



# Redby Academy

Fulwell Road, Sunderland, SR6 9QP  
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Headteacher: Miss M.A.Wight B.A.(Hons) Ed. N.P.Q.H



Monday 11<sup>th</sup> April 2016

Dear Parent,

Welcome back to the Summer Term. I hope all our families had an enjoyable Easter break. The children have returned with enthusiasm ..... many appear to have grown considerably over the holiday and look very fresh faced from all the fresh air.

## Holiday Homework

Thank you to all parents who encouraged and supported their child with homework over the holiday. As Y6 pupils embark upon the SATs tests in just four weeks, it was particularly important to keep their brains ticking over. Any challenges faced through the Homework will be discussed in class with the children and used as a starting point for revision with teachers.

It is always appreciated if parents support their child at home with Reading, Spelling and Multiplication Tables. Such support does make a huge difference and children thrive knowing home and school are working together.

## SATs

As mentioned Y6 pupils will sit their SATs exams the week of the 9<sup>th</sup> – 13<sup>th</sup> May 2016. It is therefore imperative that all pupils are in full attendance and punctual. If illness prevents a child from attending, school must be informed immediately. During the week of SATs, we run an annual breakfast club for all our Y6 pupils; commencing at 8am each morning. The children will be offered: bacon or sausage sandwiches, toast, cereal and fresh juice. The atmosphere at the Breakfast club is fun and relaxed and designed to make the pupils feel comfortable prior to the tests commencing. In previous years all pupils have attended and enjoyed the comfortable, informal setting whilst eating a hearty breakfast.

Y2 pupils will also partake in government SATs testing this term, although in a more informal manner than Y6. It is therefore essential that all pupils have good attendance so as to maximise teaching and learning.

All SATs results for Y6 and Y2 pupils will be reported to parents in their child's annual report on Friday 15<sup>th</sup> July 2016.

## Website

A reminder to parents that all newsletters sent home to parents are now also being uploaded to the Parents' area of the website; making information readily available, as I am aware many letters get lost in the bottom of bags! Newsletters from each year group have been compiled and written by the pupils themselves (younger pupils had some help and assistance from staff!!) These are also available to read on the website. These Newsletters inform parents of events and work the pupils have enjoyed and studied over the past term. Our Gallery on the website is kept up to date with photographs of all events, trips and visits ..... please feel free to browse.

## Uniform

Parents can place uniform orders at the school office throughout the Summer term in preparation for September. By allowing our office staff to place orders, enables items to be tracked and saves parents paying money on delivery charges. Please contact the school office if uniform orders need to be placed. Alternatively, uniform garments, without the Academy Logo, maybe purchased in local supermarkets eg; Tesco, Asda and Sainsbury.

Please note: school staff will not be in school over the 6 week break to process orders and therefore orders need to be placed by Monday 4<sup>th</sup> July at the latest.

### Safeguarding

Mr Stephen Grey, continues to patrol the top of the school drive at the beginning and end of the school day; preventing parents driving down the school drive unnecessarily. I wish to thank parents for cooperating with us enabling our school site to be safer for all pupils. I wish to remind all parents that the same rules apply before and after school and the drive is not to be used for dropping off or picking up children from clubs or after Booster classes.

### Social Media

Although social media is a fabulous method of communication, if not used correctly it can cause extreme upset and distress. Despite school keeping abreast of new sites and being proactive in regard to e-safety, with pupils from Early Years through to Y6, an increased amount of incidents are being reported to school regarding misuse and cyber bullying. The main sites appear to be Facebook and Instagram, however new sites are evolving all the time. Although school staff are open and willing to support our pupils, the incidents on social media are occurring outside of school using personal technology, making it difficult for staff to be of assistance. Please could I urge all parents to check their child's social media history on a regular basis, ensure they are using the sites safely and correctly and ensure privacy settings are in place. As part of e-safety, pupils in Y6 have already had discussions with the Community Police regarding cyber bullying. Unfortunately, due to cloning of personal accounts and further misuse of social media by many pupils, it appears necessary for school to contact the police again so as to address current issues. It would be greatly appreciated if parents could support school and become increasingly vigilant and monitor the usage of their child's accounts.

### Attendance

As an academy we still need to adhere to Government guidance & policy regarding holidays during school time, therefore as of April 2016, an interview with myself, M. Wight, will be required if parents feel leave of absence is necessary. A revised 'Leave of Absence Form' will be in circulation for parents to complete following a meeting with myself only if parents feel there is a valid reason for their child not to be in attendance during term time. Can I remind all parents that under no circumstances will Holidays, during school time, be authorised.

### Staffing

Mrs Bousfield leaves us for a short time; going on Maternity leave on 13<sup>th</sup> May. We all wish her well and can't wait to meet the new addition to her family. Miss Vardy will cover Mrs Bousfield's maternity leave until the end of term before taking on her own class in KS2.

Following sickness leave, Mrs Brown (Y5) teacher has now left Redby Academy. Mrs McDonald who has covered her teaching commitment will continue to work in Y5 until the end of the Summer Term.

### **Please Note:**

- May Half Term Holiday: 30<sup>TH</sup> May – 3<sup>rd</sup> June 2016. School returns on Monday 6<sup>TH</sup> June 2016.
- The summer break commences 20<sup>th</sup> July 2016
- Autumn Term commences: Monday 5<sup>th</sup> September 2016

If any parent has any issues or concerns regarding their child, please do not hesitate to make an appointment with myself at the school office to discuss them.

Thank you in anticipation of your continued support.

Yours sincerely,

M.A Wight  
Headteacher

