



Howden le Wear Primary School Weekly Newsletter

Friday 6 May 2016

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Headteacher's Notices

This time of year in schools there is always lots of preparation taking place towards Key Stage 1 and 2 National Testing. Ms Simons in Y2, Mrs Clark in Y6 and all our support staff are working very hard with children to help them achieve their very best in the coming weeks.

As part of our assessment procedures in school, we take the opportunity this time of year to formally test children in Years 3, 4 and 5 in the core areas of reading, spelling, grammar, punctuation and mathematics. The results of these tests are used to back up and support the teacher assessment judgements that staff have been making since the start of the academic year in September and will be reported on your child's annual report which will be sent home in July.

Outlined below for your information are the testing weeks that will be taking place for each of the year groups:

Year 1: Phonic Reading Screening Test will take place from **Monday 13 June**.

Year 2: Testing will take place in the last week of May before the half term holiday.

Year 3/4: children will be tested in reading, spelling, grammar and punctuation and mathematics beginning on **Monday 16 May**.

Year 5: children will be tested in reading, spelling, grammar and punctuation and mathematics throughout week beginning **Monday 9 May**.

Year 6: children will sit their formal KS2 tests in Reading, Spelling, Grammar and Punctuation and Maths week beginning **Monday 9 May**.

You can help support your child to do as well as they can by:

- **Ensuring they get a good nights sleep.** Please ensure your child is in bed for a reasonable time during testing week. Children who are fresh and alert will perform better in their tests.
- **Make sure they are not hungry.** Ensure children have a good, healthy breakfast that will keep them going until lunchtime. Breakfast Club is available each day in school from 8am.
- **Help them to get to school on time.** Testing will begin in classes at the start of the school day, so please ensure children are at school in good time.
- **Don't get stressed out!** Although all tests are important, please encourage children to stay calm, confident and focused so that they can perform well on the day. Children can only try their best. If they do, we can ask no more of them!

Should you require any further information regarding testing in school and specific information about how you can support your child, please take the opportunity to see your child's class teacher.

Thank you for your continued support and the very best of luck to our Year 6 children next week in their SATs Tests.

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!



SATs Breakfast Club for Year 6's

Just a reminder to all parents of pupils in Year 6 that we are hosting a free breakfast club for all Year 6 pupils from Monday to Thursday next week before children take their SAT tests. Breakfast Club will take place in Mrs Clark's room from 8am each morning and will offer children a range of healthy breakfast options to ensure energy levels are high and they are ready for the day ahead. Also by attending it will ensure children are in school in good time and as relaxed as possible before sitting their tests. Thank you to Year 6 parents for supporting this.

Father's Day Lunch In School

We are planning our annual Father's Day Lunch in school on **Wednesday 15 June**. Menus for the day will be sent out in the next few weeks, but we wanted to give dads/grandads plenty of advance notice as they may wish to book time off work to attend.



Half Term Holiday Reminder

Just a reminder that children break up for the summer half term holiday at **3.05pm on Tuesday 24 May**. You will recall school Governors chose to block three of our five teacher professional development days together this year to give parents a chance to secure a less expensive holiday outside of the traditional half term and therefore reduce our unauthorised absence rate in school due to family holidays. We return to school for the second half of the summer term on Monday 6 June.



Monthly 50/50 Draw

Thank you to everyone who has contributed to our monthly 50/50 draw in school. Over the last few months we have suffered from falling ticket sales for the draw, so we are looking to refresh it for the start of the new academic year in September. If you have any ideas or suggestions about a monthly draw that you think would be well received by parents and the community please see Mrs Campbell in the school office. As always, all profits from the draw go back into school for the benefit of our children.

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 **Hannah Harris** for her fantastic and really careful cutting skills in Nursery this week. Well done Hannah!

Miss Knaggs' Reception Class



Miss Knaggs has this week nominated **Macy Beasley** for writing a beautiful sentence about some African Land Snail visitors! Miss Knaggs is really proud of you Macy!

Ms Simons' Year 1/2 Class



Ms Simons would like to say a huge well done to **Elizabeth Ritchie** for helping to support others in class. This week she helped fellow pupils during Computing to research African animals. Great work Elizabeth!

Mr Clarke's Year 3 Class



Mr Clarke would like a special mention this week for **Kieran Prest** for his excellent recall of angles and rotation in Maths. Keep up the hard work Kieran!

Mrs Salkeld and Miss Hutchinson's Year 4 Class

Mrs Salkeld and Miss Hutchinson are really pleased with **Cameron Howe** for his amazing positive attitude towards everything he does in school. His teachers say he is a pleasure to have in class. Well done Cameron!



Mrs Clark's Year 5/6 Class

Mrs Clark would like a special mention this week for **Kc Palmer** for her brilliant understanding, work and class contributions towards this week's Science work which focused on evolution. Great work Kc!



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

