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To all Parents/Carers,

4/5/18

Quite a few highlights to report this week – beginning with the new Raspberry Pi Club on Monday afternoon. For those who don't know (including me up until a week ago!), Raspberry Pis are basically mini computers and enable children to practice coding and writing software.

Thanks to the PTFA and your donations over the last twelve months, we have been able to purchase the necessary equipment and get the club up and running. This is one of many new clubs we have introduced this year and the children seemed to really enjoy it!



In other news, the Y6 Parents/Carers came into school last night to discuss the upcoming KS2 SATs; starting on Monday 14th May. This is something we do every year and we hope it goes some way to alleviating some of the anxiety surrounding these tests. As a school we recognise that this anxiety can sit just as much with the Parents/Carers as the children so if you do have any unanswered questions then please feel free to contact the school or visit the website. Our weekly Y6 Mindfulness sessions have hopefully helped the children to feel more relaxed and the SATs breakfast club is also making a welcome return this year so keep an eye out for further details. More than just having a healthy breakfast, it is nice for the children to get together as a group before it all starts.

Some Parents/Carers have approached me on the gate about next year's classes. As mentioned in previous newsletters, we are going to be making some changes to classes next year (we have started preparing quite early this time round) but please be assured that we carefully consider all factors before making any final decisions; and we certainly would not endeavour to make any decision which would adversely affect your child's happiness at school. Resilience and having a growth mindset is something we talk about all the time in school and change, no matter how big or how significant, is part of life and helps to build that all important resilience in a person. Mixing with other children, making new friends and having a new experience is something we would always advocate. At the moment we are in the process of making those decisions and the children and yourselves will be notified when the end of year reports are given out.

And finally, it is only two weeks to go until our big Midnight Snowdon adventure. Thank you to everyone who has donated tuck for the tuck shop and for all your kind donations/sponsorship. I did an assembly on Monday about Alzheimer's Society (specifically how to become a 'Dementia Friend') as I thought it was important the children understood more about why we are raising the money. We are creeping ever closer to our £5,000 target but we are not quite there yet! The tuck shop will hopefully give us that last big boost but remember, if your company does matchfunding then they might be able to match whatever we make from the tuck shop sales. Please speak to the office if you think you might be able to help.

Have a good weekend,
Mr I. Johnson

Snowdon Sponsor Page (2 weeks to go!)

<https://www.sponsorme.co.uk/ianjohnson/markeaton-midnight-snowdon-challenge.aspx>