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NEWSLETTER FOR PARENTS & CARERS MAY 2021

Dear Parents/Carers,

What a busy time we've had since our return after the Easter holidays! The classes settled back in so well at the start of this term and have been working really hard and enjoying their lessons and other school activities. It is lovely to see their enthusiasm and effort and the progress they are making.

You may be aware that this week is Mental Health Awareness week. This year has been such a difficult one for all of us and has affected us all in different ways. We are here to support our children and families so do please get in touch if you feel we can help in any way – we have a range of services and resources that we can offer.

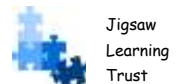
The theme for Mental Health Awareness Week is nature, as we know that taking in nature and getting outside promotes good mental health and physical health. This is something we have done lots of in school since returning in March and it has been lovely to see our children having fun and learning new things outdoors with their classmates. Below are some photos from our Year 4 and 5 Forest School sessions earlier this term.

As restrictions continue to lift and things move forward, we are looking ahead to a range of events and celebrations in the remaining weeks of the Summer term, including Science week, Careers and Enterprise week, Sports days, the re-introduction of after school clubs, a Year 6 residential week and our usual Year 6 celebration events. We will be in touch before half term with dates and further information about these events.



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In the meantime, have a lovely weekend and as always, get in touch if you have any questions or we can support in any way.

Best Wishes, Mrs Lavelle

Parent/Carer Support

Thank you for continuing to support us so well during the last few weeks, it is much appreciated. Our before and after school procedures are working really well and we really appreciate the fact that the vast majority of our parents/carers continue to wear masks and observe social distancing when on the school grounds. The advice for schools is that adults should continue to wear masks in communal areas so your continued support with this will be much appreciated. We will also continue our staggered drop-off and pickup times until further notice.

We will be carrying out a parent/carers survey next half term and will be really keen to hear your views about how school. This will be a useful way to end the year and prepare for a new academic year in September.

Parking and Driving Safely Near School

As always, can I remind all parents/carers to take great care when driving close to school and if possible to avoid driving right up to the road next to the school gates as it can get very congested in this area. We have had a couple of near misses recently with children running into the road when cars are turning into this corner. It is really important that if you do drive up/down this road that you are vigilant and drive extremely slowly. Parents/carers on foot should also ensure that they keep a close eye on their children when crossing this road.

You will also have noticed that we have had a few visits recently from our local policing team who will be keeping an eye on parking near school whenever they can to ensure that this is safe and considerate to our neighbours.

Travel to Tokyo Challenge



To celebrate the rescheduled Tokyo 2020 Olympic and Paralympic games, we are taking part as a school in the 'Get Set - Travel to Tokyo' challenge in which children and families are invited to get active and log their activities online. Every activity logged will be converted to a distance which helps our school reach each destination on the way to Tokyo. These activities are fun family activities that can take place either in the home or when you are out and about. The total distance we need to travel is 47, 349km.



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Details about this have been posted on class dojo by your child's class teacher and the link below will also take you to the get set page to find out more about the activities.

<https://www.getset.co.uk/travel-tokyo>

As a school we have currently travelled 16, 879k and are in Atlanta making our way to Brazil!

Kidz Club (Before and After School Childcare)

This is now up and running again during term time for Nursery to Year 6 children, opening at 7.30am and closing at 5.45pm. Please contact the School Office if you require further information or would like to enquire about a place for your child. We are also considering opening for up to three weeks in the Summer holidays for parents/carers who require childcare. Let us know if this is something you may be interested in.

Nursery Places

Please contact us if you are interested in a Nursery place for your child from September 2021 onwards. Parents/carers are now able to arrange a visit to come and look at our Nursery and to talk to staff.

Sports Days

All being well and weather permitting, we are hoping to organise these for week beginning 14th June (Nursery/Reception & KS1) and week beginning 21st June for Key Stage 2. It is likely we will run four separate afternoons – Nursery/Reception, Years 1/2, Years 3/4 and Years 5/6 in order to keep spectator numbers lower this year. We are also hoping to provide refreshments on the day.

Dates for the Diary

28th May – Break Up for Half Term

7th June – Back to school and the start of our Science Week (A letter about this to follow soon!)

14th June – Year 6 Residential Visit to Weardale (a separate letter with details about a virtual meeting for parents/carers will be sent out soon)

21st June – School closed for a Teacher Training Day

Forest School

Below you will find some photos of Years 4 and 5 enjoying being outdoors in Forest Schools sessions. All classes have now had at least one session and more are planned for the rest of the Summer Term.



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