

Our Value this half term is **Friendship**

Autumn 1

9th September 2019

Welcome Back

Welcome back to school to all our pupils, staff, parents and governors and a special welcome to our new families and new staff members **Miss Cotton** and **Mrs East**. I hope that you have been able to enjoy a restful summer break and are all ready for the start of what promises to be another exciting year for Dickleburgh Academy. I was delighted with the many, many successes we had last year from commemorative assemblies, musical concerts, improved playground areas, sporting achievements, KS2 production, test results...the list goes on and on. I will be writing to you separately about our academic achievements last year.

If you have any questions, concerns or need more information about anything, please do not hesitate to contact the school office, class teacher or myself, and we will be happy to do all we can to help.

Please remember to use your child's Home/School diary to pass on messages as they will be checked every day.

School Uniform

Everyone looks very smart in their new school uniform! As a reminder, school uniform consists of black or dark grey trousers, skirts or shorts, white or red polo shirt, red sweatshirt, jumper or cardigan, red gingham check dress or grey pinafore.

Your child should have their PE kit in school every day which should consist of a plain white t-shirt and dark shorts and plain dark jogging bottoms and sweatshirt for outdoor PE.

Please note that we will no longer allow siblings to share PE kits.

Please remember that any earrings worn at school should be studs or sleepers only and must be removed or covered in tape for PE. All long hair should be tied back and NO make-up, including nail varnish, should be worn to school.

Lunches

Please remember that all school lunch slips must be returned to school by the Friday at the very latest to help June order the food and co-ordinate her numbers. We would also appreciate you sending back the slip even if your child is having packed lunches all that week. It just helps us to see that all children are accounted for over lunch. If you mislay the lunch menu, there are always spares in the racks outside the office hatch.

Playground Improvements

You will have seen by now the new surface and gate at the back of the school. I am delighted with this and just how smart that area now looks. I would like to thank the Parish Council and FODS who both supported the school and kindly donated some money towards the full cost of the work. I am sure you will agree it was money well spent. Please do come along to the FODS Cream Tea, this Friday afternoon, to celebrate the completion of this work.

I now have the bit between my teeth and have got lots of ideas for further improvements I would like to make in the playground and in the school building! If you know of any organisation, who you think would help support any improvement, please let me know. Watch this space!!

School Absence

It is so important that your children are in school every day; they will tell you that they learn something new every day! However, in the event of an absence, please ensure the school office is contacted before 9.30am on the first day of absence to explain the reason. Absences not accounted for after this time will be recorded as unauthorised. Please note that I am obliged to investigate and report high absence rates that are not explained or that I feel require outside intervention, as part of safeguarding your children. This is something that I take very seriously to avoid children missing their education entitlement.

Leave of absence from school must be authorised by myself and we have a form in the office for you to complete. Your child's attendance record will be considered before authorisation is granted.

Last year's final attendance figure was 97%, I was aiming for 98%! Although this was still a good figure and above national average, I would like to try and reach 98% this academic year. This doesn't mean that I expect you to bring a poorly child to school. You know yourself if your child is too ill to be at school, or if they have nothing more than a runny nose. If you have doubts send them in! We will always contact you if your child is poorly or deteriorates from their runny nose. Please remember, your child must be clear for 48 hours before returning after any sickness and diarrhea. I cannot make exceptions with this for the health and safety of all the children and staff at the school.

Finally Aldi Stickers

A big Thank-You to Rupert and Oscar in Year 4 who brought the Aldi PE equipment scheme to my attention. If you shop in this supermarket, they will ask if you are collecting Kit for School stickers. Please do take them and drop them in the box outside Class R. If we can collect 300, we will receive a kit with some small PE equipment and we also have the chance to be entered into a draw for £20,000...just think what we could do with that!!

Clubs & Calendar

Please keep an eye out for our termly calendar; Mrs. Millard is working on it this week. There should be an after-school activities letter in your child's bag today. If you are interested in signing up for any of the clubs, please return the slip to the office asap.

Medication

Please ensure you have returned inhalers and other medication needed in school as soon as possible to your child's class teacher, along with a completed asthma plan form. Please note that all inhalers and medication should be in prescription-labelled packaging.

M Croskell
Headteacher