



Welcome to the Summer term newsletter

Welcome to the final newsletter of the year! It has been a busy year with some fantastic things happening! Our Ofsted inspection went incredibly well and reaffirmed what a great school we are. The end of term production of 'Annie' was wonderful. The children always make me very proud and never cease to do an outstanding job. Thank you to all the staff and governors for all their hard work and dedication to our school over this academic year. I am so fortunate to work with such a committed group of people.

Dates for your
diary

**INSET day 4th
and 5th
September**

KS2 Results! **Our results are fantastic!**

KS2 Reading 100% children achieved the 'expected standard'

60% above expected (17.7% National Average)

Writing 100% children achieved the 'expected standard'

60% above expected (National Average 18.6%)

Maths 100% children achieved the 'expected standard'

20% above expected (National Average 22.6%)

The national average for this year is 61%

Our Reading/Writing and Maths combined is 100%

Notices

Head Teacher's Awards Assembly

These will continue to be every Friday from 9.05am onwards. Please feel free to join us. Thank you to those who join us for assembly but could I make a plea with regards to younger siblings if they are noisy please could they be taken out.

Pupil Premium

In a school of this size we have very little pupil premium money to spend as we have below average numbers for free school meals. If you think you are eligible for free school meals please apply as it allows us to have access to funds to support those children that do. There will be an updated version of a pupil premium report soon to follow.

The address is as follows www.westberks.gov.uk/freeschoolmeals.

Coffee Morning

These continue to be held once a half term. It is nice to see parents and chat with them. I do try to ensure that a teacher is available too. Please do come along and ask any questions you may have.

Parent View

Please do continue to use parent view. I am always keen to get your views on how we are doing as a school. You need to go to the Ofsted website and there should be a link to it.

Contact with school

Here is a reminder of the process to follow when you need to contact school. In the first instance the class teacher is the first point of contact. You can access a teacher either in the playground first thing or via the school office if you can't get to the teacher in the morning or after school. Please ensure that you follow this process as the class teacher is in the best position to deal with your query promptly. If after this you still need to escalate your query then please ask to speak to Miss Weller. If after that you would still like to make contact with me then please contact the school office and I will call you or arrange an appointment. I hope this information is helpful as supporting you with any concerns you or your child may have is the utmost priority for us as a school.

Holidays during term time

Please make a note of this paragraph. I will be introducing a new system for authorization of holidays starting in September. If you wish to take your child out during term time you will need to make an appointment to either meet/speak to myself or Miss Weller. I am still very keen to work with parents on this however I want to ensure that we have talked through your reasons for wanting your child/ren to miss school. Please also be aware that the reasons should be exceptional and not due to the fact that flights are cheaper.

Parking

Parking continues to be problematic outside the school. Please do try and park in other suggested areas in order to ease congestion. Please remember that if you park directly outside the school to drop children off you are blocking the road. Please also remember our neighbours and be mindful of driveways.

Sickness and absence

Please report to the school office when your child is sick. Please remember that if your child has sickness or diarrhea that you keep them home for at least 48 hours. This allows the bug to pass and your children to recover. If you have any concerns please do make sure you call the school office.

End of term progress reports

Please note you will have received your end of term progress reports alongside a copy of your updated child's rubrics.

Enhancement of security in the school

I am delighted to announce that when you come back after the summer break there will be a new gate that provides CCTV access where Mrs Davies can see who is at the side gate and can just buzz you in! The main gates will still be manual. This is something that I have wanted for a while now and am pleased to say that West Berkshire have supported us with this very important project.

FIPS

A big thank you to all the FIPS for their hard work this year. I am genuinely very grateful for everything that you have done. It makes such a difference raising extremely important additional funds for the school.

Arctic Class comments!!

Challenge week saw children taking part in a range of challenges both here and at Hampstead Norreys. One of the afternoon activities completed by each house was a nature scavenger hunt on the Millennium Green, looking for a list of given items with which each group then had to design a piece of art.

Arctic Class have been thinking about making imaginative word choices in order to write beautiful poems about poppies. We have also collected rhyming words in order to write short rhyming poems about superheroes who protect our world. We then designed and described our own superheroes ready to write and draw our own comic strip stories. In maths, we have been learning to share an amount of objects, like pencils into pots, and then record this as a division number sentence.

In our topic, we have talked about how making compost can help reduce waste which led to our science experiment to investigate how fast an apple rots depending on whether it is in air, water, soil or oil. We also had fun at our science workshop, learning how to make our own pieces of paper from recycled paper pulp.

We welcomed into our class the children who will be joining us in September. Everyone had a fun couple of days together!



Pacific

A YEAR IN PACIFIC CLASS!!!

By Lottie and Tamsin

This term our topic was the Rainforest. We did lots of fun activities lead by our marvellous teacher Miss Yates! At the start of the term we practised knowing our world continents to try and do a mystery Skype. We have learnt about deforestation and how the use of palm oil has affected the rainforest. We then studied persuasive writing and wrote some letters to Tesco, persuading them to stop using palm oil. Mrs Kidd and Miss Denham have helped us with our learning all throughout the year. In art, we did a lot of sketching of Rainforest leaves and then used very, VERY messy Pastels to shade them in. We used our new sewing skills to create tapestries depicting the story of the Great Kapok Tree. We have had a very busy term and are all ready for the holiday!

Atlantic Class

This term in Atlantic Class, the children have been working hard in Numeracy to apply the number skills we have developed this year in a range of different contexts, including with fractions, decimals and percentages. We have worked really hard to improve our arithmetic skill and are all now much quicker at answering a wide range of arithmetic questions. It has been great to see so many parents supporting their children with this at home – it makes a huge difference.

In Literacy, the children have enjoyed reflecting on their own holidays and our recent residential trip to PGL and creating their own persuasive brochures all about these places. We enjoyed examining different examples and analysing their effectiveness. This really helped us when planning our own; it gave us lots of ideas for different features we could include to help our writing engage the reader. It was also great fun to share pictures of our trip to PGL and discuss our favourite memories.

As always, we have been enjoying our P.E lessons with Danny and practicing our athletics skills ready for Sports Day. We have also been busy practicing a very special dance for our production of 'Annie' every Thursday. John Darvell (of Nocturn Dance) has created a one-off dance piece just for our class and helped the children to learn it. It looks amazing already!

We also really enjoyed our recent visit from 'Brightsparks' – a company who visit schools and deliver Science workshops. We learnt all about different forces including friction, gravity and centripetal force. The children enjoyed creating their own rockets, their own spin art and testing the difference a parachute makes to your ability to run!



School Council Minutes

Thursday 6th July 2017

School Council members - present:

Foundation: Harry Turner
Year 2: Johnny Kaye
Year 4: Henry Wilson
Year 6: Arianna Gadd

Year 1: Aimee Hutton
Year 3: Lucas Withers
Year 5: Sibylle Sheikh

(Ruby Grace absent for transition)

Issues discussed:

1: **Sainsbury's Active Kids** vouchers - School Council considered items which could be purchased for playground play from the Sainsbury's brochure using the Active Kids vouchers collected in school. A list was made, including footballs, basketballs, funny face soft balls, stop watches, katcha kups , ribbon sticks and a badminton set.

2. **Tuck shop** – School Council members counted the money in the tuck shop fund and also money to reimburse Mrs Kidd for her purchases for the tuck shop.

3. There will be a final tuck shop in the last week of term – Mrs Davies to send out a message to parents.



Collaboration

The leadership team meets fortnightly. Sadly we will be losing Miss Evans at the end of this term however I am inviting Mr. Jones to join the team. I think he will be an invaluable part of our team and will have lots to offer. He has a wealth of knowledge and experience having taught in Hackney and Bethnal Green.

This term the team have been working on building 'resilience'. Something that is definitely required in these tough times in education. We have been reading several books including 'Who Moved My Cheese' and 'Man's Search for Meaning' by Victor Frankel. A very moving tale of a man's survival in the horrific concentration camps of Auschwitz. Our discussions have been based on how we build our team's resilience and the resilience of our staff. This will be a leadership and management priority for the academic year 2017/2018.

The launch of our 'metacognition' project led by Mr. Warren starts in September. This will entail Mr. Warren leading staff training as well as the launch of his new toolkit he has designed and written. He is also writing one for the parents. The children will be trained in various skills that will apply to all their learning in all subjects.

Other priorities will be handwriting – KS1, embedding our work on Writing and SMSC and the development of a tracking system for our curriculum work we do.

