



Filey Junior School

Widening horizons and reaching our potential whilst respecting the world and each other,
within a happy, healthy and positive learning community

8th March 2019

What a great turnout we had for World Book Day! There were some amazing costumes including some really outstanding home-made effort. The children really enjoyed the event and seeing each other (and the teachers) all dressed up. Next week, we have Comic Relief and we would like to support this by asking the children to 'dress silly' for the day. This is left up to yours and the children's imagination - be creative but there is no need to go out and buy anything special. We would also like to ask that children bring in £1 to support this event which will be donated to the Comic Relief cause.

Thread Worms

We have had a number of reported cases of threadworm in school recently. Symptoms of threadworms include itching around the anus, waking in the night and, in some cases, a loss of appetite and weight loss. If your child is exhibiting these symptoms, the worms can sometimes be spotted in their poo and treatments are available over the counter at the pharmacist. It is also important to wash all bedding if you suspect there may be an issue as the eggs can reinfect. Most important of all is encouraging children to wash their hand regularly and making sure that they have short, clean fingernails as the eggs can often live in the nail and easily reinfect. There is no need for children to be off school if they have threadworm and for more information see the following: <https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/threadworms/> We are also discussing hygiene in Reflection Time.

School Dinner Debts

Due to an increase in the number of school meal accounts that have substantial debt, all school dinners must now be paid for in advance through Parentpay (if you require further information please see the school office). School dinners are priced at £2.10 per day, which is very competitive compared to many schools, and there is an excellent choice of hot dinners, jacket potatoes or baguette style sandwiches.

There may be times when a parent/carer genuinely forgets to pay for a meal and we will, of course, be sympathetic to individual situations. If, however, there is already a debt on the account we will need to contact you to provide either payment or a packed lunch. Parents and carers do have a duty of care to provide children with a meal at lunchtime.

If you believe that you may qualify for free school meals, please contact the office and we will be happy to help. The information can be emailed by the office staff directly to The Welfare Team who will usually have a decision within a few days. Families that have existing debt on Parentpay and now qualify for free school meals still need to clear the outstanding debt.

We hope that all parents and carers will give this their full support. I am sure you will agree that using school funds to subsidise non-payment from a small number of families cannot be sustained and is not a proper use of these funds. Families with debts should also be aware that we will not be able to provide credit for residential trips and out of curriculum time trips and activities until outstanding debts are cleared.

Momo

There have been a few children discussing this latest internet scare. We would encourage parents to reiterate our message of anything which you find or hear about on the internet which makes you feel uncomfortable should be reported to an adult in school or at home. As a school, we try not to draw too much attention to these issues as this can often serve to simply 'fuel the fire'. We did, however, ask Laura Almond, our PCSO to call in school to put children's minds at rest on this occasion.

Parent App

You will be receiving a text message next week inviting you to download and install our new school app. The app is available on both Android and Apple phones and tablets and will allow you to stay in contact with the school and get regular updates and messages which are relevant to you and your child. We hope to make this our primary line of communication as it has the potential to save the school considerable amounts of money whilst providing you with a better service than we can currently provide using paper, texts and social media. Please take a moment to download and install this service and, if you have any problems, call into school and we will try to help.

Help Required!

Our new building is now up and in use and, as you will no doubt have seen, the builders have left and we are left waiting for our field to recover. Another part of this project, however, is reinstating some of the playground areas which we hope to achieve by laying artificial grass to create an all-weather area and also creating a garden and seating space. The biggest cost in such a project is, of course, labour. So please have a think and ask around as over the coming weeks we will be putting out a plea for anyone who has a bit of groundwork, building, joinery, gardening and landscaping know-how to come and help us create a really attractive and useful space for the children to enjoy all year round.