



Howden le Wear Primary School Weekly Newsletter

Wednesday 20 July 2016

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Headteacher's Notices

Today is the last day of term and the last day of the academic year. It is a very important day as it is the start of a period of change for many in our school community. Teachers and support staff are busy preparing for the changes the new academic year will bring, whilst many children in school prepare to change classroom or class teacher when they move to a new year group after the summer break.

However, our Year 6 children face the biggest change of all; as they prepare for the challenges that await at their new secondary school in September. I am sure they will all approach these challenges in a positive way; embracing the opportunities they are given and making the most of them. The Year 6 pupils of 2015/16 have been a credit to themselves, their parents and the school. They are a very good example of what can be achieved with hard work, determination and a desire to succeed. The majority of these children arrived in school in September 2009 unable to read, write or use numbers and seven years on they leave us today as responsible young people and I firmly believe they are equipped with skills and qualities that will stay with them for the rest of their lives. The foundation stones are laid and it is their opportunity to build on them in the weeks, months and years to come.

I must congratulate our Year 6 on two things. Firstly, staff in school cannot express how immensely proud we are of the children for their fabulous SAT results in reading, spelling, grammar and punctuation and maths this year. Every child achieved highly under the new assessment system that is much more challenging and demanding. Such good outcomes are reward for all the hard work and effort put in by children this year. Secondly, I would like to congratulate children on their fabulous Leavers Performance this afternoon. There are certainly some very talented children in this year group with lots of skills on show. Thank you also to the Year 6 mums, dads and family members who attended too. I hope you enjoyed spending the last afternoon of term with your child in school.

Thank you to all those who attended our Summer Fair last week. A great afternoon was had by all and we raised a fantastic total of **£680.20**. Thank you to everyone who supported the event.

Today we say goodbye to Miss Knaggs who has been teaching our Reception children for the majority of this academic year to cover Mrs Craig's maternity leave. I would like to say thank you on behalf of myself and the staff to Miss Knaggs for her hard work and commitment across the year and we all wish her luck in her new teaching role from September. We also welcomed back Mrs Craig to work earlier this week, who will be teaching Reception from September.

Finally, can I take this opportunity to thank you for your support over the last academic year. It has been a very successful year for the school and we look forward to building on these successes next year. School reopens for children on **Tuesday 6 September at 8.45am**.

Wishing you and your family a safe and happy holiday.

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!



Good Luck Year 6!



Dinner Money Request

Please could parents ensure that dinner money is paid each Monday from the start of the new academic year. This helps with administration but also avoids building up unnecessary dinner money debt. Please also be reminded that the cost of a school meal is **£2.00 per day or £10.00 per week**. For the first week back the total is **£8.00** for the four days children are in school.

Castle Points Winner Announced!

Last Friday, **Durham Castle Team** was announced as the winner of this term's Castle Shield with a fantastic total of **1686 Castle Points** awarded to members of the team throughout the term. It was almost too close to call in the final week with Durham Castle Team winning by a small margin! The members of the winning team received a special treat in school on Monday afternoon and will have their team name added to the Castle Points Shield. Well done to all children in school for the Castle Points they have earned this term.

It is back to '0' points for everyone in September and the winning team for the Autumn term will be announced shortly before Christmas.

Uniform Reminder to Parents

It always amazes me how shortly after the start of the summer holidays do we see adverts promoting 'Back to School' clothing and equipment. You may have even started thinking about this for September already!

Can I please remind parents/carers that when buying school uniform you consider our school uniform policy. Information about this can be found on our school website, but I would particularly like to remind everyone about appropriate footwear. Black school shoes or trainers are acceptable; however trainers with elaborate colours and stripes are not. Also, children require a full PE kit in school from the first day we return on Tuesday 6 September.

Thank you for your support with this.

Pokemon Go

You may be aware that a new game called 'Pokemon Go' was introduced into the UK on 14th July 2016. The game is very popular and involves 'catching' Pokemon from around the local area on mobile phones/tablets. This means that children/ adults playing the game are required to walk around the local area to find new Pokemon. Unfortunately, it has been found that if not monitored, children could potentially be lured into unknown areas by other game players into specified 'gym' spots. If your child is playing this game, please could you reinforce safety messages to them so that they are not in any potential danger from other unknown game players and can enjoy the game safely.

Thank you

Children's Achievements In School

As this is the last week of term all staff in school would like to congratulate all children from Nursery to Year 6 on their fantastic efforts this year. It has been a wonderful year in school and all the staff look forward to working with you again in September.



Have a lovely summer holiday!



100% Attendance Celebration

This week we are celebrating the children throughout school who have had 100% attendance for the summer term and the whole academic year. Thank you to all parents/carers for supporting the school in promoting good attendance and punctuality! Our overall attendance percentage for this academic year is 96.1% - Well done to you all!

Please help your child to have a good attendance.
Children who lose time from school do not do as well as children with good attendance.

Nursery

Sophia Clarke

Reception

Finley Abbott

Brogan-Leigh Dowson

Abi-Rose Gardiner

Year 1/2

Fearne Abbott

Holly Featonby

Hayden James
McGuinness

Chloe Underwood

Year 3

Lillie Allport Chloe Demeyre
Robyn Donegan Charlie Gilloway
Megan Johnson Joe Mekatoa
Lucie Underwood Rhys Wilson
Thomas Wright Pickles

Year 4

Seth Beasley Kian Fairest
Grace Genner
Brandon Lee McGuinness
Thomas Kershaw Charlie Latcham
Matthew Lawrence Kai Robson
Lucy Johnson Dominic Treend

Year 5/6

Brandon Johnson

Alex Treend

Chloe Putt

Amber Underwood

Carla Kershaw

100% Attendance All Year!

The following children have not missed one day of school this year and have 100% attendance.

Alex Treend Dominic Treend

Brandon Lee McGuinness

Chloe Demeyre Robyn Donegan

Charlie Latcham Sophia Clarke