

Head of School Newsletter

Summer Term 2 2015

Welcome - I cannot believe how quickly this year has gone by. The children have had fun, explored, worked and shared experiences together. The school has seen many changes; it has a vibrant, purposeful, calm atmosphere where children are at the heart. We have new technology, resources, equipment and additional space and we have extended school activities that cover the curriculum. Your children have been amazing and are supported by hard working, committed and passionate teachers. I am so proud of everyone and thank you for your support.

Assemblies - Please see the table below which outlines the themes we have discussed this half term...

Date	Title	Aims	Religious and citizenship links	British Fundamental Values
Monday 1 st June	St. Teresa's Hospice	To learn about the importance of charity and understand that they can make a positive difference to other peoples' lives through their own efforts.	To think about and care for others.	To engage pupils in activities to help their local community.
Monday 8 th June	Talent Spotting	To encourage us to acknowledge our own and others' talents.	To promote respect for individual differences.	To promote fundamental British values of respect for and tolerance of different faith and religious and other beliefs. To promote pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development.
Monday 15 th June	Bees and Wasps	To learn about bees and wasps, so you can recognise your enemy!	To think about and care for others.	To engage pupils in activities to help their local community.
Monday 22 nd June	Seatbelt Sheriff	To learn about the importance of car safety and why they must wear a seat belt at all times.	To ensure car safety rules and expectations are clear and understood.	To help pupils to respect the law and the basis on which it is made and to provide clear guidance on what is right and what is wrong.
Monday 29 th June	Everyone is a winner	To reflect on experiences of winning and losing, in the context of school sports days, other competitions, and life in general.	To gain an understanding of determination and perseverance.	To help pupils to develop their self-knowledge, self-esteem and self-confidence and encourage pupils to take responsibility for their behaviour. To promote pupils' spiritual, moral, social and cultural development.

Later Phase London Trip - I had the pleasure of joining the year 5 and Year 6 children on their trip to London and I have to say they were a credit to themselves, you, our school and me. At all times, they showed respect, courteousness and compassion, particularly when visiting the War Museum. I know they had a fabulous time and thank you for allowing them the experience to leave home for a couple of nights. A huge thank you must go to Mrs Passman and the team for organising such a memorable trip.



It is much sadness that we have to say good bye to Mrs Graham and Mrs Bell. Both will be leaving us this summer for new adventures. I am sure you will join us in wishing them well for the future. They will be greatly missed.

Consequently, there have been some staffing changes for the new acedemic year. Changes have been in Year 1, 2 and 4. Please see the table below:

Class arrangments for September:			
Year Group	Teacher	Teaching Assistant(s)	
Foundation- Class	Miss Temple 	Mrs Adamson 	Mrs Dryden 
Year 1 - Class 1	Miss Byrnes 	Miss Williamson 	Miss Walker 
Year 2 - Class 2	Mrs Lennon 	Mr Hollis 	Miss Williams 
Year 3 - Class 3	Mrs Hammond  Mrs Petch 	Mrs Rusby 	
Year 4 - Class 4	Miss Mackintosh 	Mrs Haines 	
Year 5 - Class 5	Mrs Coates 	Mrs Sellars 	
Year 6 - Class 6	Mrs Passman 	Mrs McLoughlin 	

Sports Day - The sports day was a huge success and thank you all for your support. The day started with the Year 1 and Year 5 children demonstrating the Haka with the rest of the school before the children embarked on their competitive races and my goodness they were competitive. Although I must say, not as competitive as the dads in the three legged race! Thank you for all the parents who volunteered to race. It created a super atmosphere and now you know what to expect you can plan your training into your calendar for next year!



Art Exhibition - Following the whole school trip to the Yorkshire Sculpture Park, the children worked on group projects inspired by the trip. Designs and models were displayed in the school for parents, carers and family to see. The children put a huge amount of time, thought and creativity into the project and we were thrilled and delighted to see the work displayed. The work is going to be displayed at the Hurworth Fair on September 19th, the sculptures will then return back to school to be displayed around the building.



Music Evening - All the children who take part in extra-curricular music were allowed the opportunity to showcase their skills in the form of a musical evening. We saw our girls and boys choirs, sing different styles of songs from Rock 'n Roll to the present day. Both choirs are exceptionally talented and it's an absolute pleasure to experience. We had solos and groups playing the violins, guitars, brass and key board instruments. Special thanks must go to the teachers; Mr O'Byrne for teaching guitar, Mr Eland for brass, Mr Shield for key board, Miss Hodgson for violin and Mr Coates for his guitar demonstration. Miss Hodgson was covering Mrs Hibbard's maternity so sadly she is leaving us. Mrs Hibbard will be back in September.



Later Phase Performance: Romeo and Juliet - Year 5 and Year 6 children took to the stage to present arguably the greatest love story ever written, Romeo and Juliet. The performance was a roaring success due to the hard work, practise, enthusiasm and talent from all the children. To put on a Shakespearean play was very ambitious but through storytelling, acting, singing and dancing the children pulled it off and received a standing ovation. They were and we were extremely proud and rightly so.



To help you organise your summer holidays for next year please find the school holiday dates. School will open (for children) on **Wednesday 2nd September 2015** and will close for summer on **Friday 15th July 2016**. To help you organise childcare on PD days (training days for teachers when the children are not in school) please see the list below. In order to reduce the impact of PD days, we usually tag the days to either the end or beginning of a half term. Unfortunately, one of the training providers can only do a specified date (October Friday 2nd) so this day will be in the middle of the term. We hope the period of notice will help:

PD Days - Training days when the children are NOT in school:

Tuesday 1st September 2015

Friday 2nd October 2015

Monday 4th January 2016

Monday 6th June 2016

Monday 18th July 2016

Tuesday 19th July 2016

Wednesday 20th July 2016

School holidays: September 2015 -September 2016

October half term - Friday 23rd October - Monday 2nd November

Christmas - Friday 18th December - Tuesday 5th January

Spring half term - Friday 12th February - Monday 22nd February

Easter - Thursday 24th March - Monday 11th April

Whit week - Friday 27th May - Tuesday 7th June

Summer - Friday 15th July - **Monday 5th September 2016**

Leavers - It is with much sadness, a heavy heart and seven years of memories that we have to say a fond farewell to our Year 6 children as they move on to the next chapter in their life. This Year 6 class, were my first class in this school in Foundation. Mrs Graham and I spent the summer transforming the class to create a stimulating and purposeful environment where children were at their heart of learning and where we followed their interests. The children spent their first year building dens, nests and campfires, re-enacting scenes from pirate and princess adventures and looking at many animals and particularly enjoyed a firm favourite still, tadpoles. Since Foundation they have had many experiences from exotic animals, to adventurous trips such as Robinwood and finally London. They have been a wonderful set of children all with personalities I will miss. I wish them well for September and the future and hope that I'll be letting you know of their achievements as they progress in the next few years to come. Adieu Year 6.



School for hire-School is available for hire for parties etc. If you would like any further information please don't hesitate to contact Mrs Ferguson or Mrs Kukielka on 01325 720028 Or on the email below:

admin@hurworthpriamry.com
hferguson@hurworthprimary.com

Finally - As we come to the end of a hectic year, I want to wish you and your families a happy, safe and restful summer. Fingers crossed the sun keeps shining and I look forward to welcoming you back in September.



Mrs Maddison :)