



Delapre Primary School

NEWSLETTER EDITION 18 – September 2016

Dates for your diary

<i>Wed 5th & Thu 6th October</i>	<i>Yr 5 - Anglian Water in School</i>
<i>Tues 11th & Thu 13th October</i>	<i>Y5 – Northampton Association for the Blind Talk</i>
<i>Fri 21st October</i>	<i>School Closes for Half Term</i>
<i>Mon 31st October</i>	<i>School Re-opens to pupils</i>
<i>Mon 21st & Wed 23rd November</i>	<i>Parents' Evenings</i>
<i>Tues 6th & Wed 7th December</i>	<i>KS2 Christmas Performances</i>
<i>Fri 9th December</i>	<i>Reception Christmas Performances</i>
<i>Tues 13th & Wed 14th December</i>	<i>KS1 Christmas Performances</i>
<i>Tues 20th December</i>	<i>School Closes for Christmas</i>
<i>Wed 4th January 2017</i>	<i>Training Day</i>
<i>Thur 5th January</i>	<i>School Re-opens to pupils</i>

Dear Parents/Carers

As we start a new and exciting year it is time to reflect upon on the impact that SATs tests, for example, have on the children. It makes me even more aware of why we have to get things right and ensure that the brief time that the children are with us in school must be both supportive and nurturing for each and every one.

It is that time of year again when many parents, myself included, have to make the decision as to which secondary school we would prefer for our children leaving Year 6 in July 2017. This is a tough decision for many parents, as I am now experiencing along with you.

Each year is a challenge as the children progress through the school, but making this as painless as possible for them demonstrates why we do the job we do and just how brilliant our children are.

Talking of changes, what will this year bring? Grammar schools? Continuation of targets that can place so much stress on the children? Regardless of the external changes made by those who do not often appear to see the children as anything more than a statistic, we will continue to do the things we do. We will support and help each and every one of our pupils to grow up to be fine Delapre children!

At this time of year, we welcome our newest members of the Delapre family in Reception, whilst welcoming back the other children across years 1 to 6. We also welcome our new staff and wish them the very best as they start life here with us at Delapre:

Miss Griffiths – Teacher in 4G
Mrs Inman – TA in 4B
Mrs Hughes – TA in 1MW
Miss Simpson – TA in 1AL
Mrs Kingham - TA in RT

Miss Choudhury – Teacher in 5C
Mrs Williamson – TA in 4F
Mrs Harding – SNA in 1IS
Mrs Tapp - TA in RCL
Mrs Tonge – Lunchtime Supervisor

This will be a full year with many opportunities for the children to take part in our extensive extra-curricular activities and we remain focussed on trying to ensure that as many as possible are provided free of charge. We do ask that if your children are involved in extra-curricular activities (after school) they are collected **on time**. It is not acceptable for the children and staff, if after a long day, they have to wait even longer for collection.

Reminder time

It is the start of the year and sometimes memories just are not what they used to be. Can I remind all visitors to the school that:

1. No dogs are allowed on the school site
2. No smoking (including e-cigarettes) allowed on the school site
3. No scooters or bicycles of any variety to be left on the school site
4. Children in Reception, Years 1, 2, 3 and 4 must be accompanied to and from school by an adult
5. Years 5 & 6 may walk home, if parents have provided their child's teacher with a completed permission slip (these may be obtained from the school office)
6. Holidays may not be taken (there is new guidance suggesting that anything more than 5 days will receive fines from the Local Authority – I will update everyone when I hear more)
7. Parking - please respect our neighbours by not parking across their drives or double parking in the road
8. Parents'/Visitors' conduct in and around the school is required to be exemplary – Thank you

Uniform (including haircuts and styles)

There were several fundamental changes made to the Uniform Policy at the end of the last academic year by the School Governors that you may not be aware of. **We will be getting strict on these rules and by Easter 2017 we will require all pupils to have a DPS PE bag and Book bag.**

Here is an insert from the School Uniform Policy. The full policy is available from our School website as well as a list of clothing/kit. www.delapreprimaryschool.net

All children (Reception – Year 6) need:

- Navy crew neck sweatshirt or navy cardigan (with school emblem)
- Yellow polo t-shirt (with school emblem)
- Navy tailored school trousers/skirt/pinafore dress
- In summer, girls may wear a yellow and white checked dress and boys may wear navy tailored shorts (to replace navy tailored trousers) if they wish
- Navy, grey or black socks with black flat sensible school shoes for boys and white or navy socks for girls or navy blue tights (shoes are to be plain with no coloured logos – no fashion shoes, high wedges, boots, sling back, canvas shoes, trainers or open-toed sandals)
- Delapre Book Bag
- Delapre PE Bag

For PE all children (Reception – Year 6) need:

- White t shirt
- Navy PE shorts or plain dark track-suit bottoms (outdoor games)
- White socks
- Plimsolls/trainers
- Delapre PE bag to keep these in at school. **(In addition, Years 5 & 6 may bring in a large bag for their games kits)**
- Delapre rugby shirts (compulsory in Years 5 & 6 and optional in Years 3 and 4) – these can be purchased from the school office – these are currently £10.00 until October half term

All PE Kits should be free from any logo or branded name, apart from the school logo.
(There may be some additional requirements in KS2, but you will be notified accordingly).

Jewellery

On Health and Safety grounds **we do not allow children to wear jewellery** in our school. The exceptions to this rule are stud earrings in pierced ears (small plain metal studs only) and a watch. In the case of stud earrings we ask the children to remove the studs during PE and games. With younger children it is advisable for parents to remove earrings before school on PE days.

Extreme Hairstyles/Cuts

Hair must be worn in an appropriate style. Heads must not be shaved (below a grade 2) nor should there be any extreme style* which the Governors believe would under mind the ethos of Delapre Primary School. Long hair should be tied back, especially during PE lessons. Hair bands and clips must be either yellow or navy only. **Hair decorations should not be worn. This includes beading.** Hair should be one natural colour.

**this is at the discretion of the Headteacher*

Footwear

The school wants all children to grow into healthy adults. We believe that it is dangerous for children to wear shoes that have platform soles or high heels in school, therefore we do not allow this. Neither do we allow children to wear trainers to school; these are appropriate for sport or as leisurewear, but are not in keeping with the smart appearance of a school uniform. We require all children to wear the types of shoe described in the uniform list i.e. sensible black shoes.

It remains essential to maintain high levels of standards across the school and we thank you for your cooperation with these matters.

Vandalism

For the first time in many years, Delapre and other local places were subjected to mindless vandalism. The damage resulting in smashed windows and tiles means that money, which should be used for education, has to be spent on areas of repair. If you are aware of any person/s involved with any of these incidents, please report these selfish individuals to the Police.

New Intake 2017/18

It is only September and already we have bookings for tours around the school for potential pupils to start in 2017. If you have children who may be attending Delapre in September 2017, or know people with children who will be starting school in September 2017, please feel free to book an appointment at the school office.

Gardening Club

Helpers for maintaining the Wildlife Garden/Flower boxes around the school are still required. If anyone is interested, please could they see either Miss Gordon or Miss Key. Thank you.

And finallywe were very fortunate to have a visitor recently who is an Ofsted Lead Inspector. Although we were not being inspected, I was delighted to hear so many positive comments about both the children and the school as a whole. The children really are amazing and I look forward to watching them grow and thrive throughout this coming year.



H Portrey
Headteacher