

# Tickhill Estfeld Primary School



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Friday 20<sup>th</sup> July 2018

Dear Parents, Carers and Pupils

As the end of term approaches we can look back over a successful year, with much to be proud of. Thank you to all who have supported the school and its pupils this academic year. We are all facing very challenging times in education; school budgets have not kept pace with the rising costs of providing high quality education in recent years. We shall do our utmost in school to maintain the excellent standards in the year to come, and know that we can rely on your help and support to achieve this.

Thank you to the volunteers, parents and friends of the school, who help so much in our daily work and support the children's learning – we couldn't do it without you. The Friends of Estfeld have organised events and raised funds throughout the year, for which we are very grateful. Well done to all involved in organising and running last week's barbecue; it was a lovely evening. Thank you Mrs Lovejoy who has been the Chair this year and we welcome Mrs Leighton as the Chair for 2018-19. I would also like to specially thank Miss Wilkie who has been the treasurer for many years and who now steps down as her daughter Caitlin leaves our Y6 class.

The Amazon wish list now in its second year has continued to bring the special things that we would otherwise have to forego in school when money is tight. Thank you to everybody who has donated a resource to school – it always puts a smile on the face of the class receiving the gift. Sometimes the gift does not contain the sender's details, so we often do not know who to thank. We would be delighted if you mentioned to us that you had sent us a gift, but do also understand that some people may wish to remain anonymous. Rest assured we have been delighted to receive the gifts and do appreciate them very much.

I must also mention those in the local community, on the Town Council and Tickhill Together, the Scouts, St. Mary's Church, the Horticultural Society and also many other groups who organise events such as the Gala, Horticultural Show, Scarecrow Festival, Church Concerts and others too numerous to mention, that school and our pupils take part in - our pupils and their families are very lucky - Tickhill has a lot to offer.

As you will already be aware our school celebrates its 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary in September. Our gala float was magnificent and a credit to all of the pupils and parents who helped to make it happen. Thank you also to Mr Walton and his team who always provide several vehicles for the event. We have already planned some special activities in school to mark our 40<sup>th</sup> year and there will doubtless be more as the year proceeds.

I must also thank our wonderful and dedicated staff, who go above and beyond to make sure that our pupils get the very best from school. We of course will be saying a very fond farewell to Mrs Radford who has joined us this term in Year 3 and who will take up her new post at a local school in September. We are grateful for the wonderful experiences that she has given to our Year 3 pupils and wish her well at her new school.

In academic terms our school continues to be successful but we do not believe that schools should be measured by data alone. We strive every day to ensure that your children have a learning experience that interests, challenges and motivates them and ensures that they feel happy and secure at school.

Our most recent Local Authority report by the StEP (Standards and Effectiveness Partner) in May was extremely positive and recognised the breadth and quality of the whole curriculum that our school provides. Below are a few quotes from the report:

“Planning shows great creativity in the way that teachers skilfully link subjects together making them relevant and interesting.”

“Enrichment activities are many both incorporated into planned lessons as well as extended school provision.”

“The creative arts have high profile through the curriculum with a range of visits like a Shakespeare Company (annual) and this week English Opera visited to perform Shackleton's Cat to which the StEP was invited. It was a wonderful experience for all and pupils had prepared for the visit by learning songs and understanding the true story on which it was based.”



We also place the highest priority on care and guidance of our pupils and know that you do too from reading the many positive comments that we receive in annual report responses and cards received. Thank you.

And thank you to our parents and carers who support the school in its efforts every day and to our pupils who do work hard and with a good attitude – we really do appreciate you!

### **End of Term Arrangements**

**Friday 20th July** – Toy and Games Day – Leavers Assembly.

Pupils may be able to bring a toy or game to school to play with their friends. Please do not send anything expensive or precious as toys brought to school are brought at the owners' risk. Although we do try to avoid them, accidents do sometimes happen!

**Strictly no remote control toys, mobile phones, tablets or any items that need to be plugged into the mains electricity.**

### **Happy Holidays**

We would like to wish everybody a safe and happy holiday. We hope to see you refreshed and ready for the new academic year on Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> September at 8.55 prompt.

Yours sincerely

Miss D Risley