



## NEWSLETTER NOVEMBER 2017

A warm welcome back after that half term holiday. Please remember as the weather turns colder that, unless there is severe weather, children will continue to enjoy the fresh air at playtimes and lunchtimes. As a result, we expect children to bring suitable clothing, ie a warm coat, appropriate footwear and even hats/gloves etc, so that they can experience being outside.

Thank you to all parents for embracing our 3pm finish. We appreciate that for a small minority of parents this has meant some juggling of commitments, but is certainly appreciated by us.

Our Ofsted letter is officially on the Ofsted website. As a school we are delighted with the result, which recognises what a superb education your children get here at New Hall, and how happy they are to come every day. Thank you to all of the staff for their hard work. A huge thank you to all the parents who have taken the time to say 'well done', it is very much appreciated by all the team here at New Hall.

As the half term continues there will be many opportunities to come into school very various events. Please keep an eye on calendar dates, so that you can join us. I look forward to seeing you all before the end of term.

Mrs Hanks

### Attendance

As many of you are aware it is really important that your child attends school everyday as it will enable them to reach their full potential educationally and also make important social relationships. We monitor attendance very carefully at New Hall and work closely with CSAWS (Central School Attendance and Welfare Service) to support families to improve attendance. As you may have seen in the news recently, if a child fails to attend school regularly, it is seen by the courts as neglect and this can lead to fines, tagging of individuals and even imprisonment. Unfortunately, we sometimes have to take further action when a child fails to attend our school and this has recently resulted in a family at New Hall receiving a fine of **£609**. Please ensure your child comes to school everyday to avoid this action being taken against you.

### Nursery

There has been an increasing number of parents collecting their children late from Nursery. Can we remind you nursery finishes at **11.45am** and children need to be collected at **11.45am**.

The nursery setting area is used for other activities so prompt collection is very important.

Thank you

## Reception 2018

Apply on-line for your child to start Reception class in September 2018. Visit [www.birmingham.gov.uk/schooladmissions](http://www.birmingham.gov.uk/schooladmissions) and submit an online application by 4 December 2017. The final closing date for the receipt of applications is 15 January 2018.

Online applications will receive an immediate email confirmation when submitted. If you have submitted by post you will receive an acknowledgement by 15 January 2018.

All parents who submitted their application online will receive their offer by email on 16 April 2018. Paper applications will receive their offer on 17 April 2018.

Any questions please call 0121 303 1888.

## Reception trip to Birches Valley

We went to Birches Valley, Cannock Chase with our teddy bears, for a Teddy Bears Picnic. We went on an autumnal walk to hunt for the signs of Autumn and collect food for our bears to eat: they love leaves, acorns, and twigs.

Then we worked in groups to build them a shelter to have their party in, and also made them party crowns to wear.

Miss Degville and Mrs Carpenter were very proud of all of the children on their first trip in Reception! Well done Reception!



## Harvest Festival

As part of our whole school Harvest celebrations Year 2 put on a Harvest Assembly. Children from both Team Wood and Team Edwards explained the purpose of Harvest through poetry, stories, art and songs. The children discussed how important it was to be thankful not only for the food we eat, but also the people who provide it for us. We then went on to share some of the other people in our lives we are thankful for. Linked to the assembly, children from across the school brought in donations of food for our Harvest Table. This food was then distributed to those who needed it in our community. Children in Year 2 worked very hard to put their assembly together and can still be heard singing some of the Harvest songs around school!





## Space Camp

On Thursday the 9th November Team Steadman experienced Space Camp! The children arrived back at school at 6pm armed with their sleeping bags and packed suitcases. After making their beds and unpacking their things three activities took place on a rota system in small groups. The activities were: Learning about the Solar System and Constellations, Training like an Astronaut and making model planets from Mod Roc. After that, we put on our coats and did some star gazing using the telescope and iPad App 'Starwalker'. After all the excitement, we had hot chocolate with marshmallows and toast before getting ready for bed and watching a space film. It was a memorable experience for Year 5 and they learnt many key scientific and life skills.



## School Money

By now you will have heard about School Money. All trips, dinner money, breakfast club and wrap around payments must be made through School Money.

All of our letters will now be sent via email to your email address we have on file.

If you are not receiving emails/texts from us or having any issues with School Money please do not hesitate in contacting us.

## Parentmail

We are no longer using Parentmail to send or receive text messages.

Parents who report their child's absence by Parentmail, now need to contact the school instead.

## Volunteers Needed For Christmas Disco

We are delighted that a small group of parents have recently set up a new Parents, Teachers and Friends Association called 'Friends of New Hall.' The group is currently organising a school Christmas disco to celebrate the children's achievements this term which will be held on Friday 15<sup>th</sup> December. Prices and details to follow.

For the disco to be a success we are relying on other parents, carers, school staff and grandparents to get involved too!

If you are available to volunteer at the disco (between 1.30-4.30pm) or you would like to bake or donate some cakes or biscuits for the disco, please leave your name and number at reception for more information.

## Autumn school dinner menu

Please go and look on our website for the new Autumn school dinner menu. The menu rotates each week.

W/C 20 November - Week 2 menu

W/C 27 November - Week 3 menu

W/C 4 December - Week 1 menu

W/C 11 December - Week 2 menu

W/C 18 December - Week 3 menu

## Curriculum

Parents, if you would like to know more about the curriculum planned for your children, this can be found on our website under 'Our School'. If you have any queries please speak to the class teacher.

## E-Safety Tip

Remember: Stay safe online, just as you would when crossing the road. Ask yourself: 'Should I really share that?'

## Star Burst

### Thursday 19 October

#### UKS2

Team Toomer - Millie Mae

Team Steadman - Evie

Team Palmer - Demi

Team Thomas - Carlos

### Thursday 16th November

#### KS1

Team, Wilks - James

Team Durning - Kailen

Team Wood - Sofia

Team Edwards - Milda

Well Done!

## What's happening?

### **November**

16th - Team Toomer Space Camp

17th - Children in Need non uniform day (wear spots)

22nd - Year 5 parent celebration

- Team Walker parent lunch

23rd - Year 1 trip to Tamworth Castle

29th - Team Rainbird parent lunch

### **December**

6th - Team Roberts parent lunch

7th - Year 5 trip to Tamworth Castle

8th - Panto day

12th - Reception trip to Conkers

14th - KS2 Christmas Carol Concert at local church

15th - Christmas jumper day

- KS1 Disco

- KS2 Disco

19th - EYFS Nativity to parents

20th - Year 1 Christmas assembly to Year 1 parents

25th - School closed till Friday 5th January 2018

## TERM DATES 2017/2018

### Autumn Term 2017

Christmas holiday - Monday 25

December to Friday 5 January 2018

### Spring Term 2018

Monday 8 January 2018 - School open

Half term - Monday 19 February to Friday 23 February

Monday 26 February - School open

Easter holiday - Friday 30 March to Friday 13 April

### Summer Term 2018

Monday 16 April - School open

Monday 7 May - Bank Holiday school closed

Tuesday 8 May - School open

Half term - Monday 28 May to Friday 1 June

Monday 4 June - School open

Monday 23 July - Teacher Training day

Tuesday 24 July - Teacher Training day