

# AUTUMN NEWSLETTER 2017

Dear Parents and carers,

Wow! What a very busy and successful half term we have had. Everyone was delighted with our GOOD Ofsted report. As a staff we are currently working on its recommendations and we will keep you informed of progress. All the children have settled back into the routine of school life including those new to the school this academic year. Our Meet and Greet the teacher sessions were a great success and many parents reported that they were pleased to have this opportunity. This half term we are holding Parent Consultations so that you can discuss your child's progress and attainment with their class teacher. The teachers and I would like to see you there, so please make sure you sign up at the office for this important meeting.

May I thank everyone who contributed to the Harvest Festival. It was a great success. We raised £125 which alongside the food contributions we were able to donate to the Trussell Food bank at the Charles Burrell Centre. Also thank you to the parents that were able to attend the year 6 Reading Café. This half term it will be the turn of Reception and Year 1 parents to join us.

As the nights draw in and the weather becomes colder can I please remind you as a parent to provide suitable clothing for your child to wear (which is clearly labelled with your child's name). This is a very exciting time of the year for children. At home routines and sensible bedtimes are important so that your child is ready to learn and behave at school.

## **Safeguarding**

May I remind you that the Governors, Head teacher and staff of Redcastle Family School, through the implementation of the Safeguarding Policy (held in the School Office), endeavour to ensure that all child protection issues, or where there are reasonable grounds to suspect an issue, will be dealt with appropriately including reporting to the duty social services officer, who will act on the concern. We are legally bound, in our duty of care, to make referrals. Do let us know, for any reason, if your child is upset or distressed when s/he comes to school.

## **Reception and Year 1 & 2 Children**

The safety of all the children is of utmost importance to us, and therefore we would just like to remind you that all Reception, Year 1 & 2 children must not be left unaccompanied in the playground in the mornings. **An adult must stay with them until their Class Teacher collects them from the playground at 8.40am.**

## **Hometime Arrangements**

Can I remind you that all children must be collected on time at the end of the school day, by the designated parent/carer. Please ensure your child is aware of hometime arrangements, i.e. if they are to wait for an adult to collect them, or they are to go home alone or to go to the after school club. You **MUST** contact the school office if there is a change, i.e. another adult will be collecting your child – we will not let your child go home unless we are notified.

## **Parking**

Please be considerate about where you park your car when children are being dropped off and collected from school. It is important that we remain vigilant about the children's safety and considerate of the local residents.

## **Food in School**

Our links with Tesco's have continued to grow. We plan timetabled cookery lessons for all children. Please remember to provide a container with your child's name so they can bring home their food to share with you.

## **Mobile/Internet Safety**

As your children become more and more reliant on the Internet for both school work and entertainment, we must all, as a community, be more aware for the need to monitor the sites your child visits. In school, through classroom activities and discussion, we highlight positive uses of technology, but also ways in which we can all keep safe through responsible use of the internet, our mobile phones and social media (e.g. WhatsApp, Facebook etc...). At home you can ensure the security systems on your computers, tablets and mobiles are up to date and also, please talk to your child about the dangers of accessing unfamiliar sites, or giving parents' e-mail/Facebook/Twitter etc.... details to strangers.

## **Behaviour Policy**

We are currently reviewing our Behaviour Policy, which will be available on our website. Please talk to your children regularly about being good ambassadors for their family and school.

### **School Council**

The School Council elections have been held and we congratulate the children who have been chosen. They have held their first meeting and have held discussions to prioritise issues raised.

### **Governors**

We were delighted to welcome the Governors visits to school last half term. They had the opportunity to tour the school at work and were available to talk and meet with parents.

I will continue to be available most mornings in the playgrounds to talk to parents. Do let me know what we can do to make Redcastle Family school the best it can be. Similarly, teaching staff are always willing to talk to parents about any matters you may have concerning your children. If, on the very rare occasion, a teacher cannot see you, e.g. as they have to attend afterschool training or meetings, an appointment can be arranged at a mutually convenient date and time. Teachers may also, on occasion request to meet with parents to discuss your child(ren).

### **Dates For Your Diary:**

- 30<sup>th</sup> October - Start of Autumn Term 2  
KS2 Road cycling training  
Reception - Staying safe
- 3<sup>rd</sup> November - Whole school First Aid training
- 7<sup>th</sup> November - Parent's Consultation meetings
- 8<sup>th</sup> November - Year 6 trip to Duxford  
Book Fair starts After school clubs finish
- 9<sup>th</sup> November - Yr 5 trip to Thetford Museum
- 13<sup>th</sup> November - Cycle Training Level 1 Yr 4 -6
- 14<sup>th</sup> November - Book Fair finishes
- 15<sup>th</sup> November - Dental Screening Yr R - 4
- 17<sup>th</sup> November - BBC Children in Need – fundraising event
- 20<sup>th</sup> November - Road Safety Awareness week  
Cycle Training Level 1 Yr 4 -6
- 22<sup>nd</sup> November - Reading Café Reception and Year 1
- 28<sup>th</sup> November - Height & Weight Year 6 & R
- 5<sup>th</sup> December - Nursery & Reception parents invitation to discuss Learning Journeys  
Year 3 & 4 visit to Time & Tide Museum
- 6<sup>th</sup> December - Christmas play afternoon dress rehearsal
- 7<sup>th</sup> December - Christmas play afternoon and evening performance
- 8<sup>th</sup> December - Bacon roll sales
- 12<sup>th</sup> December - Family Christmas Dinner
- 13<sup>th</sup> December - R & Years 1 & 2 Christmas Dinner
- 14<sup>th</sup> December - Years 3, 4, 5 & 6 Christmas Dinner
- 15<sup>th</sup> December - Christmas Jumper Day
- 18<sup>th</sup> December - Nursery Christmas party
- 19<sup>th</sup> December - Aladdin Panto  
School finishes for Christmas holiday

*After School Clubs will end on 24<sup>th</sup> November*

4<sup>th</sup> January - Start of Spring Term 1

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me by email or phone. I also welcome appointments to meet in person.

Finally, thank you for all your continued support.

Yours sincerely,  
Mrs Liz Russell  
Acting Headteacher