



NEWSLETTER 1

8th September 2017

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome back to everyone linked with our Scargill Family to a new year. A special welcome to any families who are new to Scargill. I hope that both you and your children will enjoy being part of our school community.

Our newsletters contain many important messages about school and I would encourage you all to read them thoroughly. They can all be found on the school website but we will email you out a copy if that suits you better. Please see the school office about this. Paper copies are still available from the office on request.

Staff Changes

We have had a number of staffing changes over the summer. We welcome back Miss Marshall Clarke and Mrs Hanson following their maternity leave and, as a consequence, we say goodbye to Mr Hartstone and Miss Keenan. Miss Marshall Clarke and Mrs Hanson have both requested a reduction in hours from full time and therefore they are working together to teach Rabbit class this year.

Mrs Bown has now left to go on her maternity leave and her role as a Y5/6 teacher has been filled by Miss Smith. We also welcome Mrs Patterson who will be working alongside Miss Clutterbuck in Deer class this year.

Two TAs have left over the summer and we wish Mr Hutchinson and Mrs Cooper every success in their new jobs. We also extend our congratulations to Mr Hutchinson and his wife on the birth of their daughter over the summer. It was lovely to hear their exciting news.

We have had lots of staff changes but our main aim of ensuring that children get the best education possible and reach their full potential has not changed. Hopefully, this will be a positive year for all connected with the school.

Academy Changes

As you will be aware, we have now become part of DDAT (Derby Diocese Academy Trust). The official date for conversion was 1/9/2017. I hope that you will not have noticed any changes as our primary goal of providing the best education for our pupils has not changed in any way.

There will be many changes behind the scenes in terms of administration but again these should not really be noticeable to parents. One minor change is that the 'Voluntary Aided' part of the school name has been removed and our official title is now 'Scargill Church of England Primary School'.

For the purposes of Ofsted, League tables, etc we are now considered as a new school and therefore our historical data in terms of Ofsted reports and results will start from 1/9/17. However, we will still be judged against past performance as we would have been in any other year although, in time, they may be more difficult to find online.

I look forward to developing as part of DDAT and if you do have any concerns about anything linked to this agenda then please drop me an email to school and I will get back to you.

Dinner Money

Now we are an academy if you wish to pay for school meals by cheque please make your cheques payable to Scargill CE Primary School. Could we also remind parents that either dinner money should be paid monthly or at the beginning of each week and those children who have moved up to Year 3 are now required to pay for school meals. The cost is £2.00 per day. If you have any queries please contact the office staff who will be happy to help.

Talents

If your child has a particular talent, please let their class teacher know. It could mean they are included on our Gifted and Talented list. For example - selected to play for a professional football club, compete nationally in a sport or play a musical instrument at a high grade. It needs to be something at which they excel at above that of similar aged children. Whatever their talent is, please let us know as it could lead to further opportunities to develop that talent.

PTA Book Shop

Come along to Scargill's Book Shop and support the PTA. We are open every Tuesday after school in the Rainbow Room. We sell a wide range of new books suitable for beginner readers upwards and all priced at £2 or less. Our savings scheme is easy to join and encourages children to save towards the cost of a book of their choice.

We hope to see you there soon!

School Improvement Plan

This year we have four main objectives that make up our school improvement plan. These are currently being finalised by staff and governors but will make up the main areas that we will be working on. It doesn't mean that other things will not be done as well it simply means that these are the four main areas highlighted from last year that we feel need more work.

The four areas are:

- 1. To raise standards in Maths across the whole school through excellent teaching and consistent assessment. To use 'mastery' to increase the percentage of pupils who are at the exceeding level.*
- 2. To further raise standards in behaviour both in and out of the classroom. Promote respect for all members of our Scargill Family.*
- 3. To improve presentation in all subjects but particularly within the English and Maths books.*
- 4. To improve governance with particular focus on sub-committee structure, being a critical friend to the school and being accountable for the funding that the school is allocated.*

We will revisit these areas in subsequent newsletters to see what progress is being made but in the meantime I would like to ask for your support with point two. Behaviour at Scargill has always been a strength but last year we noticed that there was some low level behaviour in class and therefore the respect shown towards staff and fellow pupils was sometimes not as good as we would have liked. We are making sure that all the classes emphasise the school rules with the pupils and these will be enforced in a consistent way right from the start of the school year.

Please work with us by encouraging your child to behave appropriately and by supporting the school when we have to deal with occasions where pupils' behaviour falls below the standard expected. If we work together, we can quickly make the school an even better place to be with even higher standards of behaviour. Your support is much appreciated.

New procedures for the start and the end of the school day

In order to help with our drive for improved behaviour we are going to make two changes to our procedures for 'drop off' and 'pick up'.

DROP OFF - We are no longer going to ring the bell at the start of the school day and children will be able to come straight into school at the start of the day. There are two reasons for this change. Firstly, a steady trickle of children will remove the overcrowding in

the cloakrooms at the start of the day rather than everyone coming into school at the same time. Secondly, it was suggested that this would help with parking as parents would no longer have to wait with children and therefore cars would be parked for less time. We hope that this may have a positive impact on traffic congestion on Hallam Way.

PICK UP – We have had a number of issues with children being unsupervised in the playground at the end of the school day after parents have collected them. A lot of these directly link to football on the field. In order to make things better after school we are going to ring the bell and clear the playground a little more quickly than at present. Mr Hunt will ring the bell at 3.40pm rather than 3.45pm at present. Most of the reported issues have taken place during this last five-minute period and hopefully this will help to reduce these incidents.

Football on the field can also cause some issues and I would just take this opportunity to remind parents that only school pupils should participate in any football games and that if the children have been asked to stay off the field during the day then this still applies after school.

I hope that these measures will help to promote better behaviour and take away times when behaviour can be worse. These measures will start on Monday 11th September.

Andrew Poole
Headteacher

Diary Dates 2017/18 academic year

2017/18	INSET DAYS
Monday 4 September 2017 – Friday 20 October 2017	Monday 4 September 2017
Monday 30 October 2017 – Tuesday 19th December 2017	Monday 30 October 2017
Tuesday 2 January 2018 – Friday 16 February 2018	Tuesday 2 January 2018
Monday 26 February 2018 – Friday 23 March 2018	Monday 4 June 2018
Monday 9 April 2018 – Friday 25 May 2018	Friday 29 June 2018
Monday 4 June 2018 – Friday 20 July 2018	

DATE	EVENT
5/9/17	School Opens
12/9/17	PTA AGM OLD HALL 6.30pm
27/9/17	Full Governors meeting 7.15pm
3/10/17	Harvest Festivals 9.15 and 10.15
5/10/17	OPEN MORNING 9.30 - 12.00
16/9/17	PARENTS EVENING
19/10/17	PARENTS EVENING
20/10/17	SCARGILL BOOK DAY
20/10/17	School closes
30/10/17	INSET – CHURCH SCHOOLS DAY
31/10/17	School Opens
28/11/17	Merlin Class worship – 9.15am
29/11/17	Y2 Production AM
30/11/17	Y2 Production AM
6/12/17	Y1 Nativity AM
7/12/17	Y1 Nativity AM
13/12/17	EYFS Nativity AM
14/12/17	Rhino Class worship – 9.15am
14/12/17	EYFS Nativity PM
19/12/17	School Closes
2/1/18	INSET – School Closed
3/1/18	School Opens
18/1/18	Flamingo Class worship – 9.15am
25/1/18	EYFS Class worship – 9.15am
31/1/18	Rabbit Class worship – 9.15am
8/2/18	Badger Class worship – 9.15am
12/2/18	PARENTS EVENING

15/2/18	Tiger Class worship – 9.15am
15/2/18	PARENTS EVENING
16/2/18	School Closes
26/2/18	School Opens
8/3/18	Deer Class worship – 9.15am
15/3/18	Y3/4 Production PM
16/3/18	Y3/4 Production AM
22/3/18	Owl Class worship – 9.15am
19-23/3/18	Y4 trips to Edale
23/3/18	School Closes
9/4/18	School Opens
16/4/18	HOSPITALITY WEEK
7/5/18	May Day
14/5/18	KS2 SATs week
24/5/18	Panther Class worship – 9.15am
25/5/18	School closes
4/6/18	INSET – school closed
5/6/18	School Opens
11-15/6/18	IOW week for Y6
18/6/18	EYFS Sports Day
19/6/18	Y1/2 Sports Day
20/6/18	Y3/4 Sports Day
21/6/18	Y5/6 Sports Day
25/6/18	EYFS Sports Day – reserve date
25-26/6/18	Lea Green Trip for Y2
27/6/18	Y3/4 Sports Day – reserve date
28/6/18	Y5/6 Sports Day – reserve date
28/6/18	Hedgehog Class worship – 9.15am
29/6/18	INSET – School Closed
2/7/18	Lion Class worship – 2.45pm
2/7/18	Y1/2 Sports Day – reserve date
3/7/18	Y6 Transition Day – Kirk Hallam
4/7/18	Y6 Transition Day – Kirk Hallam
12/7/18	Reports out
16/7/18	Open Evening for Parents 3.30pm to 5.30pm
18/7/18	Y5/6 Production at Kirk Hallam 7.00pm
20/7/18	School Closes
NB Following a request from parents any changes to previous diary dates sheets will be highlighted in green	