

Dear Parents, Carers and members of the community, welcome to Newsletter 13. I hope this communication finds you well. It has been a wonderful start to the term with so much happening already. The mini-heatwave was certainly welcomed by everyone as we enjoyed basking in the sun. Let's hope that the forthcoming summer season is a good one so we can enjoy being outside and all that the summer months have to offer. With respect to the summer term, there are lots of dates and events that traditionally take place throughout this term. These will all be updated on the school website and you will be able to see these dates and a description of what is happening on there. Please keep a close eye on the diary dates section of the site as this will be updated much more regularly than the newsletters. It was so lovely to see everyone at the recent parent consultations, as outlined below the support and praise for the school via the questionnaires was incredibly pleasing and I am very much looking forward to sharing this with you in future newsletters. I look forward to seeing you in and around the school. Best Wishes, **Mr Sam Eden (Headteacher)**

Parent Consultations

Thank you to everyone who attended the recent Parent Consultations. They were such a positive round of meetings and all of the teaching staff involved relished the opportunity to share the many successes and detail any areas for further development that may need to help your child be the best we they can be!

At the meetings, we asked you to complete the annual questionnaire and answer questions based on your experiences of the school. We are overwhelmed by the positive responses and look forward to sharing the results with you in future newsletters. In many cases the responses have a 100% positive feedback and highlight the satisfaction from the parent body with regard to the work we are carrying out with your children.

As always, should you wish to speak with your child's Class Teacher, they will be available in the mornings before school with longer meetings able to be pre-arranged to discuss any worries or concerns you may have. Please ensure that you see your child's Class Teacher in the first instance so that issues that may be arising can be resolved quickly.

Swimming



Swimming has begun for Class Japan children (Year 6 swimmers to start after the SATs tests in May). The swimming teachers would like us to remind parents that children cannot swim with earrings in and these must be taken out prior to swimming. If this is something that your child cannot yet do, please spend time practising.

Good Luck Mrs Owen!



Mrs Owen has now begun her Maternity Leave and we wish her all the very best with this next, exciting chapter. She has had a very productive couple of weeks since returning to school after Easter and has used the time to ensure that Class Wales' new teacher, Mrs Glendinning, has everything she needs. Welcome once again to Mrs Glendinning from all of us at Ancaster, I know she has been made to feel very welcome and has settled into our school family brilliantly! Once we have any official news about baby Owen, we will let you know!

Another baby is on the way...



Mr Swain has recently announced that he and his wife are expecting their third child during the Summer break. We are delighted for them and know you will join us in wishing Mr and Mrs Swain all the very best for the remainder of this pregnancy.

Class Photographs-4th May

Don't forget that class photographs will take place on the date above. These will take place during the morning session so any extra styling of hair will still be in place. We have now moved all of our photography sessions to the morning session to ensure the best possible photographs are taken for you.

The digital lives of our children, opportunities and risks-Parent workshop-21st May 6pm



Reminder: Please attend this workshop-you will undoubtedly learn so much from this and be able to help keep your child safe online. As children explore more and more technology, they access websites and apps that we do not even know has been invented yet, regardless of our knowledge and skills in this area. We want to support you in this and will be sending out a formal invitation to this event in the coming weeks. Please mark this on your calendar and attend if possible. It would be fantastic to see as many parents accessing this as possible.

We are delighted that we have been able to secure Alan Mackenzie, an E-Safety expert who has been working with hundreds of schools, charities and other organisations for many years to come into school and deliver a workshop exclusively for our parents on how you can be supported.

A regular guest speaker at conferences he is an associate member of the UK Council for Child Internet Safety and Ambassador for the Child Exploitation and Online Protection Centre.

He specialises in internet safety and will be able to answer all your questions.

"This isn't about technology, you won't be bombarded with lots of tech speak, it's about behaviour and risks to our children." Alan Mackenzie

What will be discussed?

What do children get up to online, what are the risks and opportunities? What does the latest research and opinion tell us and what is the best guidance? Does technology 'protect' our children? Alan will be discussing things including gaming, social media and much more.

Clubs

This term we are offering a range of clubs and we want to make accessing clubs a much fairer. We will no longer offer clubs on a 'first come first served' basis. We will now give a time frame in which the slips need to back in school and then if we have more responses than the allocated number of places, we will draw names out of a hat to make the accessibility of clubs fair.

We're Alive!

This week, we welcomed Tony Butler into school with his exotic animals to wow the children at the beginning of the whole school theme of 'We're Alive'. The awe and wonder of these experiences as well as children (and adults facing their fears) was exceptional to see. Last week we sent home curriculum maps and parent letters detailing more information from each class regarding the curriculum for the Summer Term. If you have lost this, these can be accessed on the class pages of the school website.

Welcome Miss Stapleton-new Administrator

Our new office Administrator, Julia Stapleton, starts working with us on Monday 30th April and we are very much looking forward to welcoming her into the school family. Please bear with us as she gets to grips with the systems and procedures, and children and families in school. We also want to say a huge thank you to Mrs Burton and Mrs Hayter who have done a superb job of manning the office for the last few months.

Please join us in welcoming Miss Stapleton to the team!

Share and Shine Opportunities



Following on from the success of the Share and Shine opportunities in Terms 1 and 3. This term, these opportunities will take place in the final 2 weeks of this term. These are the children's opportunity to share with you the learning that has taken place over the course of the term. The dates of the sharing are as follows;

- Class Japan-Tuesday 15th May at 3pm**
- Class New Zealand-Tuesday 22nd May at 9.10am**
- Class Thailand- Tuesday 22nd May at 3pm**
- Class Wales-Wednesday 23rd May at 3pm**
- Class Spain-Thursday 24th May at 3pm**
- Class Peru-Friday 25th May at 9.10am**

Please try to support your child by attending if you can. Children are so incredibly motivated by their parents coming into school and helps inspire children to strive to be the best they can be.

Big Pedal

Thanks for supporting us with the Big Pedal which will continue next week, so please keep sending your child into school with their bikes/scooters. We will always promote children needing to use bike helmets for safety when travelling. If there are bike related opportunities in school, and your child has, and uses, their bike, they will only be able to do so with the use of a helmet.