



NEWSLETTER FEBRUARY 2014

It hardly seems like the first half term of 2014 has come and gone already, but it has been a very busy term here at New Hall. First of all I would like to thank all parents for their cooperation with the new arrangements with regard to the opening of the gate in the mornings. There has been a marked difference to how the children come in in the mornings as a result, and this has really impacted on behaviour and children settling down to work. We have seen a marked improvement in behaviour as a result.

CHINESE NEW YEAR

Thanks to Mrs Galbraith and the ladies in the kitchen for making a special lunch to celebrate Chinese New Year. The children really enjoyed the occasion, especially the beautifully decorated 'themed' dining room.



Dates for the Diary



- Friday 14 February** - Break up for half term
- Half term** - Monday 17 February - Friday 21 February
- Monday 24 February** - School open
- Friday 28 February** - Football V Holy Cross
- Thursday 6 March** - Team Davis Class Assembly
- Friday 7 March** - Football V Maney Hill
- Friday 14 March** - Football V Shrubbery
- Friday 21 March** - Football V Moor Hall
- Friday 27 March** - Team Wood Class Assembly
- Thursday 10 April** - Team Styles Class Assembly
- Friday 11 April** - Inset Day
- Easter Holiday** - Monday 14 April - Friday 25 April
- Friday 4 July** - Inset Day
- Monday 21 July** - Inset Day

STARBURST AWARDS

- Thursday 6 February**
- Nursery - Mollie
- Team Preston - Ollie
- Team Barham - Raimyah
- Team Styles - Konor

PARENTS EVENING

It was lovely to see so many parents supporting their child's learning by coming to parents evening. It certainly makes all the difference if children know that you, their parents, are keen for them to do well and support the school with their home learning. As a school we never underestimate the influences at home and welcome any additional work that is done, so a big thank you. As is the norm every half term, the children have just completed assessment week. This is an opportunity for us to see how much progress they are making and also informs how we arrange teaching groups etc. We are able to fully utilise both Mrs Stevenson and Mrs Jurczak to help support learners across the school by ability grouping children where appropriate. This can have a significant impact on progress.

BREAKFAST READING CAFE

We had over 50 parents attend our breakfast reading café - what an achievement. Everyone was able to experience an enjoyable occasion eating breakfast and reading with their child. Please look at some of the positive comments we received.

"It was good to spend time having breakfast and reading to each other"

"Having the time to listen to my child"

"Enjoyed a relaxed environment"

"Very proud of how well she read"

STARBURST AWARDS



continued

Team Wood - Aditya
Team Davis - Demi Lee
Team Qayyum - Tyler
Team Malanaphy - Mahder
Team Trevelyan - Tiara
Team Palmer - Amy
Team Spiers - Yahye
Team Roberts - Residential Trip

Thursday 13 February

Nursery - Lacey Ann
Team Preston - Emmie
Team Barham - Artin
Team Styles - Konor
Team Wood - Mia
Team Davis - Kye
Team Qayyum - Maya
Team Malanaphy - Luke
Team Trevelyan - Ryan
Team Palmer - Louie
Team Spiers - Rebeca
Team Roberts - Kayleigh

School Rules:

Our school rules were devised by School Council and state:

RESPECT YOURSELF, OTHERS AND THE ENVIRONMENT

WHITEMOOR LAKES

It was great to visit Whitemoor Lakes this week to see the Y6 in action enjoying some experiences that they wouldn't normally have at school, including zip wires, abseiling and the dreaded 'Leap of Faith'. They have made the most of the soggy weather and it has not stopped them taking part in any of the activities. Whilst I was there we even had the excitement of the campfire (although it was indoors). A huge thank you to Miss Roberts and Mrs Lucas for giving up their own time to ensure that this event could happen. I am delighted to report that we once again have been commended by the staff at the centre about the conduct and behaviour of the pupils from New Hall. They really are a credit to us as a school.

Kayleigh and Christopher through hard work have earned an award for Effort and Commitment. Sarah and Joe through hard work have earned an award for Enthusiasm. Also Tino and Olivia through hard work has earned the Team Player Award. Well done guys!



LIFE EDUCATION BUS

I hope that you as parents were able to access the opportunity to visit the Life Education Bus on Friday morning. This is always a worthwhile and valuable experience which our children take part in. Different year groups have discovered facts about 'My Wonderful Body', 'Our Talented Brains', Friends and Feelings. Please ask your child about the fascinating facts which they discovered.



SCHOOL VACANCY

If you are interested in some casual part time work as a Lunchtime Supervisor please contact the school office on 0121 464 5170 or pop in to see Mrs Page, the School Business Manager.

School Rules:

Our school rules were devised by School Council and state:

RESPECT YOURSELF, OTHERS AND THE ENVIRONMENT

Reminder:

Please ensure that your child is coming to school in appropriate footwear

NO trainers, NO heels.

CASHLESS CONSULTATION

As a school we are always considering ways to improve the efficiency of our services. For auditing reasons we always ask for all monies to be placed in a sealed envelope with the child's name, amount and what it is for. We appreciate that some parents say that they would rather be able to do this electronically, particularly when handing over significant amounts of money eg dinner money for the whole term. As a result, we are investigating the possibility of becoming a 'cashless' school. In line with many secondary and primary schools who already work a system of online payments for dinner money, trips, wraparound care etc. We would like your thoughts on this initiative.

Please complete the slip below if you have an opinion which you would like to share. As with any consultation, we can only take your opinions into account if we know them, so please take the time to complete this.

Please return by **Friday 28th February**

I can see the benefits of a cashless system being used at New Hall to pay for all events .

I cannot see the benefits of a cashless system

Any comments

It only remains for me to wish you a happy and hopefully sunny and dry half term. Please don't forget the playscheme will be running in the holidays as usual. See you all on the 24th February.

Mrs Hanks