



**2022 - 2023 Edition Four (20.01.2023)**

#### **What a term**

Here we are almost at the end of January already. I hope everyone had a fantastic Christmas. We are well and truly back into the routine within school and the children are getting stuck into their learning. After the challenges of the last couple weeks of term when we were dealing with increased illness across the school, hopefully, we can return to normality and can look forward to a healthy start to 2023.

With the frost this week, I'd like to take this opportunity to remind everyone of what might happen if you open your curtains one morning to a thick blanket of snow. Should the school require to close you will receive a text message that morning stating so, it will also be reported on local radio. I always try to make the call as early as possible in order to provide the maximum amount of time for you to make or change plans. It has always been our intention to keep the school open, however, I not only have to consider local conditions but also have to consider the safety of staff and whether they are able to travel into school from the surrounding areas.

#### **Teachers Strike**

Currently, I don't have anything to share other than the proposed dates when the National Education Union propose to take action. The proposed dates are:

Wednesday 1 February

Thursday 2 March

Wednesday 15 March

Thursday 16 March

As more information becomes available, I will let you know.

#### **Trips**

Firstly, can I thank you for your continued support in helping us make these happen, secondly, share how important your assistance is on these days out and that without you they would not happen.

If you are fortunate enough to be able to offer your time, please make sure you can 100% commit to the day. We totally understand that life often gets in the way and unexpected events mean that plans have to change, however, if we do not have enough parents to fulfil the required adult to pupil ratio, trips are in danger of not going ahead.

Cancelling at such a late stage not only lets the children down but also incurs costs that can't be refunded. These experiences are not only enjoyable days out for the children but also incredibly powerful learning experiences that help us back in the classroom.

#### **Residential Trips**

Our return to Skerne Lodge is rapidly approaching and is taking place mid April. I hope those year 3 and 4 pupils who are attending are looking forward to a few, fun filled days away by the sea. Once this trip has taken place, look out, as we will then be advertising next year's, year 5 and 6 residential trip to Morfa Bay, which is booked for November 2023.

#### **Bikes and Scooters**

Although it is great to see the children enjoying their journey to school, can I take this opportunity to remind everyone that although we will always do our best to look after them, the bikes and scooters are parked in the bike shed at your own risk. Can I also remind everyone that in the interests of trying

to keep everyone safe, that the children disembark from their bike or scooter and push them on school premises. Thank you.

**Water bottles**

Only water please, no juices or squash. Thank you

**Dogs**

Please can remind everyone that the whole school site is a dog free zone, no dogs please, even if picked up and carried.

**Dates**

**Friday 10 February – Last day of term**

**Monday 13 February to Friday 17 February – School Holiday**

**Monday 20 February – Back to school**

**Tuesday 21 and Thursday 23 March – Virtual Parents Evenings**

**Friday 31 March – Last day of term**

**Monday 3 April – Friday 14 April – Easter Holidays**

**Monday 17 April – Back to school**

**Wednesday 19 April – Friday 21 April – Yr3/4 Skerne Lodge Residential**

**Friday 26 May – Last day of term**

**Monday 29 May – Friday 2 June – School Holiday**

**Monday 5 June – Back to school**

Priestley & Proud

*A Marsh-Ballard*

Mr Marsh-Ballard