



Headteacher Newsletter 5 – 12th January 2024

10th January Headteacher Newsletter -05

Dear pupils and parents,

I hope you have all had a restful and enjoyable Christmas half term and that you are all ready for the New Year! It was wonderful to see so many of you at the Christmas concert where the children and indeed staff, worked hard to put on yet another delightfully festive performance. It was a rather unexpected end to the Autumn term, and we want to thank you all for being so helpful and understanding during what ended up being a rather rushed last day.

The staff have planned an exciting Spring term of learning and have shared this information via their class pages on Dojo so please look out for these.

Federation

The Federation process is now complete and the new Governing Board for 'The Peak Federation' are meeting for the first time tonight. The website will be updated soon to reflect this. The Parent Governors are Tom Hodgson and Ben Carter (a parent of a child at Grindleford). We will soon be forming a working group to focus on developing our Forest School site on Joan Lane. Please put your name forward to Mrs Stoddart if this is something you can help us with this in the near future.

Dojo

Over the past few years, Dojo has been altering its platform and the services it offers to parents. We would recommend that you do not upgrade to the premium offer as there is no need and we are currently reviewing the implications of their changes. We will be in touch with further recommendations if deemed necessary.

We would also like to gather your views regarding our current use of Dojo for communication. Please complete the Forms survey which will be sent out in the next few days and let us know your thoughts. All parents are invited to offer their views, and this will inform school's future use of this platform.

Arriving late/ leaving early

It is very important that we know who is on the school-site at all times. Therefore, if your child arrives 'late' to school (after the doors have closed at 8.50am), you must escort them to the school office so they can be signed in and added to the register by Mrs Stoddart.

If you need to collect your child before the official home time, (3.20pm for infants, 3.30pm for juniors) please do so by visiting the school office first so that Mrs Stoddart can again amend the register.

Collection time

Whilst it is still quite dark at collection time, it would help us greatly if parents would come onto the school premises to collect children rather than waiting outside the gates on the road. This enables us to be 100% certain that all our children have been collected by their expected adult. It also allows us to pass on messages in a timely manner. If you have a dog with you, you are welcome to wait in the disabled parking bay. Please do not allow your child to climb on or over the railings on the top playground.

The outside lights are now working again around the school grounds but please do take care, especially when collecting from after-school clubs. It continues to be important that you collect your child directly from the classroom doors, so staff are certain everyone has been collected safely.

Uniform

We would like to remind you of our school uniform dress code and politely request that you adhere to this wherever possible: -

- Sweatshirt or cardigan in royal blue or navy blue.
- A polo shirt in white, royal blue or navy blue.



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- Trousers, skirt, pinafore dress or shorts (for the summer) in grey or black.
- A Fleece (optional) in royal blue or navy blue.
- Dark (black or brown) coloured shoes.
- Physical Education (PE) kit: White round neck T-shirt; navy blue or black shorts, leggings or tracksuit trousers; jumper or fleece in royal blue, navy or black and trainers or plimsols in a dark colour

We encourage children to wear additional layers underneath their uniform to help to keep them warm during the winter months, along with warm coats, hats, gloves and scarves. Children are encouraged to be outside in all weather so it is important that they have suitable clothing with them during the school day. Jewellery is to be kept to small studs only and nail varnish should not be worn.

Clubs

We still have spaces in the following clubs. If your child is interested, please let Mrs Stoddart know.

Monday - Fencing Y3-6 (£3.55 per session - first taster session is free)

Thursday - Tai Chi Y1-6 (£3.55 per session - first taster session is free)

Junior Fruit Scheme

We have a wide variety of seasonal fruit for the junior children to eat in school charged at 80p per week. The children have completed a survey to indicate what fruits they would like to have as options this half term. If you would like your child to use this scheme, please sign up for it by messaging Mrs Stoddart and she will add it to your ParentPay account.

School Events

11 th Jan	Yr5/6 Mini Basketball HVC (Collect at 3:10)
18 th Jan	Yr3/4/5/6 Dodgeball Festival (Bamford)
1 st Feb	Yr5/6 Sportshall Athletics HVC (Collect at 3:10)
6 th Feb	Internet Safety Day
8 th Feb	Yr5/6 Netball HVC (Collect at 3:10)
15 th Feb	End of term
16 th Feb	INSET day – school closed to children
26 th Feb	School opens

Kind regards

Jen Chapman
Deputy

Headteacher

Kate Gemmell
Executive Headteacher