



Howden le Wear Primary School Weekly Newsletter

Friday 11 May 2018

Vol: 8 Issue: 30

In this week's newsletter:

- ◆ Testing season begins in school;
- ◆ Reminder about no dogs being allowed on school grounds.

Important dates / information for next week:

- ◆ Save the date: Father's Day Lunch - Wednesday 13 June;
- ◆ Royal Wedding Buffet Lunch / Non-Uniform next Friday.

This time of year in schools, there is always lots of preparation taking place towards Key Stage 1 and 2 National Testing. Mrs Gray 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 in the Summer term 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 11 June**.

Year 2: Testing will take place throughout May up until the half term holiday.

Years 3 / 4 / 5: Children will be tested in reading, spelling, grammar and punctuation and mathematics during the week beginning on **Monday 11 June**.

Year 6: children will sit their formal KS2 tests in Reading, Spelling, Grammar and Punctuation and Maths week beginning **Monday 14 May**.

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

- Ensuring they get a good night's 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 which 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.

Finally, next Friday, we are holding a special Royal Wedding Buffet Lunch in school for all children and staff to celebrate the marriage of Prince Harry and Meghan Markle which takes place the day after on Saturday 19 May. Children will enjoy a range of buffet food and drink and we plan to sit outside in true street-party style to enjoy our lunch and celebrate this event. Also next Friday, we are having a non-uniform day in school, where children and staff are welcome to come to school dressed in anything red, white and/or blue. We look forward to a great day next Friday!

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

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 Pupils

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 classroom 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.

Please note, there will not be a booster club on Monday after school.

Thank you to Year 6 parents for supporting this.



Reminder About Bringing Dogs Onto The School Site

In recent weeks we have had a number of incidents where adults and family members have brought their family dog onto the playground after school to collect their child.

Could I please remind parents and families that dogs, (with the exception of guide dogs) are not allowed on the school site at any time and that if you choose to bring a dog to drop off/collect your child, it is under your control at all times.

Thank you for your support with this.

Father's Day Lunch In School

We are planning our annual Father's Day lunch in school on **Wednesday 13 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.



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



Mrs Wheatley would like to congratulate **Joseph Waggott** for fantastic creative work this week making his own butterfly kite. Great work, Joseph!

Mrs Craig's Reception Class



Mrs Craig has this week nominated **Lexi-Nicole Graham** for great creative and construction work; eg. making clay birds' nests and creating her own kite. Well done, Lexi-Nicole!

Miss Barton's Year 1 Class



Miss Barton would like to say a huge well done to **Hannah Harris** for always being enthusiastic towards extending her learning. Great news, Hannah!

Mrs Gray's Year 2 Class



Mrs Gray would like a special mention for **Jack Chillingworth** for creating a fantastic story and putting 100% effort into everything he does. Amazing effort, Jack!

Miss Nattrass' Year 3 Class



Miss Nattrass is delighted this week with **Alisi Mekatoa** for working so hard to learn her tables and her determination to achieve in everything she does in class. Well done, Alisi!

Mrs Salkeld's Year 4/5 Class



Mrs Salkeld is really pleased with **Thomas Wright-Pickles** for his amazing dramatic skills when acting out a story in literacy. Fantastic job Thomas!

Mrs Clark's Year 6 Class



Mrs Clark would like a special mention for **Grace Genner** for her amazing improvement in arithmetic this week. Awesome achievement Grace!



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

