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Our vision
Working towards successful futures

Principal's message to families – 5 July 2024

Next weeks Lower school word of the week is – deep

The Upper school word of the week is – advantage

I hope you all enjoyed having a long weekend? Staff in school listened to a really informative workshop delivered by 'Footprints' all about sleep. The importance of it and how to make sure you get enough. I think we all learnt something; about our own sleep patterns, our own children's sleep and we came away with lots of thoughts about how to support you and your children. I'd love to hear from anyone who might be interested in a workshop on this topic for parents? There is so much insightful information. We spent the rest of the day planning for September and gathering information in our new style provision maps and finished the day with a team building, art therapy led activity. It was a very noisy school for an INSET day!

Plans are well and truly moving to make our **Sports Day and Summer Fayre** next Friday, 12th July, the best ever! Sports Day will run between 9am and 11.30, then lunch (**fish, chips and mushy peas**) will be available for parents if you book ahead by Wednesday (information on Weduc), and the Summer Fayre will run from 11.45-1.45pm. Tutor groups are all running their own stalls and we'll have the 'old favourites'.... tombola, raffle, silent auction, gift stall, cakes and plants.....

It will be lovely to see you all and some of our new pupils and parents will be joining us too.

Thinking ahead, please save the date for the **21st September** for our **50th birthday Saturday Family Funday!** More information will follow before we break up but we are inviting families to bring a picnic and join us for a day of outdoor inflatable fun, along with lots of other exciting activities!

This week....

Wellbeing Alpaca Visit to Dawn House School

Yesterday, we had an exciting morning when we were fortunate to host 4 Alpaca's and their handlers who came to meet pupils and staff.

All the pupils had the opportunity to meet the Alpaca's, pet them, walk them and feed them.

The pupils (and staff) had a great time and the visit was a great success. Staff enjoyed watching pupils showing care of animals, asking questions, interacting



with peers and walking around the field with the Alpaca's with the support of the handlers and familiar staff.

Some pupils were hesitant to begin with but what a transformation, with support and reassurance we saw them really engaging with the alpacas.

Please do ask them about it!
Bella had a good time meeting them too!!
(you can see some photos on our Facebook page)

The Makaton Choir went to Joseph Whitaker Sports Academy this week to join the family of schools in the 'Sing Up' Event. They performed to 7 other schools and parents/carers and did so amazingly well. Children from the other schools really engaged with the Makaton and joined in with the singing and the signing.

It's been a shorter week, but our **residential** children still had plenty of activities going on, including the group joining "Spectrum wasps" for football training.

The Eco/ garden club finished the wooden houses that will be on sale at the Summer Fayre, while the music club continued to hit all the right notes! The "Dance Warrior's" changed venue but that didn't stop them learning lots of new dance moves.

The girls group finished the week with a meal out at the "Kitty Cafe" in Nottingham. (I'm sure there will be photos on the Facebook page)

I finished my week reading 'The Treasure Hunt' with Primary 1. It's one of our new library books and the story kept the group all listening right to the end! Parents of Primary 1, ask your children about the treasure!

Next week a group of KS4 children are off on the YHA residential to Castleton. I look forward to reporting back and sharing photos and all about their adventures next week. I'm sure you'll join me in wishing them all a great few days.

You will soon be receiving a parent questionnaire which we ask you to take a short time to complete so we can be sure to feed your thoughts and views about your child's experiences at Dawn House School, and your own, to inform our planning and offer for next year. Keep a look out on Weduc!

Thanks, and have a great weekend,
Jenny

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If your child leaves home in the morning a little unsettled and you want to quickly tell us, so we know to expect a tricky start to the day, a quick email (that we can follow up later) to the tutor and/or core team with **'Handle with Care'** in the email title will ensure that we are aware.