

December 2011

Dear Parent/Guardian

As a long and eventful term progresses I would like to take this opportunity of thanking parents for their continuing support. There are a number of events, which I would like to bring you up to date on, and some important information about the end of term/Christmas events.

Uniform - we appreciate the efforts of parents in helping us to maintain a high standard of uniform. The vast majority of pupils are now wearing the correct uniform, however, for those parents who may be buying new uniform can I ask that you do so in line with the uniform list (available from school or on the website). **Reminder – extremes of hairstyle (colour and cut) are not acceptable for school**

Emergency closure plans – Please make sure that you have discussed the emergency plans with your child so they know exactly what the arrangements are should we be forced to close the school unexpectedly. Should there be bad weather (or any other reason), that means that the school cannot open we will make announcements on **Radio Humberside** and on the school website.

Equipment – we are finding that an increasing number of pupils are coming to school without the correct equipment. As you can appreciate this does provide a problem for staff and the pupils themselves. It would be helpful if parents could ensure that pupils have the following equipment (Christmas gift ideas perhaps?) - pen, pencil, ruler, calculator, Homework Diary, books for the day, any specialist equipment e.g. PE kit or materials for Technology and homework.

Changes to the Marking/Feedback policy - thanks to those parents/carers who have returned the reply slip attached to the letter distributed last week. Any outstanding reply slips should be returned by the end of the week. If you did not receive a letter please ring school and we will forward one to you.

Health Care Plans – A letter was sent to the parents/carers of pupils with specific medical needs at the end of November requesting a prompt reply. There are a number of replies still outstanding. Please ensure these are returned by the end of term.

Message from the PE department

When pupils are unable to take part in PE lessons because of injury, illness etc, they are always asked and encouraged to play a part in the lesson, where practically possible, to ensure that they are still part of the learning process and fully involved. It might well be organising equipment, umpiring, refereeing or making direct observations on the learning that is taking place. This will involve them having to change into their PE kit.

Academy Status

The Governors of the Snaith School have passed a unanimous resolution to enter a period of formal consultation to consider conversion to an Academy. As part of the consultation process Parents/Carers are invited to a consultation meeting on Thursday 19 January 2012 at 8 pm in the school hall. You will find information about the Academy conversion process and other relevant documents in the parents' section of the school website.

Free School Meals entitlement – please see additional newsletter

Parents who bring their children to school by car and/or collect them at the end of school.

We are again concerned about the potential for an accident as parents' cars compete for space with buses at the front of school as they offload/collect pupils between 8.40 and 9.00 am and 3.35 and 4.00 pm. It would be in everyone's interest if this procedure could take place a short distance away from the school, with the pupils walking the last stretch. We have sometimes had the situation at 3.45 pm in particular when parents have been waiting in cars at the front of the school in such a way as to prevent buses from accessing the site properly, leading to problems on Pontefract Road itself. Please note if parents park on the school site as school closes they will be unable to depart until the school buses have moved off.

Please follow the one way system through the school site and do not under any circumstances leave the school through the entrance. I would be grateful if parents could bear these points in mind. On behalf of our immediate neighbours please ensure that if you are parking on the streets around the school that you do not block off the entrances to private properties.

NB The visitor parking bays at the front of school may only be used between the hours of 9 am and 3 pm.

School closes Tuesday 20 December and buses will leave Snaith School at 2.35 pm instead of 3.35 pm. therefore pupils will arrive home correspondingly earlier. We will let you know if there are any changes to these arrangements.

Any pupil may stay in school until 3.35 pm, please let Mrs Senior or myself know if you wish us to make these arrangements.

School re-opens for pupils on Thursday 5 January 2012 (Timetable Week A) at 8.55 am.

Dates for the diary/Reminder

Christmas Dinner will be served in school on Thursday 15 December priced at just £2.30 for a main course and pudding. The catering staff always put a tremendous amount of effort into providing this special meal. We do hope as many pupils as possible will enjoy this.

Non Uniform day Friday 16 December – cost £1

Year 7 Pantomime visit Friday 16 December

Year 11 Mock Results Day all parents/carers of Year 11 pupils should have received a letter about this event

SSA (Parents Association) meeting Tuesday 10 January 2012

Careers Convention/

Options Evening Wednesday 11 January

Poetry Evening Tuesday 17 January

Year 9 Parents Evening Monday 23 January

Lower School Disco Friday 27 January

Year 7 Parents Evening Thursday 2 February

Year 8 Parents Evening Thursday 16 February

Hopefully the weather will be kind to us during the remaining weeks of the term. May I take this opportunity to wish you and your families a Happy Christmas and a peaceful New Year

Yours sincerely

J D Pickerill
Headteacher

