



Howden le Wear Primary School Weekly Newsletter

Friday 29 April 2016

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Headteacher's Notices

As we move into May our attention in school begins to focus on formal testing to identify the progress children have made across the academic year in their core learning of English and Maths. Our Year 6 pupils are heavily focused on preparation for Key Stage 2 national testing that begins on Monday 9 May; whilst children in Year 2 will have tests administered in the last week of May before we break for the half term holiday. Other year groups will be tested over the coming weeks using optional tests in reading, spelling and maths. These tests are nothing for children to worry about and will not take long for children to complete with all of the questions in the tests covering learning that has taken place in class across the year. Formal testing also helps teachers to back up their teacher assessments judgements that have been made so that accurate annual reports can be written that clearly identify the next steps for learning in each subject. Good luck to all children in their tests over the coming weeks and should you require any further information on the testing process in school, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Last weekend a number of our children from school took part in a St George's Day celebration at Durham Cathedral for the 1st Howden le Wear Cubs. Our Nursery Manager Mrs Wheatley, who is a group leader for the village cubs, was incredibly proud of our children throughout the event.

Seth Beasley from Year 4 held the flag as they marched into the Cathedral as part of the colour party of Cubs, Scouts and Explorers from all over the region. **Kian Pigg** and **Thomas Pratt**, also from Year 4, attended the celebration with the rest of the cubs and all the children were impeccably behaved throughout.

So a huge well done to all our children in school who took part. If your child would like to join Howden le Wear Cubs or you would like to find out more please contact Mrs Wheatley in Nursery who would be delighted to provide you with more information. Opposite are a couple of pictures of the cubs at the St George's Day Service.



Thank you to all those parents, grandparents and community members who have been collecting the Sainsbury's Active Kids Vouchers for our school. Sainsbury's will stop giving vouchers out on 3rd May and we then have a few weeks to collect and count all our vouchers. We would be grateful if you please check at home, in purses, wallets and handbags for any Active Kids vouchers you may have and send them into school. Every voucher counts towards the school total which provides extra PE equipment and resources for children in all classes. Thank you for your support with this.



Finally, the May Bank Holiday is upon us this weekend and as a result children are not in school on Monday next week. We look forward to seeing everyone on Tuesday morning.

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!



Our Ever Changing Weather!

No sooner had I talked about children bringing suncream / sunhats to school in last week's newsletter; the forecast changed and it has spent much of this week raining, hail stoning and snowing!! As a result of this we have had a number of children in school without coats when the weather has been poor. As the weather is always so variable, the general advice is to please ensure children come to school appropriately dressed and prepared for the weather conditions of the day. Thank you.



Parking on School Street

Following last week's newsletter article about parking on School Street, can we say a big 'thank you' to everyone for their help in improving the situation. This week we have seen much less traffic and congestion outside of school which ultimately provides a safer environment for children to come to and from school each day. Please find attached a letter sent on behalf of Durham Police regarding parking outside of school.

Thank you for your support with this!

Shoes/PE Kit Reminder

Could we please remind parents that children need to have a PE kit in school throughout the week so teachers can take advantage of good weather (when it is here!!) and utilise our large school field.

Also could parents please ensure children have the correct footwear in school. Black shoes or black trainers are a requirement in our school uniform policy and we have noticed recently a number of children attending school in coloured trainers/ shoes.

Thank you for supporting us with this.

Tempest Class Photographs

Could parents/carers wishing to purchase class group photographs, please send completed forms and payment into school by Tuesday next week.
Thank you.

Mrs Bateman's Retirement In The News

Just to let you know we spotted a really nice article and photographs in this week's Weardale Gazette written by Anita Atkinson about Mrs Bateman's retirement celebrations before the Easter holidays. Should you wish to get a copy, the Weardale Gazette is available from the One Stop village shop priced £1.00.

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 **Bobbi J Clark** for great investigation skills whilst making a wormery and asking 'Why?' questions.
Well done Bobbi J!

Miss Knaggs' Reception Class



Miss Knaggs has this week nominated **Harley Bailey** for super concentration, listening and sounding out words in his reading. Great work Harley!

Ms Simons' Year 1/2 Class



Ms Simons would like to say a huge well done to **Indie Ash** for excellent work adding numbers more than 10 in Maths this week. Keep up the hard work Indie!

Mr Clarke's Year 3 Class



Mr Clarke would like a special mention this week for **Rhys Wilson** for designing a wonderful advert for a new firework. Well done Rhys! Mr Clarke is really proud of you.

Mrs Salkeld and Miss Hutchinson's Year 4 Class

Mrs Salkeld and Miss Hutchinson are really pleased with **Matthew Lawrence** for his fantastic reading test results this week. Well done Matthew! Keep up the hard work.



Mrs Clark's Year 5/6 Class

Mrs Clark would like a special mention this week for **Alex Smith** for his tremendous hard work and effort in both English and Maths preparing for his tests in a few weeks time. Well done Alex!



Well done to all our children this week for their fabulous effort and hard work in school.

