

## **Threlkeld School Newsletter**

**Wednesday 15th March**

### **Swimming Contributions**

Just a reminder to please send in your contributions for swimming. It is £2.50 weekly or a payment of £25.00 for the 10 sessions. Next week will be the 10<sup>th</sup> Session. Could all contributions please be sent before the end of term so that the year-end accounts can be finalised.

### **School Meals**

Could all school meals money due please be paid by the end of half term. Just a reminder to give us two weeks' notice if your child no longer requires a school meal or would like to start having meals.

The cost of a meal will increase to £2.60 (£13.00 per week) after the Easter break.

### **Choir at Dearham**

Parents of those children who are in the choir can now collect their tickets from the office for the concert at Dearham. Tickets are £2 each.

### **Easter Service**

The service will be held in St Mary's Church on Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> April at 9.15 am.

### **Governors' Update following meeting on Monday 6<sup>th</sup> March.**

It was decided that in future the Governing Body would report back on some of the items discussed at meetings.

- An in-depth analysis of the SAT's results of 2016 was discussed. The headline is that the percentage of Yr6 children achieving the new national Standard in Reading, Writing and Maths was well above the National Standard.
- Staff had been on a very interesting training on improving children's range of vocabulary. This is part of this year's School Development Plan following the introduction of the new, very challenging reading SAT's for Yr.2 and Yr.6. The reading complexity of the texts and use of the challenging vocabulary has been much increased. There were no "easier" texts or questions.  
There is evidence that Nationally, children's range of vocabulary has reduced significantly over the last 10 years. It is thought it is due to toddlers, children and parents spending more time on tablets/social media etc. and less time engaged in conversation. It is important for adults to find time to talk with children in full sentences using challenging vocabulary. We are very grateful that Threlkeld parents obviously do this for their children.
- We also discussed that we are working on improving children's self confidence in answering questions and speaking out in class.

If anyone would like to discuss any aspects of school with a Parent Governor, could they please talk to either Tara Booth or Ben Brown.

### **End of Term**

**Friday 7<sup>th</sup> April** — Toy Day and end of term. Finish 2.00 pm.

Please remember to inform taxis about the early finish. Children may bring small, quiet toys into school. I would like to remind parents that school cannot guarantee that toys won't get lost or broken at school and non-electronic games are preferred.

Please note that "Toy Days" are not non-uniform days.

**Monday 24<sup>th</sup> April 2016** – Start of summer term.