



Dear Parents/ Guardians,

Welcome back to the new school term, we all hope you enjoyed the festive period. I am sure you would like to join me in offering a warm Wymeswold welcome to two new members of staff: Mrs Whatton and Mrs Hey who will be working in the school office. Both have vast school experience and will be a huge asset. Mrs Whatton will be working Monday—Friday and Mrs Hey will be working Monday - Wednesday. Thank you for supporting us during the difficult times last term. Your understanding when things didn't happen quite as quickly as they had done previously has been very much appreciated.

We have much to look forward to this term, I have added some dates for your diaries.

We are hoping to make these newsletters much more regular so that you are kept up to date with the latest happenings at Wymeswold.

Mrs J Scallon

Uniform

Please can you ensure that all uniform and water bottles are named as this makes it easier to return any lost property.

Thursday 19th January	Year 1	Hearing tests
Friday 27th January	EYFS/ KS1	Chinese New Year
Monday 30th January	Years 1 and 2	Beaumanor Meeting 3:30
Tuesday 31st January	Year 1 Year 5	Fire Visit
Tuesday 31st January	Years 3 and 4	Ironbridge Meeting 3:30
W/k beg 6th Feb	Whole School	Anti-Bullying Week
W/k beg 13th Feb + Mon 20th Feb	Whole School	Half Term + Staff Inset Day
Tuesday 21st Feb	Whole School	School re-opens
21/ 22/ 23 Feb	Year 6	Cycling
Wed 1st March	EYFS/ Year 6	Height and weight check
Wk beg 13th March	Whole School	Science Week
20/21/22 March	Year 3/ 4	Ironbridge
21st March	Year 6	Warning Zone trip
29th March	Year 6	Galleries of Justice trip
30/ 31 March	Year 1/ 2	Beaumanor
4th April	Whole School	Egg Rolling
4th/ 5th April	Whole School	Parents' Evening
Fri 7th April	Whole School	Break up for Easter

Spring Term Newsletter 1 Thursday 12th January 2017

SATs results 2016

You may have seen the school's results in the recent press which were much lower than our previous good results. The tests had changed significantly last year, both in their content and the way that they are reported. The Government admits there have been teething problems. We feel the results do not reflect the progress and achievement of the children.

However, now we have experienced these assessments over a whole year we have greater understanding of the new assessment requirements. We are constantly striving for the best for our children and looking at ways to improve. We have put new measures in place for this academic year. One example of this is the new way that we are assessing spelling.

We are continuing to work closely with other schools to share best practice. All pupils are tracked and their work is moderated regularly throughout the year. There is a detailed action plan in place that the governors are regularly monitoring. We are confident that the results will be much improved this year.

Snow!



In the event of snow please check the school website and your email for news of any closures.

We will always do our best to open, but may have reduced hours in the event of any heavy snowfall, for example we have opened at 10am and closed at 2pm

to allow staff to travel to and from school. Any decision to close is never taken lightly and will only happen in extreme cases.

Residential Meetings

Parents meetings regarding Beaumanor and Ironbridge are going to be held on Monday 30th and Tuesday 31st January respectively, at 3:30pm in Mrs Brown's classroom. Please come along and we will endeavour to answer any questions you may have.



Spelling

We have changed the way that we are assessing spelling this term. Research has proven that spelling tests do not improve children's independent spelling and that children can learn spellings for a test, but then cannot use them in their independent work.

Children will still be working on spelling but they will have focussed spellings and be learning spelling patterns from the National Curriculum in class. Spelling will be assessed and monitored through children's use of words and their spelling in their independent writing.

If you have any concerns or questions please speak to your child's class teacher.