



Highfield Primary School

Newsletter

May 2013

Dear Parents / Carers,

We have reached the end of another half term and the children certainly deserve a holiday following all their hard work in school. I have been particularly impressed by the mature attitude and excellent behaviour of the Year Six children in their SATs exams last week.

Payments from September 2013

The Governing Body have reviewed our charges and payments policy.

Daily dinner money payments will rise to £2 from September for all year groups. Cheques should be made out to Leeds City Council, or to register for online payment, please contact the school office.

The milk charge for Years one and two is £15 per year (cheques made out to Leeds City Council)

Music tuition will remain at £40 per term. In September both Year 3 classes will be learning to play the ukulele in school (free of charge).

Staffing News

Ms Cornish our Higher Level Teaching Assistant will be leaving us on 12th June. Sally has worked at Highfield for 18 years and has made a huge contribution to the success of the school. Every child in school knows Ms Cornish and will have been taught or supported by her at some time. She will be greatly missed, both as an excellent teacher and as a friend to Highfield. We hope she enjoys her last few weeks with us and we wish her every happiness for the future.

Mrs Homan and Mrs Fritz will be returning to work at the end of term, following their maternity leave. Both teachers are reducing their hours to three days per week. Mrs Heeley is also reducing her hours to three days a week from September.

As a result of staffing changes we will be recruiting four new members of staff over the next few weeks. They are: a full time Key Stage Two Class Teacher, two Higher Level Teaching Assistants and one Teaching Assistant.

The staffing structure for September, along with your child's class and teacher for September, will be sent out in July.

Reminders

Please keep the school grounds looking beautiful by putting your litter in the bins provided.

Please drive/park carefully and without infringement of traffic regulations. I shall be on patrol with the police and children this week. I was sad to hear from a parent who received some unpleasant verbal abuse from another who was parking in a dangerous manner earlier on in the week.

The street lighting on Sandringham Green is going to be improved over the next few weeks. Obviously, whilst works are taking place it will be very difficult to park on Sandringham Green and extra care will need to be taken when walking children to school or driving in the vicinity of the school.

Attendance Regulation Changes from September 2013

The Department for Education have made amendments to the 2006 attendance regulations. These amendments come into force on 1st September 2013. The amendments make clear that:

Headteachers may not grant leave of absence during term time unless there are exceptional circumstances.

The Alwoodley cluster of primary and secondary schools are revising their attendance policies in response to these changes and a new shared, agreed policy will be sent out to all parents next half term.

In short, from September 2013:

- Holidays will no longer be authorised by the Headteacher.
- Leave of absence can only be authorised in exceptional circumstances.

Receiving a full school education is essential for all children to make the best progress they can. We are sure you will support us in improving attendance and will choose not to take family holidays in term time.

Circus

The Circus came to Highfield last Saturday and everyone had a super time. We also raised around £1200 for school outdoor playground developments. Big thanks to The Friends for organising this fun event



Dates Summer Term 2013.

May 24th Training day

HALF TERM

June 3rd Training day

4th Year 5 and 6 School Councillors and Highfielder newspaper editors visiting The Houses of Parliament with Mr Potter and Mrs Colley (invited by MP Fabian Hamilton)

5th Refugee talk to Year 6

8th Roundhay School FUN RUN

10th Skipton Castle trip 2BM

11th Skipton Castle trip 2T

17th Phonic check week for children in Year 1

18th 3BC to DFCLC Comic life ICT workshop

20th 3B to DFCLC Comic life ICT workshop

24th Marrick week

24th Fit Week in school

July

2nd Reception classes visit to Newby Hall

5th Teddy bear picnic and lunch on the field (school dinner children will be given a lunch box) All children may bring a teddy bear to school today!

4th Paul Brennan, Deputy Director of Leeds Children's Services visiting the school

4th Choir and Recorder concert 2.30 p.m.

5th Orchestra concert 2.30 p.m.

8th Sports Week - 9.20 a.m. start on the school field

8th Reception classes (includes new starters race)

9th Years 1 and 2

10th Years 3 and 4

11th Years 5 and 6

11th Year 1 Scarborough trip

12th Steel pans Year 5 performance for parents 3 p.m.

12th Reports home to parents

13th Summer Fair afternoon

15th Bun Day Monday Year 1

18th Year 6 Production for staff and parents at 6.30 p.m.

23rd Year 6 Leaver's Assembly 9.10 a.m. followed by bowling morning

Wednesday Class Sharing Assemblies 3 p.m. in the hall

12th June 2T

19th June 4H

26th June – Whole school aerobics on the field led by 4E

July 3rd 3BC

Training Days for 2013 – 2014

Monday 2nd September 2013

Monday 4th November 2013

Friday 10th February 2014

Monday 2nd June 2014

Tuesday 3rd June 2014

I look forward to seeing you at one of our many events this term
Julie Colley