to come and see the App, we really hope parents will enjoy this new initiative.

## Reading Matters

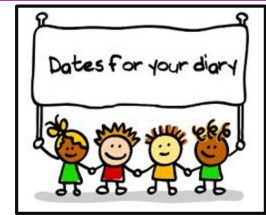
As always we are looking at ways of improving the reading ability of pupils at Merlin Top. For years 4,5 and 6 we will be starting a new scheme called 'Accelerated Reader' and changes will be made to the corridor area outside Years 4 and 5. Children in these year groups will be encouraged to read more books through an online interactive tool, which measure fluency and comprehension skills. As children read more their 'score' and word count grows. As a result of this new initiative we are in the process of ordering new books for the library and now have a substantial number of books to give away. On Friday 20<sup>th</sup> April from 2.30pm onwards we will be inviting children into the hall to select books to take home. Parents can also look at the books from 3.15pm onwards.

## Attendance

Thank you to all family members who are supporting children in attending school every day. In order to ensure a calm and smooth start to the day it is essential that children arrive on time and have a consistent routine. The vast majority of children do arrive on time and we have noticed an improvement.

As we are getting closer to the sunny weather, please be reminded that holidays in school time are not permitted and holiday absences may result in a fine. Fines can also be issued for persistent absence from school.

Thank you to families who have attended recent meetings with Miss Whitcombe and Miss Lansbury-Palmer. It is important that families work with school to support children attending school every day.



## Dates for your Diary

### Thursday 12th April

2:30pm App information session.

### Friday 13th April

KS2 Skipping Day.

### Tuesday 17th & Thursday 19th April

Year 3 pedestrian training.

### Tuesday 24th & Thursday 26th April

Year 3 visits to Gazegill Farm.

### Wednesday 25th April

Year 1 visit to Nell Bank.

### Friday 11th May

Year 3 parents meeting for Haworth Residential.

### Friday 25th May

School closes for Spring Bank and re opens **Monday 11th June.**

## Breakfast Club

Breakfast Club have received lots of new toys and games over the Easter break.

Please bring children to breakfast club between 8-8.30am. Hot food such as beans on toast and porridge are served which is great for cold mornings!

Children must have food to attend and arrive before 8.30am. The fee is 60p for 3 items.

## School Contact Details

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