



Dronfield Henry Fanshawe School

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Success with Care

Headteacher: Mr M. J. Cooper

15th December 2023

Headteacher Update Letter 3 – Term 2 Week 6

Dear Parents, Carers and Students,

December is a wonderful month in the school calendar at Dronfield Henry Fanshawe School (DHFS). As the Autumn Term starts to draw to a close, and the festive period approaches, the school runs various events and activities that celebrate many aspects of school life and enables the whole school community to come together to demonstrate Success with Care.

The traditional school panto is one element that showcases the many positive features of the school. This year we have been treated to a splendid rendition of the Robinson Crusoe story as students and staff alike have showcased the many talents that our school has. From the set design to costumes, front of house to backstage, acting to singing, dancing to performing and props to makeup, the standard has been exceptional. There have been a tremendous number of hours and dedication given by so many to deliver a swashbuckling adventure that captured the hearts and imagination of packed-out audiences. A huge well done goes to all involved, who have represented the school with such skill and passion. We are very proud of you.

Beyond the pantomime, there have been numerous other events and activities that enable students to shine whilst also celebrating and supporting others at this special time of year. Our Christmas jumper day raised a significant amount of money for charity, which will be added to by our non-uniform day on the last day of term. Once more this year, we have also sponsored a star at Sheffield Children's Hospital to give back to an important health service that has been there for so many of our children in their hour of need. In addition, the school response to our annual food bank appeal and donation has been overwhelming. This year seems more important than ever to support local organisations in providing items for those in need. The school community has not disappointed as it stepped up to donate an overwhelming amount of produce to help others. Simply remarkable.

Furthermore, this month there has been the school Christmas light switch-on, a truly tasty Christmas dinner, a festive Christmas card competition, a Sixth Form bench ball competition and we now await the final week Christmas Carol Concert at St. Peter's church with Y7, having House celebration assemblies and competing in the House Quiz as part of our final day extravaganza!

An overwhelming feature of all these events that really stands out and makes us all so proud is the constant smile on people's faces. This is a happy school and there is no better time to see that in abundance than at this time of year. A merry Christmas and happy New Year to all!

Yours sincerely

Mr M J Cooper
Headteacher



Final Day of Term 2

The school closes for the Christmas and New Year break on Friday 22nd December 2023 at 1.45pm. During the morning, students will be participating in the Christmas Extravaganza of the annual House quiz, a Christmas market event and Christmas-themed activities in their House Teams.

Start of Term 3

School reopens for the Spring Term for students on Tuesday 9th January 2024. Students should be on site for 8.50am and moving to Mentor Rooms for a prompt 9.00am start. Please note that Monday 8th January 2024 is a Professional Learning INSET day for staff and the school is therefore closed to students.

Year 7 Christmas Carol Concert

The Year 7 Christmas Carol Concert will take place at St Peter's Church on Monday 18th and Tuesday 19th December 2023. Please note, that due to the size of our cohort and the number of staff supervising that it is a school-only event and there are unfortunately no spaces for attendance by other parties.

Student Support Information - Neurodiversity

There are a number of students on long waiting lists for assessments for Autism, ADHD and other neurodiverse conditions, as well as families who don't want to seek a diagnosis but at times would value advice or support. Derbyshire have set up 4 'Neuro Hubs' in the county. There are some bookable appointments and some drop-in sessions. None of their services require a diagnosis or a referral and are open to all. Please see the poster at the end of the letter for information about the Neuro Hub based in Chesterfield.

Global Consent Form

Thank you to those parents and carers that have completed or updated the global consent forms that we keep on our database giving permission for various aspects of school life. Any forms that are outstanding or require amendment should be actioned as soon as possible. Please contact school reception if there are any queries.

Adverse Weather and Possible School Closures

The school always aims to remain open, but there are times when a closure or late-opening must be implemented. A reminder that the school website home page always carries the latest information. In addition, we will message parents and carers updates. If we close during the school day, we will release those students who have pre-permission to go, as indicated on the global consent form, first. Please ensure this information is completed.

Flu Vaccinations

The school has been hosting the NHS flu vaccination programme for schools. For those families that have not arranged this through school but wish a vaccine to be administered should note that flu immunisation clinic appointments are available on Thursday 21st December 2023 at Coal Aston Village Hall, Eckington Road, Dronfield, S18 3AX between 3:30pm and 5:30pm. Please call 0333 358 3397 option 6 to book.

Disapplication from RE

The school delivers the Derbyshire Agreed Syllabus for RE to all Key Stages as a statutory requirement of the National Curriculum as part of our responsibility as a Local Authority maintained school. Parents and carers have the right to withdraw students from RE and provide their own religious education and should contact the school for further information should this be the case.

Year 9 Options for Key Stage 4

Year 9 recently received their pathway letters as we start the options process. Our options evening will be held on January 10th 2024 from 6.00pm to 8.00pm. This will be an important opportunity to explore all of the subjects on offer and to talk to teachers and students about the process. The evening also includes a keynote presentation. Please contact Mr Pickles (kpickles@dhfs.uk) or your child's House Team if you have any queries.

Recruitment – Midday Supervisors

The school has vacancies for Midday Supervisors. The remit of this role is to work as a member of the Midday Supervision Team undertaking the supervision of students during lunch time in dining areas and around the school site. The successful candidate will have a genuine interest and enthusiasm for working with children/young adults, good organisational skills and good interpersonal and communication skills. Please email sdunne@dhfs.uk for more information. The posts are for 7.5 hours per week (12.15pm-1.45pm) and are for 39 weeks per year, paid at Grade 3 (£3,882 per annum).

Christmas Holiday Safeguarding Information

As we move into the Christmas holidays, it is as important as ever for us all to be focused on keeping our children safe. Therefore, please remember that the Safeguarding sections of our website have useful advice and guidance on keeping children safe, including online safety. If, during the Christmas break, you have any concerns for the welfare of a child then please use the information below to raise your concerns.

For non-emergency concerns and general advice, call Derbyshire Starting Point on 01629 533190 8.00am to 8.00pm Monday to Friday, and between 9.30am and 4pm on Saturdays. Outside these times contact the out of hours service 01629 532600. A school line is also monitored intermittently out of school hours and can be reached on 07885 817860. If a child is at risk of immediate harm, then please contact the Police on 999.

Neurodiversity Hub Poster



The poster features a rainbow border at the top and bottom. At the top, it says 'NEUROHUB' in large, colorful letters, with 'NEURODIVERGENCE THRIVES HERE' underneath. To the right is the 'Fairplay' logo. Below that is the 'MONKEY PARK' logo with a tree icon and the tagline 'BRINGING OUR COMMUNITY TOGETHER'. The main text provides contact information: 'Hub Opening Hours: Calls and booked appointments: Tuesdays 12.30pm to 3pm, Wednesday to Friday 10am - 4pm; Drop ins: Wednesday 10am - 3pm, Friday 10am - 1pm'. It lists a mobile number '07874 941 890' and a telephone number '01246 235 815'. It also includes an email address 'neurohub@fair-play.co.uk'. At the bottom, it gives the address 'Monkey Park Community Hub, 128a Chester St, Chesterfield S40 1DN' and two website URLs: 'www.monkeyparks.org.uk' and 'www.fair-play.co.uk'.

NEUROHUB
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Fairplay

MONKEY PARK
BRINGING OUR COMMUNITY TOGETHER

Hub Opening Hours
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Tuesdays 12.30pm to 3pm
Wednesday to Friday 10am - 4pm

Drop ins: Wednesday 10am - 3pm,
Friday 10am - 1pm

Mob 07874 941 890
Please try the mobile number first
Tel (01246) 235 815
Messages can be left at Fairplay (01246) 203 963

Email: neurohub@fair-play.co.uk

Monkey Park Community Hub
128a Chester St, Chesterfield S40 1DN
www.monkeyparks.org.uk
www.fair-play.co.uk