

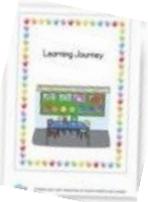
# EYFS: Class JA and DB Newsletter

11<sup>th</sup> September 2018

Dear Parents / Carers,

Welcome to Downham!

Thank you for all your support and encouragement last week during our home visits. It was great to see so many of you and you all made us feel very welcome.

<u>Water Bottles</u>	<u>Home/School Diaries</u>	<u>Snacks</u>
<p>Children should bring a <u>named</u> water bottle to school every day. Please make sure it's water in the bottle!</p> 	<p>We will do our best to check diaries every day.</p>  <p>If you have any urgent messages, please speak to the lady on duty at the pen gate in the morning.</p>	<p>We will provide snacks for the children in the morning and the afternoon.</p>  <p>We ask parents for a contribution of £10 towards the cost of these snacks. If you have already paid, thank you very much! If you have not paid yet, please give the money to Mrs Doyle at the school office as soon as possible.</p>

## PE Days

JA will have PE on **Wednesday and Friday**.  
DB will have PE on **Monday and Thursday**.  
Please name all kit.

For safety reasons, please make sure children are not wearing earrings on PE days (see above). In addition, children should not wear bracelets, necklaces or nail varnish to school at any time. All long hair needs to be tied back for the school day.

If you are running late in the morning - as we all do from time to time - you may find that the wooden gate and the blue gate are closed. Please don't worry! Take your child to the school office and Mrs Doyle will help them to find their way to the right classroom.



Please do not open the gate and send them through - if, for some reason, we are not in the classroom, this could be very distressing for your child!



## Reading books

We will aim for each child to read to an adult at least once a week. Please use the week to re-read the book, asking questions about what happens in the story, favourite pictures and why etc. Please record each day you read with your child in the Home/School Diary. Please do not let the reading book replace any time you spend reading stories to your child.

### Topic

Our topic this half term is called "Do you want to be friends?" This topic will allow us to make new friends, learn about the school routine as well as finding out about how we grow and develop.

### Party Invitations

It is important for parents to get to know each other as well. One way you can do this is to distribute party invitations and thank you notes yourselves at the gate. We are unable to put party invitations etc in book bags in school - we would much prefer that our lovely Teaching Assistants' time in the classrooms is spent supporting your children with their learning, rather than putting invitations into bags. Thank you in advance for your support in this matter.

### Circus Day Friday 14<sup>th</sup> September

Please note EYFS children will NOT BE DRESSING UP on this day. We will provide party hats that we will decorate in school to go with our circus themed activities. We will also be having our photograph taken in the afternoon by the Echo Newspaper for their new starter supplement so we need to be looking smart in our school uniforms!

### Parent/Teacher communication

You can find us on the playground every Tuesday and Thursday from 8.45am should you need a quick chat. We are also available directly after school (clubs/meetings permitting). If you require a longer meeting with us to discuss concerns or issues regarding your child please make an appointment by contacting the school office or sending us a quick e mail. Please note that our e mail addresses should only be used for brief enquiries and is not an effective way to address concerns or issues. We will aim to respond to short e mails within the hours of 3.30pm and 6pm weekdays. Thank you for your support with this.

### Diary Dates

Fri 14<sup>th</sup> Sep - Echo Newspaper to take picture for New Starter Supplement

Fri 12<sup>th</sup> Oct - School individual photographs

Wed 17<sup>th</sup> / Thurs 18<sup>th</sup> Oct - Parent and child consultation evenings

Fri 19<sup>th</sup> Oct - Non pupil day for staff training

Mon 22<sup>nd</sup> - Fri 26<sup>th</sup> Oct - Half term

### And finally ...

If somebody other than yourself is going to be collecting your child at the end of the day, do please let the lady on the gate know. If something arises during the day which means you will be unable to collect your child then please do phone into the school office and they will get a message to us.

Thanks very much! Here's to a happy, fun and exciting first year at school!

*Mrs Applewhite and Mrs Bennett*

