

## Head Teacher

Mr Andrew Russell

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Dear Parents

In my first newsletter of the new school year, it is only appropriate that I start by mentioning the sad news of the death of Queen Elizabeth II. All of us at school were shocked by the news last Thursday and want to pass on our deepest condolences to the Royal Family. Last Friday we held a special assembly for all the children and then spent time in class allowing the children to ask questions, watch videos of The Queen or talk about how they felt. In our remembrance garden, we have put some flowers and a picture to commemorate her life. Staff will continue to allow the children to talk about how they feel, particularly through the period of national mourning and before and after the funeral.

As you are aware from the news Monday 19<sup>th</sup> September has been made a public bank holiday. The school will be closed to allow pupils and staff the opportunity to pay their respects and watch the funeral.

## Welcome

I would like to welcome all our new starters in Class 1 and pupils in other classes to North Duffield School. They have all settled in well, we are enjoying getting to know them and know they will make many friends during their time at school.

## School Information

### Timings

A reminder that the school gates will open at 8:50 am every morning. Please do not arrive and queue before 8:45am outside school.

### Snacks

Please can you make sure that if your child is bringing a snack to school for playtime that it is **not** a packet of crisps or a chocolate biscuit. The school policy is for children to bring in **snacks that are healthy options e.g. fruit.** We will be working with the School Council and Governors this year to promote healthy eating and sending out more information soon.

**Growing Learners for Life**

The school will provide all children in KS1 with free fruit

### Playground

Please do not let your children play on the playground equipment before or after school.

### PE

Below is a copy of when each class has PE. On these days the children should come to school in their PE kit. The kit should be a white/red plain t-shirt (no football tops), dark shorts, a tracksuit or jumper and leggings and suitable footwear for PE, not shoes

Class	Days	
1	Monday	Wednesday
2	Monday	Thursday
3	Wednesday	Thursday
4	Thursday	Friday
5	Wednesday	Friday

### Attendance

We are very grateful to all parents who support their children by ensuring they attend school regularly and punctually. It allows teachers the best possible opportunity to support the children to reach their full attainment potential. Last year our school attendance was 93% and the Government's recommended minimum attendance rate for primary school children is 96%. This academic year we will be focusing on pupil attendance and punctuality and we ask parents to work with us by:

- Making medical/dental appointments outside of school times, unless essential
- Not booking holidays during term time
- Only keeping your child off school for genuine illness
- Arriving on time for school every day
- Contacting your child's teacher if there are any issues that might affect attendance.

### Clubs

Throughout the year we will be offering a number of after-school or lunchtime clubs. These will change depending on the time of year and the activities the staff and children would like to do.

**Growing Learners for Life**

### Autumn Half-Term Clubs

Each of the following clubs will run until the October half term. An email will be sent with further information about the clubs.

Please note that there is a small charge for the Multi Sports Club as it is run and organised by an external provider.

Club	Day	Time	
Homework Club	Tuesday	Lunchtime	Whole School
French Club	Tuesday	3:30-4:15pm	Years 1 & 2
Football Club	Tuesday	3:30pm-4:30pm	Years 4,5 and 6
Choir/ Young Voices	Wednesday	12:30-1pm	Years 4, 5 and 6
Netball Club	Thursday	3:30pm-4:30pm	Years 4, 5 and 6
Multi Sports Club (Premier Sports)	Friday	3:30pm-4:30pm	Year 2,3 and 4

### Diary

We have attached a list of the current diary dates with the events that have already been organised. We will keep adding to them throughout the year and circulate any changes as soon as possible.

Date	Event/CPD
19 <sup>th</sup> September	BANK HOLIDAY- School closed for The Queen's Funeral
20 <sup>th</sup> September	Year 6 Bikeability
21 <sup>st</sup> September	Year 6 Bikeability
22 <sup>nd</sup> September	Selby Times new starter photograph
22 <sup>nd</sup> September	Selby High School - Yr 6 open evening
25 <sup>th</sup> September	School Fair
29 <sup>th</sup> September	Barlby High School - Yr 6 open evening
6 <sup>th</sup> October	Howden High School - Yr 6 open evening
10 <sup>th</sup> October	Class 5 Short Mat Bowling at the Village Hall @1pm
12 <sup>th</sup> October	North Duffield School Open Evening 4:30pm to 6:30pm
17 <sup>th</sup> October	Tempest Individual Photographs
18 <sup>th</sup> - 19 <sup>th</sup> October	Parents Consultations
21 <sup>st</sup> October	Last Day of 1 <sup>st</sup> half of AutumnTerm
31 <sup>st</sup> October	School reopens for 2 <sup>nd</sup> half of Autumn Term
3 <sup>rd</sup> November	Fire Safety Assembly for pupils

**Growing Learners for Life**

11 <sup>th</sup> November	Remembrance Service (school only) in School Hall @10:50- no awards assembly
15 <sup>th</sup> - 21 <sup>st</sup> November	Scholastic Book Fair
22 <sup>nd</sup> November	Flu immunisations
8 <sup>th</sup> December	KS1 Nativity Play at 2pm and 5:30pm
13 <sup>th</sup> December	Open the Book assembly
13 <sup>th</sup> December	KS2 Carols at 6pm
14 <sup>th</sup> December	Christingle Service
15 <sup>th</sup> December	Class Christmas Parties
16 <sup>th</sup> December	Last day of the Autumn Term
3 <sup>rd</sup> January	INSET DAY
4 <sup>th</sup> January	Start of the Spring Term for children

Yours Sincerely  
Mr Russell  
Headteacher