

Newsletter - July 2013

CALENDAR CHANGE

We had been due to have a staff training day on Friday 27th September but due to the cancellation of the course, we have taken the decision to move the training day. This will now be on Monday 4th November 2013.



Children should therefore attend as normal on Friday 27th September and return to school on Tuesday November 5th after the October half term break.

An amended school calendar is printed on the back of this newsletter and on our website. We apologise for any inconvenience this may cause but we really strive to get the most out of these valuable training days for the professional development of our staff.

SCHOOL DINNERS

We have just received news from the council that the price of School Meals will remain the same for the next school year.



The price of a school meal is £1.98 or £9.90 per week.

Could we please remind you that all dinners that have been consumed MUST be paid for within the same week. Please make sure that any dinner money is in an envelope or small container clearly marked with your child's name and class and not sent 'loose'.

Could you also please ensure that all balances are cleared before the end of term. We are under instruction that any outstanding balances must be referred to the council's debt recovery team.

Over the next few months we will be working with the school meals team to develop a way to pay for dinners online, via debit cards and paypoint. We will bring you further updates on this next half term.

SUMMER FAYRE

The parents group would like to say a big thank you to everyone who supported our Summer Fayre. PTA raised £700 and everyone had a fantastic time. It was lovely to see the children taking part in so many different activities.



PTA will be meeting again in September to start planning for Christmas, everyone is welcome!

School finishes for the Summer Break at 3.15pm on Tuesday 23rd July. Children return to school on Tuesday 3rd September. Breakfast Club starts at 8.00am and classroom doors open at 8.40am for registration.

ATTENDANCE AND PUNCTUALITY



Thank you for ensuring that your child develops good habits of coming into school every day and in good time.

Classroom doors are opened at 8.40am and registration starts at 8.50am.

The first part of the morning is extremely important. Late children often miss the introduction to lessons and struggle to settle into tasks. Children arriving in class after a lesson has started also disrupts other children already working and interrupts the flow of the lesson.

Can we also remind parents and carers to ensure your child is collected on time at 3.15pm as this can be upsetting for a child who is left behind after their friends have gone home.

96% is the national average attendance. Schools which fall below this marker may have their 'outstanding' or 'good' judgements removed by OFSTED, indeed this has happened in several neighbouring schools recently. It is really important that we take note of the new legislation.

MESSAGE FROM THE HEADTEACHER...

Once again it has been a very productive and enjoyable year and I wish to thank the whole school community for this.

This years Y6 SATs results show a sharp rise in the percentage of children reaching expected levels in English, especially writing. There is also a rise in the number of children achieving well in **both** English and Maths.

There has also been an increase in the number of children achieving well in writing at Y2. This reflects the priorities of the school to improve standards in writing, and we thank you for your continuing support with this.

I would like to pass on how our teachers really appreciate the excellent turn out at the parent evenings and are grateful for your continued support and the useful feedback from the children's reports.

Transition activities have been very successful. The children are well prepared for September. On behalf of the Ballifield team I hope you all have a lovely summer.

Happy Holidays!

Sheila Haigh