



Howden le Wear Primary School Weekly Newsletter

Friday 19 September 2014

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Headteacher's Notices

This week has been a busy one in school with lots of exciting learning opportunities taking place for all children. Although it is early in the academic year, our Year 6 families are already thinking about which secondary school they would like their child to attend from September 2015. The process started at the end of last week with a visit from the Deputy Headteacher at Parkside School to let our Year 6 children know all about what Parkside School has to offer. Also today Year 6 children attended a taster day at Wolsingham School where they took part in lots of different activities and learn a little about what life is like at secondary school.

Choosing your child's secondary school is an important decision that will have an impact on the rest of their lives; so it is vital that parents / carers know all the facts about each available school before they make their final choice. Parents Open Evenings and events will be organised in the near future at each of our local secondary schools to help parents get a feel for each establishment, but should you require any further help in either completing the admissions form or would like further information about a school or to know who to contact to organise a visit, please do get in touch and I will contact the relevant people who can answer your queries.

In terms of child admissions to our school for next year, if you have a child who is due to start school in September 2015, you will need to complete an application form provided by the Local Authority. The easiest way to do this is online at www.durham.gov.uk/schooladmissions. If however, you cannot access the Council website, please contact the School Admissions and Transport Team on 03000 265897 who will send you paper copies. Applications for Reception places are open from now until Thursday 15 January 2015.

Friday next week is the official European Day of Languages which we celebrate annually in school. The broad aims of the day are to alert children and parents to the importance of language learning; promote the rich cultural diversity of Europe and encourage lifelong language learning both in and out of school. We will be celebrating the European Day of Languages in school with a morning of events. This will begin with a whole school assembly on 'Being European' and the different cultures of Europe. We have then chosen to focus this year's learning on the country of France. Across the morning children will rotate around classes and take part in food tasting, art activities, sports and cultures associated with France. Please take the time to talk to your child on Friday evening about what they have learned at school as part of the European Day of Languages. Should you wish to know more about the event and challenge your children with language based activities and games, please go to the following websites:

http://www.cilt.org.uk/home/valuing_languages/european_day_of_languages.aspx
<http://edl.ecml.at/>

Finally, can I inform you that Parents Consultations this term have been organised for **Wednesday 8 October** from 2.30pm. A letter will be sent out on Wednesday 1 October giving parents the opportunity to book appointments. Please send your completed forms back into school and an appointment time will be allocated to you. Due to Ms Simons working pattern, the Year 1/2 parents evening will take place on Tuesday 30 September from 2.30pm.

Thank you for your continued support.
Mr C Baines,
Headteacher

For the most up to date information about what is going on in our school including dates for your diaries, parental information and school performance information, please visit our website at:

<http://www.howden-le-wear.durham.sch.uk>

Please scan your smartphone device over the QR code to the right to be taken straight to our school website!



Friends of the School Meeting

The first Friends of the School meeting is pencilled in for next Wednesday morning 24 September at 9am. There is a lot to discuss including the organisation for the up and coming Halloween Disco and plans for the Christmas Fair.

It is always great to see new faces at these meetings so if you feel you can spare a few hours to run a stall at the Christmas Fair or help out at the Halloween Disco, then please come along next Wednesday for a cup of tea and to find out about these events.



McMillan Coffee Afternoon—Friday 26 September

Next Friday afternoon we are hosting a McMillan Cancer Support Coffee Afternoon in school. The event will start at 2pm in the hall where a range of refreshments and cakes will be on sale. At 2.20pm parents and guests can watch our weekly Celebration Assembly and hear a little about the work completed for European Day of Languages before collecting their children at 3.05pm. We hope as many parents and family members as possible choose to join us.

If you wish to make a donation of a cake, cupcakes or biscuits to be sold at the Coffee Afternoon, Mrs Campbell will gratefully receive these on Thursday or Friday morning.

Thank you and we look forward to seeing you next Friday!



Year 3/4 Educational Visit

On Wednesday morning our Year 3/4 children visited the Hancock Museum in Newcastle to support their curriculum work on Ancient Egypt. During the visit children saw real mummies, looked at Ancient Egyptian artefacts and took part in a workshop where they learned about how bodies were mummified all those years ago. Following lunch, everyone visited the Centre for Life to support Science curriculum work on Forces. Children investigated magnetism, gravity and up-thrust through a series of activities and challenges. All the children who took part had a brilliant day and staff supporting the visit commented on how well behaved and well mannered the children had been. Thank you to parents and carers for providing the contributions needed for the visit to take place.



Children's Achievements In School

Every Friday teachers choose a child from their class to be recognised for something special they have achieved that week. This week's chosen children are:

Mrs Wheatley's Nursery Class



Mrs Wheatley in Nursery would like to congratulate **Grace Wilkinson** for her wonderful artwork. Grace added some wonderful detail to the self portrait she drew earlier this week. Well done Grace!

Mrs Craig's Reception Class



Mrs Craig has been really impressed with **Chloe Underwood** this week. Chloe has produced a fantastic family portrait sketch in class showing all the members of her family. Great work Chloe!

Ms Simons' Year 1/2 Class



Ms Simons would like to say a huge well done to **Finley Hall** for trying really hard with some very tricky work this week. Finley has been really concentrating and trying his best. Well done Finley!

Mrs Lowden and Mrs Salkeld's Year 3/4 Class



Mrs Lowden and Mrs Salkeld are really pleased with **Kian Fariest** for the brilliant pyramid model he created as part of his homework linked to Ancient Egypt. Brilliant work Kian!

Mrs Clark's Year 5/6 Class

Mrs Clark would like a special mention this week for **Luke Gardner** for working really hard in class. Luke always perseveres when his work gets tough and he loves a challenge! Keep up the hard work Luke!

