



## NEWSLETTER FEBRUARY 2013

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What a half term it has been, with adverse weather and already in the second month of 2013 before we know it. Can I thank parents who, once again, have ensured that their children have come to school throughout this half term, withstanding the snow and dark mornings and evenings. As you are aware we monitor progress of pupils constantly, and data shows us once again, that pupils who attend school regularly will always make the most progress and will reach their potential.

Have an enjoyable and safe half term.

Mrs Hanks

Head Teacher

### Year 6 residential

Year 6 have spent three days at Whitemoor Lakes this last week. They have indulged in some pretty hair raising tasks, including the zip and high wire. Several members of staff went to see them on Thursday night after school, to sing songs around the campfire. Once again the children have behaved beautifully and have been a real credit to the school and to themselves. A big thank you to Miss Roberts and Mrs Spencer for giving up so much of their own time, to ensure that the children could enjoy this experience. Well done to all.

### Dates for the Diary



HALF TERM—18-22 FEBRUARY

YEARS 3 & 4 TRIP —Fri 1 March

EASTER HOLS—29 March— Fri 12 April

Year 6 SATs Week Mon 13 May—Fri 17 May

HALF TERM - Mon 27 May—Fri 31 May

SUMMER HOLS—Fri 19 July

### STARBURST AWARDS

#### Thursday 31 January 2013

Nursery—Marika  
Team Barham - Mollie  
Team Preston - Danny  
Team Boyce - Lewis  
Team Wood - Conor  
Team Davis - Ben  
Team Palmer - Amy  
Team M/J - Yayhe  
Team Trevelyan - Elise  
Team Spiers - Trip  
Team Roberts - Charlotte



#### Thursday 7 February 2013

Nursery— Rhianna  
Team Barham - Leon  
Team Preston - Ewa  
Team Boyce - Riely  
Team Wood - Trip  
Team Davis - Shavoy  
Team Palmer - Laura  
Team M/J - Eleanor  
Team Trevelyan - Jamie  
Team Spiers - Alesha

## Thursday 14 February 2013

Nursery— George  
Team Barham - Isabelle  
Team Preston - Amelia  
Team Boyce - Rehan  
Team Wood - Louie  
Team Davis - Ryan  
Team Palmer - Jacob  
Team M/J - Cyrus  
Team Trevelyan - Amy  
Team Spiers - Vincent  
Team Roberts -Samantha

## Sainsburys Vouchers 2013

We are collecting the Sainsbury's vouchers for the "Active Kids" again this year. Please start collecting them and ask family and friends to collect them for us too.

The more vouchers we collect the more equipment we can get for our children at New Hall.



## Mobile Phones

The recent bad weather has once again, highlighted the importance of letting us know of any changes to mobile phone numbers. If you have had a new phone or phone number please, please let the office know of these changes. We never want to be in a position where we can't contact a parent in any kind of emergency, however, it is your responsibility to keep us informed.

## Special mention

Mr Smith, one of our Sports coaches has heaped praise on Lucy, Rico, Amy, James, Kai, Vanessa, Ricky and Ryan for their fantastic help with the training other pupils with Speed Stacking sessions. All of these pupils have received a Head-teacher's Award Sticker - how fantastic.

## School Rules:

Our school rules were devised by School Council and state:

RESPECT YOURSELF, OTHERS AND THE ENVIRONMENT

## Breaktime

We now offer the following for KS2 tuck time

Fruit Pots at 25p and Fruit Loaf at 20p

## Library visits



Pupils in Team Davis, Wood and Boyce have visited the library last week. Once again their behaviour and general enthusiasm has been commented on, and they have had a great time.

## Parent Governor

A vacancy has arisen for a Parent Governor on the Governing Body of New Hall Primary and Children's Centre. Please enquire at the office for a nomination form if you are interested in impacting on the future direction of the school, and understanding a little more about the whole school focus.



## Artist visit

The pupils (and parents) have recently experienced a great day with a professional artist, working in the style of Vincent Van Gogh. The finished results are a delight and are on display in the corridors. We have received wonderful feedback from parents who attended also. Watch out for another day in the Summer term.

## Parking and Proposed Work to Langley Hall Drive

Once again, the issue of parking and cars has become a bit of an issue. We have had reports that 2 pupils were almost run over by a reversing car. Whilst appreciating that Langley Hall Drive is a cul-de sac can we urge you, for the safety of adults and children alike, to please show due care and consideration, when dropping off or collecting your child/ren.

We have been informed by the Highways Scheme that work will take place before 31<sup>st</sup> March to raise the kerbs on Langley Hall Drive. So please be aware that this work is imminent and may cause disruption. If at all possible, please try and park a short walk from school. This will also mean that your child can qualify for our WoW badges, and indeed keep them healthy.

## Circus day



July 10<sup>th</sup> we will see the whole school participate in a Circus skills day, to end the school year in spectacular fashion. This will be a free event for all pupils.



## Life in KS2 this Half Term

Year Six have enjoyed an exciting three night stay at Whitemoor Lakes on their residential trip. They were given the opportunity to have a go at some quite challenging activities but they managed to overcome their fears and quite a few pupils really surprised themselves by what they could do. Team Roberts are now gearing up for their SATs tests in May and will be working very hard to get themselves ready to do their very best.

Team Spiers spent a memorable day at the West Midlands Fire Service, Safeside Centre, a purpose built indoor urban village, offering interactive learning opportunities in safety, citizenship, sustainability and life skills. The children were shown around the complex by specially trained members of the Safeside team, who talked to them about the dangers presented by each 'station'. The children were encouraged to interact with each situation, whether by watching a video, moving unsafe objects out of harm's way or explaining what action should be taken.

Years three and four have been getting involved in their topic on the 'Incredible Egyptians' through literacy, art and history. The children have learnt to write their names in hieroglyphics, sketched famous pharaohs and even used their 'Talk for Writing' skills to learn and perform a 'Horrible Histories' text.

The whole school also had a visit from Vincent Van Gogh who told us about his life story and encouraged the children (and staff) to experiment with new art skills. Each class took a different painting as inspiration and created their own interpretations.



### WANTED

If you have some spare time and would like to help the children on the "Ditch the Stabilisers" bike course.

Please contact Miss Jaremko at the school on 0121 464 5170

Full training given



### House Netball

The children took part in the House Netball matches today. It was nice to see them outside enjoying the dry and sunny weather! Well Done to

### Parent donation

We would like to say thank you to Jessica's dad in year 6 for donating a 20 pack of "Horrible Histories" books to our school library.

### POTS OF GOLD CLUB

You are invited to **POTS OF GOLD CLUB** if you have lost someone close to you through death or your parent's break up. If you have lost a parent, brother, sister, grandparent or best friend. At Pot of Gold Club kids aged 6 - 11 help each other learn to cope with their sad feelings by playing games, listening to stories, and doing some art work. If that sounds good to you please join us at St Johns Church, 4 Walmley Road on Monday evenings from 6.30-8.00pm starting from 11 March during school term time. A warm welcome awaits you.

To Book please contact church office on 0121 313 0413, or email on [office@stjw.org.uk](mailto:office@stjw.org.uk), [www.growingthrough.org](http://www.growingthrough.org).