

Newsletter 27th November 2015

As we approach the festive period we have lots of good cheer to share with you all. Please do note down upcoming dates of activities and events at school so that we can involve as much of our community as possible in this wonderful time of year!

Staffing

Next month we say goodbye to Mr Keith Lockwood as he leaves to begin a new post at Hillside Primary as Deputy Head Teacher. We thank him for all his hard work and commitment to our school and wish him the very best of luck in his new role.

Mrs Hannah Dunne will be joining our teaching team to take on Mr Lockwood's teaching responsibilities across school. Mrs Liz McLoughlin and Miss Isobel Gabanski have been successful in becoming our new Phases Leaders of upper and lower Key stage 2 respectfully.

Year 5 to grow seeds from space!

Year 5 are preparing to become space biologists and embark on a voyage of discovery by growing seeds that have been into space.

In September, 2kg of rocket seeds were flown to the International Space Station (ISS) on Soyuz 44S where they will spend several months in microgravity before returning to Earth in March 2016. The seeds have been sent as part of Rocket Science, an educational project launched by the RHS Campaign for School Gardening and the UK Space Agency.

We will be one of up to 10,000 schools to receive a packet of 100 seeds from space, which we will grow alongside seeds that haven't been to space and measure the differences over seven weeks. The pupils won't know which seed packet contains which seeds until all results have been collected by the RHS Campaign for School Gardening and analysed by professional biostatisticians.

Mrs Hibbard who has applied on school's behalf says: "We are very excited to be taking part in Rocket Science. This experiment is a fantastic way of teaching our pupils to think more scientifically and share their findings with the whole school community. Thank you to Mrs Hibbard for getting us involved in this exciting project.

Boudicca hero or villain?

Year 4 have been learning about the story of the Celtic queen, Boudicca. We have learnt all about her life and how she fought the Romans to protect the Celts. We have then had a class debate based on whether Boudicca is a hero or a villain. Each class found this interesting as she was a hero for the Celts but a villain for the Romans.



Kingswood Report



By
Nathan Webster
and
Joe Oliver
6J

On the 9th of November year 6 went on a residential trip to Kingswood, Dearne Valley. When we arrived, the first activity our group did was nightline, where you are blindfolded and have to follow a rope and there are lots of different obstacles, and you have to work together as a team. After that we went to our rooms and they were absolutely great!

Next we had tea and the food was delicious! We both had fish and chips but there was also lasagne on the menu. For dessert it was a tub of vanilla ice-cream. Then we did the trail of mystery. Some people dressed up as the suspects of the murder. I (Nathan) was dressed up as one too! The people who weren't dressed up interviewed the people who were dressed up and tried to work out who the murderer was. That was also a fun activity.

There was a big variety of activities and these are the other ones our group did in chronological order: Problem Solving, High Ropes, Low Ropes, Jacob's Ladder then Campfire. At breakfast there was a wide choice including: English breakfast, cereals, toast and lots more! Lunch on Tuesday was also very nice as usual, we both had fish fingers and chips but on the menu as well there was spaghetti bolognese. For tea it was chicken curry, rice and poppadum, or meatballs and pasta. We both had the curry and it was definitely very nice! The dessert was a choc ice.

The beds in the rooms were very comfy and we all slept well in them. On Wednesday we did one of the best activities of all, the zip wire! It was very scary stepping off the top of the tower but overall it was amazing. We also did Team Tech that day where we made things with huge construction equipment. The High Ropes were very scary but eventually we both reached the top. For lunch that day it was jacket potatoes, beans and cheese or meatballs and pasta. We both had jacket potatoes.

To conclude it was a brilliant trip and thank you to all the leaders from school and Kingswood!

Coats and Jumpers

We have noticed a number of pupils coming to school without coats and jumpers. As the weather has made a definite turn for the worse can we ask that all pupils are sent to school with both a jumper and coat, even if it is not raining in the morning. Hopefully this will help to keep coughs and colds at bay this winter.

Cliffe House Visits

This week Year 5 enjoyed a residential visit to Cliffe House in Shepley. They have had a wonderful time participating in activities such as pond dipping, jewellery making, orienteering and bush craft. The food was delicious and something that all the pupils commented on. A huge thank you to all staff and parent volunteers who made this exciting new residential visit possible.

Year 6 SATS meeting

We will be holding a short meeting on Monday 14th December 5:00 – 5:30 to inform Year 6 parents of the changes to SATS this year and help them to become more familiar with the new Year 6 Age Related Expectations.

It's goodbye from her and goodbye from him (yes it's another boy!)

I begin my maternity leave on Monday; hopefully Baby Burns-Keane #4 will make an appearance soon afterwards. I will miss you all whilst away. As soon as I have news I will let school know and intend to keep in touch regularly. Thank you for all your kind wishes and support as I embark on an exciting event in my family life. I'm looking forward to seeing you all again soon! *Mrs Burns-Keane*

PRIDE time success

Last Friday the whole school enjoyed PRIDE time, all pupils were able to spend 45 minutes participating in a fun activity of their choice. Well done to all the pupils as you all helped to contribute in gaining 5000 gold slips as a school.

Heart Foundation Bun Sale

Eva in Year 4 together with Alice and Amelia decided to raise some money for the British Heart Foundation. On Tuesday 17th November they held a bun sale for Years 3 and 4. The girls did an excellent job and managed to raise £200. Thank you girls for upholding our school values, also a big thank you to their Mums for all the preparation they put into this event. Years 5 and 6 don't worry, you'll have chance to taste some scrummy buns all in the name of the British Heart Foundation next half term.

Calling All Budding Bakers

Can you help us by giving up an hour a week to come and bake with our pupils? If so please get in touch with Mrs Holden. The pupils really benefit from baking, don't worry Paul Hollywood isn't here to judge your wares and the teachers don't mind disposing of any 'well done' buns! Thank you in advance.

Wet Play Toys Request

If you have any games at home that are no longer needed, we are currently on the lookout for some more wet play activities. Thank you in advance for your generosity.

Following Parent Forum consultation

A number of parents have said that they would prefer to receive all communication from school (excluding homework) via email rather than receive a paper copy.

Please complete the form below and return to school ASAP to let us know your views.

Your Name: _____

Child/ren: _____

Current Class/es: _____

I wish to receive communication from school via email:

Email address: _____

I wish to continue to receive communication from school via paper copies:

Lost property

Our lost property box is located in Room 9, if your child is missing an item of clothing please direct them there to locate it. We do have quite a few items in there currently that are not named. Please ensure all clothes and shoes are named.

Sports cancellations

We aim to continue with as many sports events as possible throughout the winter period but have had cancellations recently due to the host pitches being unsuitable due to weather conditions. We aim to let parents know of cancellations as soon as possible and apologise for any inconvenience caused when events are cancelled at short notice. Thank you for your continued support of sporting events, without your kind offers of lifts we simply wouldn't be able to attend as many events as we do.

Dairy Dates - We will add to this list throughout the year.

Date	Event / Activity
4.12.15	Chocolate tombola FOJHS donation Non Uniform Day
4.12.15	Year 3 Funky Pharaoh Friday
09.12.15	Year 6 Greek Feast
09.12.15	Dick Whittington Pantomime
10.12.15	Christmas Fair FOHJS 6:00pm
14.12.15	Year 6 SATs meeting 5:00 – 5:30
15.12.15	Christmas Service at St. Mary's 1:30
17.12.15	School Christmas Dinner
18.12.15	School closes for Christmas holidays
04.01.16	INSET day
05.01.16	School reopens
20.01.16	FOHJS meeting 7:00 all welcome!
04.02.15	Valentines discos
05.02.16	Parent Forum 2:30
08.02.16	Huddersfield Giants Assembly
09.02.16	Christingle Service at St. Mary's 10:30
11.02.16	School Closes for INSET and half term holiday
22.02.16	School reopens
22.03.16	Easter Service at St. Mary's 10:30
24.03.16	School closes for Easter holidays
11.04.16	School reopens
w/c 09.05.15	SATS week
10.05.16	Pentecost Service at St. Mary's 10:30
16.05.16	Leavers photograph
26.05.16	School closes for INSET day and half term holidays
06.06.16	School reopens
12.07.16	Transition day
19.07.16	Leavers Service at St. Mary's 10:30
20.07.16	School Closes for summer holidays

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