

# Highfield Primary School October 2015 Newsletter



Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope your children have been settling well into their new classes and enjoying their new year group's curriculum.

You will be able to come into school to see your child at work in their new classroom on Thursday October 15th at 9.15 a.m. This is also an opportunity to have a look at our new allotment area, school club and play ground space. Please collect and fill in an evaluation form and leave it at the school office. You will be able to meet with your child's class teacher and view your child's school books the following week at parent's evenings on 21st and 22nd October.

Last week our Year 4 children had a wonderful time on their residential visit to Robin Hood's Bay. Many thanks to all the staff involved in ensuring the trip was a success. I have received lots of thank you notes from parents who clearly appreciate the dedication of the staff who take part in such residential experiences with the children.

Our new Reception children have all settled in really well in their new building and are enjoying their first term at Highfield. Many new parents attended a phonics presentation led by the team last week. The presentation is now available on the Reception area of the school website.

We held our first governing body meeting two weeks ago and Nancy Lester was re-elected as Chair with Margaret Maiden being re-elected as Vice Chair. The governors have their own section on the new school website. You can see who they all are on the "Who's Who?" section and read their latest blogs and newsletters too.

Harvest Festival will take place on Monday October 12th. Any donations of tinned food will be taken to the Moortown food bank which supports needy members of our local community. Reverend Sharon Kaye from St John's Church will be visiting our Harvest Assembly which will be led by our Year 2 children. Year 2 parents are welcome to watch the children's presentation.

I am often contacted by parents who are concerned with dangerous driving and parking around the school neighbourhood. Shadwell Lane Properties Partnership have written to me warning that they will take action against parents using their car park to pick up and drop off children from school. I am also aware that several parents have concerns regarding the numbers of children and families crossing the busy roads each morning. I have asked the road crossing patrol unit at Leeds City Council to carry out a review of the school traffic and road safety situation and I am also meeting a local councillor next week to discuss the situation. Our walking bus is keen to recruit new members and, of course, has a key to the Shadwell ring road traffic lights. Please contact Laura McLellan if you are interested in joining the group. The walking bus will be running a promotional stall next Friday 16th October outside the Reception Annexe. This month is walk to school month and it is great to see so many children coming to school on foot, bicycle or scooter. The Friends have paid for three new scooter and bicycle sheds to be erected near the car park and at the Belvedere entrance to school and this will help reduce congestion in the mornings as well as encourage more children to travel to school by scooter or bicycle. Our recent class travel survey showed that 167 children (obviously many are siblings and some families are car sharing) are travelling to school by car every morning and 287 children are travelling by foot, scooter or bicycle. Please consider your journey to school, and if you do have to use a car, drive and park safely. The yellow zig zag lines outside the school gates mean no parking or dropping off before and after school.

Julie Colley

