



HEAD OF SCHOOL UPDATE

Welcome back after the Christmas holiday, we hope that you enjoyed a good holiday with your family. The children have returned to school looking smart in their school uniforms. Thank you to parents and carers for your continued support in providing the correct school uniform, including black school shoes.

Thank you to all who have participated to date in the extreme reading challenge. There is still time to take part and we would welcome your extreme reading photographs by Friday 18th January.

The challenge has been set. Are you an extreme Reader?

We can read books anywhere and everywhere!

We are inviting all children to take the Connor Downs Academy, Extreme Reading Challenge.

Think about different, exciting, fun and SAFE places you can enjoy a book.

Children—tell your parent/carer your idea and ask them if they could take a photograph of you reading your book in your 'extreme' place.

Please print your photograph and give it to your class teacher. It will be added to our Extreme Reading display in the Library.



Have fun Extreme Reading!!



Next Thursday, 17th January 2019, is a National School Census Day. This is when the Department for Education (DfE) collects information about each school to help them plan for the future and, most importantly, the data is used to set future school budgets. One of the figures we have to report is the number of Reception, Years 1 and 2 children who are having a Universal Infant Free School Meal (UIFSM) on this day.

The census data is then used to decide how much funding for the year we receive for our hot meals. This means that if your child does not have a meal on Thursday, we will not receive any further funding for the rest of the year. If your child chooses to have a meal on another day, we will have to fund this from our school budget.

We do not receive funding for the amount of hot meals we supply, only the number of meals eaten on the two census days in October and January each year.

Our solution to this problem is to ask every child in Reception, Year 1 and Year 2 to try the hot meal on Census Day. Then your child will be fully funded to have hot meals during the year thus saving the school any additional costs.

Thank you for your support.

We have a busy and exciting term ahead of us. Please check the important Spring dates which are included as part of this newsletter.

Mrs Eddy

DIARY DATES SPRING TERM 2019

Week beginning 7th January
(YEARS 3 & 4 FOOTBALL AND SPORTS FOR TOTS RE-START THIS WEEK)

Monday 7th – First day of Spring Term

Week beginning 14th January
(SCHOOL LED AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS RE-START THIS WEEK)

Week beginning 21st January

Week beginning 28th January

Week beginning 4th February
Tuesday 5th – Safer Internet Morning for Parents (Years 1 – 6 - 9.15am to 10.30am) (Reception – 9.15am – 9.45am)

Week beginning 11th February
Friday 15th – Disco's – Years R, 1 & 2 – 5.00pm – 6.00pm and Years 3, 4, 5 and 6 – 6.15pm – 7.15pm

Week beginning 18th February
HALF TERM

Week beginning 25th February
(2nd CYCLE OF AFTER SCHOOL CLUBS START THIS WEEK)

Tuesday 26th – Parent Consultations
Wednesday 27th – Parent Consultations

Week beginning 4th March
Tuesday 5th – West End In Schools – Shakespeare Workshop
Thursday 7th – World Book Day

Week beginning 11th March
Tuesday 12th – Science Morning for Parents (Years 1 – 6 - 9.15am to 10.30am) (Reception – 9.15am – 9.45am)

Week beginning 18th March

Week beginning 25th March
Friday 29th – Scholastic Book Fair

Week beginning 1st April
LAST WEEK OF SCHOOL LED CLUBS FOR THIS TERM

Tuesday 2nd - Scholastic Book Fair
Wednesday 3rd - Scholastic Book Fair
Friday 5th – Last Day of Term **(Finish at 2pm)**

Week beginning 8th April
EASTER HOLIDAYS

Week beginning 15th April
EASTER HOLIDAYS

Week beginning 22nd April
Monday 22nd – EASTER HOLIDAY

Tuesday 23rd – First day of Summer Term

ATTENDANCE

Our school target for attendance is 96%.

1st Place	Year R	100 %
2nd Place	Year 3	99 %
3rd Place	Year 2	98 %

SHINE AWARDS



Our next Shine Assembly is on **Friday 18th January**, at 2.40pm.
Parents of the children below are warmly invited to attend.



Please come along to main reception no earlier than 2.35pm. A special well done to:

Reception	Leon	For showing confidence and resilience during his first week at Connor Downs Academy. Leon has demonstrated fantastic enthusiasm during his playful learning this week. Well done, Leon!
Year 1	Caycie	For working independently with greater effort and enthusiasm in both her English and Maths.
Year 2	Layla	For an excellent growth mindset with impressive results across the curriculum.
Year 3	Kitty	For demonstrating perseverance in her reading and always showing outstanding kindness to her friends in class.
Year 4	Caelan	For a fantastic plan for a fantasy story, using a brilliant setting choice.
Year 5	Esme	For her excellent attitude to work and always being a great friend.
Year 6	Ashton C	For outstanding focus and effort in all areas of his learning, resulting in improved understanding and confidence.
Writer of the week	Hugo Year 1	For showing great enthusiasm and detail when writing about the Arctic.
YR & KS1 Reader of the week	Navarre Year 2	For reading a vast range of genres with expression and fluency and transferring ideas and vocabulary into his writing.
KS2 Reader of the week	Ebony Year 6	For reading above and beyond her target each day - as a result Ebony's AR level has increased. Well done Ebony!
Mathematician of the week	Otis Year 5	For amazing Venn diagram problem solving.
Performer of the week	Henry J Year 3	For extreme reading, using the outdoor environment and entertaining a local herd of cows.
Citizen of the week	Eden Year R	For adapting so well to Class R's rules and routines during her first week at Connor Downs Academy. Eden has demonstrated that she is a kind, conscientious learner and it is a pleasure having her in our classroom. Well done, Eden!