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Friday 8th March 2019

Park Street Newsletter

It's official, we're completely out of smelly stickers and stamp cards! I am desperately hoping my stationary delivery takes place before next week's Golden Assembly! We have a busy few weeks ahead of us. Head Teacher recruitment takes place on Tuesday and Wednesday next week, with parents invited to meet the candidates in the hall between 2.50-3.30. The pupils will also have plenty of opportunities to meet and interact with them during the process and I know they'll continue to show their enthusiasm for Park Street and be extremely welcoming to our visitors.

World Book Day

Thank you for all the hard work that went into the costumes worn on Thursday. It was a great day (oh no it wasn't!) with a costume catwalk, staff pantomime and multiple reading activities on the theme of traditional tales. My thanks, again, to the staff and children for helping to make the day so worthwhile. It also coincided with the delivery of a significant number of books for Key Stage 1 – Thank you to the PTA for your fundraising efforts.

West Road Concert

It was a fantastic experience to enjoy a concert performed by students of Cambridge University on Wednesday afternoon. Park Street pupils behaved well and thoroughly enjoyed renditions of modern and classical music, including the story of Peter and the Wolf and a Disney medley. I do hope Key Stage 2 pupils talked about it with you at home, and that it created a bit of interest in the value of learning to play an instrument and performing together with like-minded people.

Parental Consultations

Parental consultations will take place on Monday 18th March and Wednesday 20th March 2019. These are available in 10 minute slots from 3.30-6.00pm. I will have sign-up sheets available for parents to book a slot with their child's class teacher and/or our SENCO at the school gate on Monday morning (11th March). These sheets will come out with me each morning next week. They will also be available at the school office after school each day.

Absence Requests

Due to school receiving an increasing amount of absence request forms for term time holiday I thought it may be useful to share a couple of general points about term time absence via the newsletter. I am unable to authorise any term time holiday. I should issue a Penalty Charge Notice for any period of unauthorised absence of 6 or more sessions (3 days). I only have the ability to authorise term time absence in exceptional circumstances.

Final thoughts

In our staff meetings this week we'll be looking in depth at assessment systems and using standardised testing to accurately assess pupil attainment in core subjects. This will mean your child will (or may have already completed) some standardised tests. We will always aim to keep the stress to a minimum and refer to them as challenges, in order to ensure the pupils are well prepared for their statutory testing in years 1, 2 and 6. The final Latin club of the year

takes place on the 14th March (next Thursday). I would like to say thank you to our volunteer students who run the club and acknowledge the effort and energy they bring to it. Finally, we have a Family Worker drop-in session at 3.20 in the learning studio on the 15th March (next Friday). Anyone interested in advice about routines, behaviours and boundaries can attend on the day.

Kind regards to all,

Daniel Watkins
Interim Headteacher