

NEWSLETTER

NOVEMBER 2014

Dear Parents and Friends

Welcome to the November Newsletter.

Our Y6 children had their residential in the **Lake District at Hawse End**, just before half term. The focus is on outdoor and adventurous activities and about them challenging themselves. It's also the time when the adults who accompany the children focus in on who will be our prefects and Head Girl and Boy for the rest of the year.

One of our Y6 pupils who had never taken part in any residential had a real struggle about the **Hawse End residential**. The Wednesday before she wasn't going but with a bit of support at home and school she made it. During the visit she found out that she is adventurous, courageous and loves being outdoors. In her words "I'm really proud of myself that I faced up to my fears and came – look what I would have missed!"

Through our Assertive Mentoring approach, we make it clear to our children that we expect them to do their best academically, but also to have a positive attitude and to take responsibility for themselves and their learning. Developing independence and a can-do attitude is such an important part of growing up. It's one of the reasons we have such a programme of residential across KS2 and provision such as Forest School from nursery. Children who are independent and can sort out themselves, who can cope with making mistakes and still keep going are better prepared to be good learners. All our Y6 pupils are expected to carry out a job as a contribution to the school. The staff who give up their weekends with their families (thank you guys) to support residential make a real positive contribution to our children's time with us and we expect the children to give something in return. Look out for them telling you about their job and encourage them to do it well!

Our new prefects are below along with our new head girl and head boy.



WORLD WAR 1 AND REMEMBRANCE

We are all (apart from EYFS) involved in a WW1 topic at the moment. Each phase has a slightly different focus, but we have had the most amazing artifacts brought into school including photos, medals and old food tins. Mrs Carr our History Co-ordinator is leading the topic and will be in touch to tell you how we are going to share our learning. I know there are already plans for a display in the foyer. **Please remember to send in your donations for the Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal**



OUR HAWSE END GALLERY



CHECK OUT FACEBOOK AND THE WEBSITE

Last half term was very busy with lots of interesting learning around the new National Curriculum. Year 5 and 6 enjoyed the new work on coasts when they visited Marsden. Although the arch (which some of you will remember) is no longer there, the rocky coast is still really impressive.

Without a doubt there has been a shift in expectation for each age group, particularly in maths. Don't forget this useful times tables link – remember all children are now expected to know all the times tables up to 12 x 12 by the end of Y4 - practise, practise, practise!



http://www.transum.org/Tables/Times_Tables.asp Watch out for more themed learning opportunities for you to come into class.

As I said in the last newsletter we have appointed **June Carlisle as our Pastoral and Family Support worker**. June's role is to provide support for our children and their families. We all know that sometimes life can be tough and we often feel like we're the only one who is finding it difficult. It can be anything – from illness to not understanding what's happening in the classroom, from behaviour to unemployment. June is usually around on the playground each morning – say hello!

Learning Languages Day saw many of you join us to see your children learning French – we know the croissants weren't the only attraction! We combined it with Macmillan Coffee Morning and a red, white and blue non-uniform day when we raised £381.66. Thank you to everyone for supporting such a worthwhile cause. Some comments left with us included:

“A very clever way to learn French making it fun.”
“Lovely to see them learning French and participate in games with them”



Dr Bike has been a regular visitor this term, helping us with workshops and cycling opportunities for the children. We had a “Get off your stabilisers” session and wow – how many of you no longer need them! We also ran a special Bikers’ Breakfast which saw the dining hall bursting at the seams. Richard was overwhelmed by the number of bikes that came in for repair so he will be running more of these sessions in the future. He also let us borrow Sustrans bikes and some children have been taken out on bike rides. This boosts their confidence and makes them much more aware of safety.

Of course we have our regular **Breakfast Club** from **8.00 am** each day run by Mrs. Jennings and Mrs Hills. Thanks to them for working so hard to make this a major success running themed days and providing interesting activities. There is a strong emphasis on the children being independent and preparing their breakfast themselves, with the older children there to support when necessary.

Lastly don't forget our Parents' Evening on 25th November – appointments out soon



Best wishes

Jackie Chevaugon

DATES FOR YOUR DIARY:

Wednesday, 5 November	12.00-12.40 - Multi-skills (for 5 weeks)
Thursday, 6 November	Recycling assemblies Y1/2 - Fred Phonics Groups for Parents
Sunday, 9 November	Remembrance Sunday
Tuesday, 11 November	Year 5 Trip to Phoenix Theatre / Remembrance Assembly
Thursday, 13 November	KS2 Recycling Workshops
Friday, 14 November	Non Uniform Day World Diabetes Day Children in Need
Tuesday, 18 November	Year 5 Puberty talk
Thursday, 20 November	KS2 Recycling Workshops Newcastle Eagles Basketball Training Workshops
Week beginning 24 November	Book Fayre
Tuesday 25 th November	Parents' Evening 3 to 7pm - Reception to Y6
Wednesday, 26 November	Tempest Individual Photographs
Friday, 12 December	EYFS Christmas Production x 2
Monday, 15 December	KS1 Christmas Production x 2
Tuesday, 16 December	KS1 Christmas Party Lower KS2 Christmas Production x 2
Wednesday, 17 December	EYFS Christmas Party KS2 Christmas Production x 2 Christmas Lunch
Thursday, 18 December	Upper School Christmas Party
Friday, 19 December	Panto Children stay for lunch then school finishes at 1.30pm
Monday, 5 January 2015	School Re-starts